

First United Methodist Church of Freehold
Bulletin

Sunday, December 26, 2021
1st Sunday after Christmas Day

Announcements: Dan Tagatac

Prelude: "The First Noel" Traditional English Carol

Welcome: Pastor Wil Wilson

*Call to Worship:

Leader: We come to worship, trusting that God's help is here.

People: We come with joy to this celebration of God's love!

Leader: We are a community that embodies God's help for each other.

People: Open our hearts, Lord, to receive your love. We waited for and have received the "consolation of Israel".

Leader: The Holy Spirit will guide us to recognize Jesus when we see him at work in our world.

All: Like Simeon, God is working in us, making us "righteous and devout".

*Opening Prayer: (In Unison)

Creator God, we thank you for this day. Teach us your way, illuminate our heart, guide us into all truth. May you align our thoughts to your thoughts, so that our lives may honor you. Thank you for your promise to us, that one day we will see Jesus and be made like him. All this we pray in his name. Amen.

*Christmas Caroling

Prayer Hymn: "He Is My Child" Kristen & Mitch Samu
Featuring: Kristen Samu, vocals

Pastoral Prayer: Pastor Wil Wilson

The Lord's Prayer: UMH #895

*Christmas Caroling

Scripture Reading: Luke 2:25-35 Jane Healton

A Moment with St. Nicholas

Offering: *The Special Offering for December will benefit **Local Charities: Open Door, Habitat for Humanity, the Emergency Housing and Advocacy Program and UMCOR Disaster Relief.***

Offertory: "Mary, You Are the One" Mitch Samu
Featuring: Kristen Samu, vocals

*Offertory Prayer Pastor, Wil Wilson

God of the Journey, we so quickly forget the warmth of the Christmas season. It seems, too often after we have blown out our Christmas Eve candles and unwrapped our Christmas gifts, we forget the joy and peace of the season. Help us not to forget the lessons we have learned. Strengthen us to be the light in the darkness for all your beloved children. May our gifts this morning be the sparks that light up our community and world so all will know the warmth of your loving presence. Amen.

*Passing of the Peace

*Christmas Caroling

*Benediction:

Pastor, Wil Wilson

*Postlude:

“We Wish You a Merry Christmas”

Unknown

Scripture Passage for Sunday, December 26, 2021

Liturgist: Pam Wentworth

²⁵ Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon;^[a] this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. ²⁶ It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord’s Messiah.^[b] ²⁷ Guided by the Spirit, Simeon^[c] came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, ²⁸ Simeon^[d] took him in his arms and praised God, saying,

²⁹ “Master, now you are dismissing your servant^[e] in peace,
according to your word;
³⁰ for my eyes have seen your salvation,
³¹ which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples,
³² a light for revelation to the Gentiles
and for glory to your people Israel.”

³³ And the child’s father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. ³⁴ Then Simeon^[f] blessed them and said to his mother Mary, “This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed ³⁵ so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed—and a sword will pierce your own soul too.”

The Word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God!

“We Wish You a Merry Christmas”

(Chorus)

We wish you a merry Christmas
We wish you a merry Christmas
We wish you a merry Christmas
And a happy New Year

Good tidings we bring
To you and your kin
We wish you a merry Christmas
And a happy New Year

Now bring us some figgy pudding
Now bring us some figgy pudding
Now bring us some figgy pudding
And bring some out here

For we all like figgy pudding
We all like figgy pudding
We all like figgy pudding
So bring some out here

And we won't go until we've got some
We won't go until we've got some
We won't go until we've got some
So bring some out here