

**First United Methodist Church of Freehold
Bulletin**

**Sunday, September 7, 2025
13th Sunday after Pentecost**

Time of Silence *[Please take this time to prepare your heart and mind for worship]*

Announcements:

Linda Gatti

Prelude:

Chloe's Memories and Melodies
"Dancing in the Sky"

D. Nelson, E. Nelson, and J. Traub

Welcome:

Linda Gatti

***Call to Worship:**

Leader: Come, people of God, let us gather with hearts open to new beginnings.

People: We come to grow in grace and in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Leader: Today we begin again with new classes, new ministries, and a new season of faith.

People: Together we look to Christ, the true vine, and we long to bear fruit.

Leader: Let us worship the One who calls us, nurtures us, and makes us grow.

People: With joy and thanksgiving, we worship the Lord our God.

***Opening Prayer: (In Unison)**

Gracious God, on this Rally Sunday we gather with hearts full of gratitude. After a season of rest, You call us once again to learn, to serve, to worship, and to grow. We ask that your Spirit fill us with hope, wisdom, and strength as we begin this new season of ministry together. May our worship, Sunday school, small groups, choirs, missions, and every work of this church be rooted in your grace and bear fruit in your love. Help us to grow not alone, but together as one body in Christ. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

***Opening Hymn:**

"The Old Rugged Cross"
(v. 1, 3, 4)

UMH #504

***Praise Song:**

"I Have Decided to Follow Jesus"

TFWS #2129

Children's Moment: *(Backpack Blessings)*

Pastor Doby Amos

Back to School Blessings Litany

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Let us pray.

K - Elementary Students:

Bless my paper and my pen. Guide my spirit deep within. Help me think and help me play this whole school year, day by day.

All: Of whom much is given, much is required. May learning be your greatest desire!

Middle School (Jr. High) Students:

As I move from class to class, guide my footsteps; clear my path. Keep my tongue to speak your words. Let your will for me be heard.

All: Of whom much is given, much is required. May learning be your greatest desire!

High School Students:

In every subject high or low, may God's excellence be shown! Keep me strong to reach the prize; to grow in grace, becoming wise.

All: Of whom much is given, much is required. May learning be your greatest desire!

College Students:

Whether far from home or near, may I hold God's precepts dear. To do my best at every task; for this blessing, I do ask.

All: Of whom much is given, much is required. May learning be your greatest desire!

Non-Traditional and Graduate Adult Students, Adult Bible School, Bible Study, Small Groups:

Help my family be a part as I lift my mind and heart. As I study, work, and pray, be with them throughout the day.

All: Of whom much is given, much is required. May learning be your greatest desire!

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:

"Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying"

TFWS #2193

Pastoral Prayer:

Rev. Yoseb Jeon

Scripture Reading:

2 Peter 1:5-8; 3:18

Karen Bennett

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:

"Let Us Grow Together"

Rev. Yoseb Jeon

A Time for Crafting (Family friendly activity):

Rev. Yoseb Jeon

Offering Time: Today's Special Offering will benefit **HABITAT FOR HUMANITY**.

Giving page: www.freeholdmethodist.org/give

Offertory:

"Behold the Lamb"
FUMC Choir

Getty & Townend

*Doxology:

"Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"

UMH #95

*Offering Prayer: (In Unison)

God of grace and mercy, you are the source of every good gift and the giver of new beginnings. On this Rally Sunday we bring our offerings with thankful hearts, trusting that You will use them to bless your church and the world. Take our gifts, our time, and our talents, and plant them like seeds in good soil. May they bear fruit in the lives of children, youth, and adults who will encounter your love through this community. Through Christ we pray. Amen.

Celebration of Communion:

*Sung Responses: "Communion Settings"

UMH 12-14
TFWS #2257 (b, c, d)

Communion Hymn:

"Let Us Break Bread Together"

UMH #618

Prayer: (In Unison)

Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us. Grant that we may go into the world in the strength of your Spirit, to give ourselves for others, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*Closing Song:

"How Great Is Our God"

Tomlin, Reeves & Cash

*Benediction:

Rev. Yoseb Jeon

*Postlude

"How Great Is Our God"
(Reprise)

Tomlin, Reeves & Cash

Scripture Passage:

2 Peter 1:5-8; 3:18 (New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition)

5 For this very reason, you must make every effort to support your faith with excellence, and excellence with knowledge, 6 and knowledge with self-control, and self-control with endurance, and endurance with godliness, 7 and godliness with mutual affection, and mutual affection with love. 8 For if these things are yours and are increasing among you, they keep you from being ineffective and unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.

18 But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be the glory both now and to the day of eternity. Amen.[a]

The Word of God for the people of God.

All: Thanks be to God.

COMMUNION LITURGY:

INVITATION

Christ our Lord invites to his table all who love him, who earnestly repent of their sin and seek to live in peace with one another. Therefore, let us confess our sin before God and one another.

CONFESSION AND PARDON

Merciful God,
we confess that we have not loved you with our whole heart.
We have failed to be an obedient church.
We have not done your will,
we have broken your law,
we have rebelled against your love,
we have not loved our neighbors,
and we have not heard the cry of the needy.
Forgive us, we pray.
Free us for joyful obedience,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

All pray in silence.

Leader to people:

Hear the good news:

Christ died for us while we were yet sinners; that proves God's love toward us.

In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

People to leader:

In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

Leader and people:

Glory to God. Amen.

THANKSGIVING AND COMMUNION

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you,
Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven we praise your name and join
their unending hymn:

♫ Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest (3X)
Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest (3X)

Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ.

By the baptism of his suffering, death, and resurrection you gave birth to your church, delivered us from slavery to sin and death, and made with us a new covenant by water and the Spirit.

On the night in which he gave himself up for us, he took bread, gave thanks to you, broke the bread, gave it to his disciples, and said: "Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

When the supper was over, he took the cup, gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples, and said: "Drink from this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

♪ **Christ has died; Christ is risen;
Christ will come again.
Hosanna in the highest (3X)**

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts of bread and wine.
Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ, that we may be for the world the body of Christ, redeemed by his blood.

By your Spirit make us one with Christ,
one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world, until Christ comes in final victory, and we feast at his heavenly banquet.

Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy Church, all honor and glory is yours, almighty Father, now and forever. **Amen.**

♪ **Amen. Amen. Amen.
Hosanna in the highest (3X)**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come,
Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Opening Hymn:
"The Old Rugged Cross" (v. 1, 3, 4)
UMH #504

(Verse 1)

On a hill far away stood an old rugged cross,
The emblem of suffering and shame;
And I love that old cross
where the dearest and best
For a world of lost sinners was slain.

(Chorus)

**So I'll cherish the old rugged cross,
Till my trophies at last I lay down;
I will cling to the old rugged cross,
And exchange it some day for a crown.**

Verse 3

In that old rugged cross,
stained with blood so divine,
A wondrous beauty I see,
For 'twas on that old cross Jesus suffered and died,
To pardon and sanctify me.

(Repeat Chorus)

(Verse 4)

To the old rugged cross I will ever be true,
Its shame and reproach gladly bear;
Then He'll call me some day to my home far away,
Where His glory forever I'll share.

(Repeat Chorus)

Praise Song:
"I Have Decided to Follow Jesus" (Video)
TFWS #2129

(Verse 1)

I have decided to follow Jesus,
I have decided to follow Jesus,
I have decided to follow Jesus,
No turning back, no turning back.

(Continued...)

(Verse 2)

The world behind me, the cross before me.
The world behind me, the cross before me.
The world behind me, the cross before me,
No turning back, no turning back.

(Verse 3)

Tho' none go with me, still I will follow.
Tho' none go with me, still I will follow.
Tho' none go with me, still I will follow,
No turning back, no turning back.

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.

Prayer Song:
"Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying"
TFWS #2193

(Chorus)

Lord, listen to Your children praying,
Lord, send Your Spirit in this place;
Lord, listen to Your children praying,
Send us love, send us power, send us grace.

"Communion Settings" (b, c, d)
TFWS #2257

Holy, holy, holy Lord;
God of power and might.
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest! Hosanna in the highest!
Hosanna in the highest!

Blest is the one who comes
In the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest! Hosanna in the highest!
Hosanna in the highest!

Christ has died, Christ is risen,
Christ will come again.
Hosanna in the highest! Hosanna in the highest!
Hosanna in the highest!
Amen. Amen. Amen.
Hosanna in the highest! Hosanna in the highest!
Hosanna in the highest!

Communion Hymn:
"Let Us Break Bread Together"
UMH #618

Let us break bread together on our knees,
Let us break bread together on our knees.
When I fall on my knees
With my face to the rising sun,
O Lord, have mercy on me.

Let us drink wine together on our knees,
Let us drink wine together on our knees.
When I fall on my knees
With my face to the rising sun,
O Lord, have mercy on me.

Let us praise God together on our knees,
Let us praise God together on our knees.
When I fall on my knees
With my face to the rising sun,
O Lord, have mercy on me.

Closing Song:
"How Great Is Our God"
Tomlin, Reeves & Cash

The splendor of the King
Clothed in majesty;
Let all the earth rejoice,
All the earth rejoice.

He wraps Himself in light,
And darkness tries to hide,
And trembles at His voice,
And trembles at His voice.

(Chorus)
How great is our God,
Sing with me,
How great is our God;
And all will see how great,
How great is our God.

And age to age He stands,
And time is in His hands;
Beginning and the End,
Beginning and the End.

The Godhead, Three in One,
Father, Spirit, Son,
The Lion and the Lamb,
The Lion and the Lamb.

(Chorus)
How great is our God,
Sing with me,
How great is our God;
And all will see how great,
How great is our God.

Bridge (2X)
Name above all names,
Worthy of all praise;
My heart will sing
How great is our God.

(Last Chorus)
How great is our God,
Sing with me,
How great is our God;
And all will see how great,
How great is our God.

Welcome to worship at the First United Methodist Church of Freehold. Whether you are joining us online or are here in person, we are glad you are with us.

Altar Flowers are donated by John & Diane Spangler, in memory of loved ones.

Save the Date! Our next **Soul Supper** will be held on Thursday, September 25th at 6:00 p.m. The featured dish will be Broccoli Chicken Alfredo!

September Birthdays

(02) Diana L. Dreyer	(13) Rich Budalich
(03) Rachel Englert	(15) Jaslin Davison
(04) Charlie Mongano	(18) Bob Sterling
(06) Dora Moore	(25) Dawn A. Tephford
(10) Susan Mulholland	(30) Katelyn Cronin

This Week at a Glance (September 8 – September 14)

Monday: 7:00 p.m. - Jersey Girls (Wesley Hall)
Tuesday: 8:30 a.m. - Walking Group (ZOOM)
7:00 p.m. - Second Tuesday (Sanctuary)
Wednesday: 10:00 a.m. – Bible Study (Coffee Room)
7:30 p.m. - Seventh Day Adventist Church (Classroom)
Thursday: 8:30 a.m. - Walking Group (ZOOM)
Friday: ***
Saturday: 9:00 a.m. - Seventh Day Adventist Church (Sanctuary & Wesley Hall till 4:00 p.m.)
Sunday: 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.)

***** No Events Scheduled**