

**First United Methodist Church of Freehold
Bulletin**

**Sunday, February 25, 2024
2nd Sunday in Lent**

- Announcements: Linda Gatti
- Introit: "Coming In These Doors" Mitch Samu
(v. 1, 2)
- Welcome: Linda Gatti
- *Call to Worship: Linda Gatti
- Leader: As we gather in Christ's love, we acknowledge the challenges we face in embracing others as they are, with all our differences and complexities.
- People: With open hearts, we seek to love as Jesus loved, embracing all, despite the challenges of misunderstanding and prejudice.**
- Leader: In a world where love is often conditional, let us remember that love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.
- People: May our worship today be a testament to this enduring love, a love that transcends barriers and embraces diversity in the unifying grace of God. Amen.**
- *Opening Prayer: (In Unison)
- Loving God, as we open our hearts in worship, we acknowledge the challenges we face in truly loving each other. In a world marked by division and judgement, guide us to love as Jesus did, with a love that sees beyond our fears, prejudices, and misunderstandings. We acknowledge that seeing and understanding God and each other fully is a journey that takes time. Grant us the courage to face the challenges of truly loving our neighbors as ourselves, in all their diversity and uniqueness. In Jesus' name, who showed us the perfect example of love, we pray. Amen.**
- *Opening Hymn: "Standing on the Promises" UMH #374
- *Praise Song: "They'll Know We Are Christians by Our Love" TFWS #2223
- Introduction to Prayer: Rev. Yoseb Jeon
[For those joining us online, please submit your prayer requests in the comments on the virtual attendance sheet, or email the church office. Your prayer requests will be lifted up in next Sunday's service.]
- Prayer Song: "Even You Are Welcome" Mitch Samu
- Pastoral Prayer: Rev. Yoseb Jeon
- The Lord's Prayer: UMH #895
- Scripture Readings: Genesis 19:1-7, Luke 10:25-37 Dan Tagatac
- Friendship Moment and Passing of the Peace
*[For those joining us online, please take a moment to sign the online attendance form:
www.freeholdmethodist.org]*

Message: "The Social God & Human Sexuality" Rev. Yoseb Jeon

Offering Time: **Giving Page:** www.freeholdmethodist.org/give

Offertory: "On Eagle's Wings" Michael Joncas
FUMC Choir

*Doxology: "Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow" UMH #95

*Offering Prayer: (In Unison)

Loving and Compassionate God, as we offer these gifts, we do so as a token of our love and commitment, especially for those who have not felt welcomed or loved unconditionally. Bless us, that we may become instruments of your inclusive love, reaching out to embrace and support those on the margins. In the spirit of Jesus Christ, who welcomed and loved without condition, we dedicate these offerings to your work of love and reconciliation. Amen.

*Closing Song: "Draw the Circle Wide" Light & Miller

*Benediction: Rev. Yoseb Jeon

*Going Forth: "Going Out Our Doors" Mitch Samu
(v. 3, 4)

Scripture Passages for February 25, 2024

Liturgist: Dan Tagatac

Genesis 19:1-7

The Depravity of Sodom

19 The two angels came to Sodom in the evening, and Lot was sitting in the gateway of Sodom. When Lot saw them, he rose to meet them and bowed down with his face to the ground. ² He said, "Please, my lords, turn aside to your servant's house and spend the night and wash your feet; then you can rise early and go on your way." They said, "No; we will spend the night in the square." ³ But he urged them strongly, so they turned aside to him and entered his house, and he made them a feast and baked unleavened bread, and they ate. ⁴ But before they lay down, the men of the city, the men of Sodom, both young and old, all the people to the last man, surrounded the house, ⁵ and they called to Lot, "Where are the men who came to you tonight? Bring them out to us, so that we may know them." ⁶ Lot went out of the door to the men, shut the door after him, ⁷ and said, "I beg you, my brothers, do not act so wickedly."

Luke 10:25-37

The Parable of the Good Samaritan

²⁵ An expert in the law stood up to test Jesus. ^[a] "Teacher," he said, "what must I do to inherit eternal life?" ²⁶ He said to him, "What is written in the law? What do you read there?" ²⁷ He answered, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind and your neighbor as yourself." ²⁸ And he said to him, "You have given the right answer; do this, and you will live."

²⁹ But wanting to vindicate himself, he asked Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?" ³⁰ Jesus replied, "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho and fell into the hands of robbers, who stripped him, beat him, and took off, leaving him half dead. ³¹ Now by chance a priest was going down that road, and when he saw him, he passed by on the other side. ³² So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. ³³ But a Samaritan while traveling came upon him, and when he saw him, he was moved with compassion. ³⁴ He went to him and bandaged his wounds, treating them with oil and wine. Then he put him on his own animal, brought him to an inn, and took care of him. ³⁵ The next day he took out two denarii, gave them to the innkeeper, and said, 'Take care of him, and when I come back, I will repay you whatever more you spend.' ³⁶ Which of these three, do you think, was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of the robbers?" ³⁷ He said, "The one who showed him mercy." Jesus said to him, "Go and do likewise."

The Word of God for the people of God.

All: Thanks be to God.

Introit:
"Coming In These Doors" (v. 1, 2)
Mitch Samu

(Verse 1)

Coming In These Doors
I will leave my stress outside.
Coming In These Doors
I will find some peace and calm.
I will greet my brother. I will greet my sister.
I will greet the stranger too,
Coming In These Doors.

(Verse 2)

Coming In These Doors
I will seek for ways to serve.
Coming In These Doors
I will hear the word of God.
My heart will be open, I will lift my cares in prayer.
I will look to share my love
Coming In These Doors.

Opening Hymn:
"Standing on the Promises"
UMH #374

(Verse 1)

Standing on the promises of Christ my King,
Through eternal ages let His praises ring;
Glory in the highest, I will shout and sing,
Standing on the promises of God.

(Chorus)

Standing, standing,
Standing on the promises of God my Savior;
Standing, standing,
I'm standing on the promises of God.

(Verse 2)

Standing on the promises that cannot fail,
When the howling storms of doubt and fear assail,
By the living Word of God I shall prevail,
Standing on the promises of God.

(Continued...)

(Chorus)

Standing, standing,
Standing on the promises of God my Savior;
Standing, standing,
I'm standing on the promises of God.

(Verse 3)

Standing on the promises of Christ the Lord,
Bound to Him eternally by love's strong cord,
Overcoming daily with the Spirit's Sword,
Standing on the promises of God.

(Chorus)

Standing, standing,
Standing on the promises of God my Savior;
Standing, standing,
I'm standing on the promises of God.

(Verse 4)

Standing on the promises I cannot fall,
Listening every moment to the Spirit's call,
Resting in my Savior as my All in All,
Standing on the promises of God.

(Chorus)

Standing, standing,
Standing on the promises of God my Savior;
Standing, standing,
I'm standing on the promises of God.

Praise Song:
"They'll Know We Are Christians by Our Love"
TFWS #2223

(Verse 1)

We are one in the Spirit,
We are one in the Lord,
We are one in the Spirit,
We are one in the Lord,
And we pray that all unity
May one day be restored:

(Chorus)

And they'll know we are Christians
By our love, by our love;
Yes, they'll know we are Christians
By our love.

(Verse 2)

We will walk with each other,
We will walk hand in hand,
We will walk with each other,
We will walk hand in hand,
And together we'll spread the news
That God is in our land:

(Chorus)

And they'll know we are Christians
By our love, by our love;
Yes, they'll know we are Christians
By our love.

(Verse 3)

We will work with each other,
We will work side by side,
We will work with each other,
We will work side by side,
And we'll guard human dignity
And save human pride:

(Chorus)

And they'll know we are Christians
By our love, by our love;
Yes, they'll know we are Christians
By our love.

(Continued...)

(Verse 4)

All praise to the Father,
From whom all things come,
And all praise to Christ Jesus,
God's only Son,
And all praise to the Spirit,
Who makes us one:

(Chorus)

And they'll know we are Christians
By our love, by our love;
Yes, they'll know we are Christians
By our love.

Prayer Song:

"Even You Are Welcome"
Mitch Samu

Even you are welcome
Even I am welcome
Even they are welcome
To touch the face of God
Everybody's welcome
Even we are welcome
All of us together
Can hold the hand of God
(2x)

If you're not here
There's something that is missing
Without you here we all are incomplete
Because if you are not invited
Then count me out as well
The God I know has room for us all

Even you are welcome
Even I am welcome
Even they are welcome
To touch the face of God
Everybody's welcome
Even we are welcome
All of us together
Can hold the hand of God
(2x)

All of us together
Can hold the hand of God

Doxology:
"Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow"
UMH #95

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.
Amen.

Closing Hymn:
Draw the Circle Wide
Light and Miller

Draw the circle, draw the circle wide.
Draw the circle, draw the circle wide.
No one stands alone,
We'll stand side by side.
Draw the circle, draw the circle wide.
(2X)

Draw the circle wide, draw it wider still.
Let this be our song:
No one stands alone.
Standing side by side,
Draw the circle, draw the circle wide.
(2X)

Draw the circle, draw the circle wide.
Draw the circle, draw the circle wide.
No one stands alone,
We'll stand side by side.
Draw the circle, draw the circle wide.

Draw the circle wide, draw it wider still.
Let this be our song:
No one stands alone.
Standing side by side,
Draw the circle, draw the circle wide.
(4X)

Draw the circle, draw the circle wide.

Going Forth:
"Going Out Our Doors" (v. 3,4)
Mitch Samu

(Verse 3)
Going Out Our Doors
I will be the face of Christ.
Going Out Our Doors
I will be His hands and heart.
I will ask myself, "What would Jesus do today?
Would He turn and walk away?"
Going Out Our Doors.

(Verse 4)
Going Out Our Doors
Let me be refreshed, renewed.
Going Out Our Doors
Let me be the heart of God.
Let me give my Love. Let me show my faith today.
Let me show the Face of God
Going Out Our Doors.

Announcements
February 25, 2024

Welcome to worship at the First United Methodist Church of Freehold. We are glad you are with us.

Altar Flowers donated by Anne Mayer and Dan Tagatac in celebration of Laura Tagatac's birthday.

Everyone is invited to stay after service today to help pack **E.H.A.P Lunch Bags** upstairs in Wesley Hall. This will be a regular, ongoing event. To help supply items for the lunch bags for the next event, please consider donating one or more of the following items, or providing all the contents of one or more lunch bags and place them on the E.H.A.P. table in Missions Hall.

Each lunch bag consists of a source of protein (canned tuna, chicken, or the like), ravioli or pasta (in a can), fruit cup, chewy granola bar, treat (small cookies), and a sugar free drink or water.

The next **Elizabeth Circle** meeting will be held on Monday, February 26th at 2:00 p.m. in Wesley Hall. All women of the church are invited to attend.

FUMC will host the next **Lenten Prayer Service** on Wednesday, February 28th. Lunch will begin at 12 noon, prayer service at 12:30 p.m. and lunch will resume at 1:00 pm.

This Week at a Glance (February 26 – March 3)

Monday:	2:00 p.m.- Elizabeth Circle Meeting 7:00 p.m. – United Theatre Rehearsal (Stage)
Tuesday:	8:30 a.m. – Walking Group (ZOOM) 7:30 p.m. – Reading between the Vines
Wednesday:	– No Bible Study 12:00 p.m. – Lenten Prayer Service at FUMC 7:30 p.m. – Seventh Day Adventist Church (Lounge)
Thursday:	8:30 a.m. – Walking Group (ZOOM)
Friday:	7:00 p.m. – United Theatre Rehearsal (Stage)
Saturday:	9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Seventh Day Adventist Church (Sanctuary & Wesley Hall)
Sunday:	8:30 a.m. – Seekers Class 8:45 a.m. - Children Sunday School (Classrooms) 9:00 a.m. – Joyful Noise Rehearsal (Sanctuary) 9:30 a.m. – Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary) 10:00 a.m. – Worship (Sanctuary) (Nursery care for our youngest members is available during worship service.) 11:15 a.m. – Choir Rehearsal (Stage)

**Greater Freehold Clergy Association
Lenten Prayer Service Schedule**

Lunch at 12 P.M., Prayer at 12:30 P.M., Lunch at 1 P.M.

February 28 th	First United Methodist Church 91 W. Main Street	Rev. Dirk Reinken St. Peter's Episcopal
March 6 th	First Assembly of God 272 Jackson Mills Road	Rev. Alan Olson First Presbyterian
March 13 th	T.B.D. Lunch will be provided	Bishop Fred Rubin Community Refuge Church of Christ
March 20 th	Reformed Church of Freehold 67 W. Main Street	Msgr. Sam Sirianni Co-Cathedral of St. Robert
Good Friday March 29 th	Service at 12:00 P.M. First Baptist Church 81 W. Main Street Lunch will not be provided	Rev. Ruth Scott Foundational Truth Bible Study Ministries

February Birthdays

(2) Dan Tagatac	(12) Kristine Darby
(3) Lynne Beach	(12) Don Johnson
(4) Ashley Darby	(18) Tanika Peart
(5) Betsy Healton	(18) Nancy Mongano
(5) Lucero Velazquez-Alvarez	(22) Pamela Wentworth
(6) Lori Beauregard	(23) Becky Gorman
(11) Bobbie Budalich	(28) Colin Budka

March Birthdays

(1) Carly Mento	(16) Andy Schwarzkopf
(1) Lindsey Duarte	(16) Brittany Kaiser
(2) Nenita Zurick	(17) Susan Zuckerman
(4) Rev. Yoseb Jeon	(19) Laura Gatti
(4) Mary Sterling	(23) Thomas Healton
(4) Ben Sciortino	(23) Morgan Cronin
(8) O'Neil Peart	(24) Gregg Kaiser
(10) Dylan Pierce	(26) Matthew McQuillan
(11) Sue Hager	(27) Glenn Meredith
(12) Abigail Davala	(30) Rob Zuckerman
(15) Bryan Sampieri	(31) Joanne McKinney