

**First United Methodist Church of Freehold
Bulletin**

**Sunday, May 10, 2026
6th Sunday of Easter / Mother's Day**

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

Welcome and Announcements:

Andrea Garcia

Prelude

***Call to Worship:**

Leader: The voice of the Beloved is calling.

People: "Arise, my love, and come away."

Leader: The winter has passed, and a new season is before us.

People: Flowers appear, and songs rise in the air.

Leader: The signs are all around us. The time is near.

People: We open our eyes and prepare our hearts.

Leader: Heaven and earth may pass away, but God's word stands forever.

People: We come to listen, to rise, and to follow.

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

Loving God, you call us by name and invite us into new life. When we are slow to move, when we remain hidden in places that feel safe, you gently speak to us again, "Arise, my love, and come away." Open our eyes to see the signs of your work around us, and open our hearts to trust your voice. As we gather in worship today, awaken us to your presence, renew us by your Spirit, and lead us into the life you are already preparing for us. In Christ we pray. Amen.

***Opening Hymn:**

"Open My Eyes, That I May See"

UMH #454

***Praise Song:**

"Holy Spirit, Rain Down"

Russell Fragar

Children's Time:

Pastor Doby Amos

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:

"He Touched Me"

UMH #367

Pastoral Prayer:

Rev. Yoseb Jeon

The Lord's Prayer:

UMH #895

Scripture Reading:

Song of Songs 2:10-14, Matthew 24:32-35

Bob Sterling

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:

"Arise My Love, Come Away"

Pastors Eugene and Luke Park

Litany for Blessings of Women

All: Lord, we thank you for the many examples of faithful women in Scripture, like Sarah, Ruth, Hannah, Esther, Elizabeth, and Lois. Hear now the first names of other women who have inspired us by their motherly examples. We are mindful this day of all these women, and especially Mary the mother of our Lord Jesus Christ, who had the courage in faith to say — Yes to your calling. May these women gathered here today emulate these examples of faith. And may they model for all the rest of us what it means to be your disciple. Bless them on this special day; in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

Pastor: For our mothers, who have given us life and love, may we show them reverence and love,

Congregation: We pray to the Lord.

Pastor: For moms whose children are grown,

Congregation: We pray to the Lord.

Pastor: For new moms experiencing changes they could not predict,

Congregation: We pray to the Lord.

Pastor: For pregnant women who will soon be moms,

Congregation: We pray to the Lord.

Pastor: For women who, though without children of their own, like mothers have nurtured and cared for us,

Congregation: We pray to the Lord.

Pastor: For moms who face the demands of single parenthood,

Congregation: We pray to the Lord.

Pastor: For moms who are raising their children in poverty,

Congregation: We pray to the Lord.

Pastor: For moms who are separated from their children,

Congregation: We pray to the Lord.

Pastor: For girls and women who think about being moms,

Congregation: We pray to the Lord.

Pastor: For mothers who have been unable to be a source of strength, who have not responded to their children and have not sustained their families,

Congregation: We pray to the Lord.

Pastor: Loving Mother God, like an earthly mother who gives life and nourishment to her children, so you watch over your Church. Bless every Christian mother. Let the example of their faith and love shine forth.

Congregation: Grant that we, their sons and daughters, may honor them always with a spirit of profound respect.

All: Grant this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Offering Time: The Special Offering for May will benefit **Peace with Justice**. Gifts to the Peace with Justice offering strengthen ministries like refugee resettlements and other justice ministries in our annual conference and around the world. **Giving Page:** www.freeholdmethodist.org/give

Offertory: "Acclamation" Robert Ray
FUMC Choir

*Doxology: "Thank You God" Mitch Samu

*Offering Prayer: (In Unison)
Faithful God, you have already begun a new season among us. You call us to rise and to follow, to trust and to respond. As we offer these gifts, we offer also our lives, our time, and our willingness to step out in faith. Use what we bring today to bear fruit for your kingdom and shape us into people who not only hear your call, but rise and go where you lead. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

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

*Benediction: Rev. Yoseb Jeon

*Postlude

Song of Songs 2:10-14

My beloved speaks and says to me:
"Arise, my love, my fair one,
and come away,
¹¹ for now the winter is past,
the rain is over and gone.
¹² The flowers appear on the earth;
the time of singing has come,
and the voice of the turtledove
is heard in our land.
¹³ The fig tree puts forth its figs,
and the vines are in blossom;
they give forth fragrance.
Arise, my love, my fair one,
and come away.
¹⁴ O my dove, in the clefts of the rock,
in the covert of the cliff,
let me see your face;
let me hear your voice,
for your voice is sweet,
and your face is lovely.

Matthew 24:32-35

The Lesson of the Fig Tree

³² "From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. ³³ So also, when you see all these things, you know that he^[a] is near, at the very gates. ³⁴ Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. ³⁵ Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

Opening Hymn:
“Open My Eyes, That I May See”
UMH #454

(Verse 1)

Open my eyes, that I may see
Glimpses of truth Thou hast for me;
Place in my hands the wonderful key
That shall unclasp and set me free.

(Chorus 1)

**Silently now I wait for Thee,
Ready, my God, Thy will to see.
Open my eyes, illumine me,
Spirit divine!**

(Verse 2)

Open my ears, that I may hear
Voices of truth Thou sendest clear;
And while the wave notes fall on my ear,
Everything false will disappear.

(Chorus 2)

**Silently now I wait for Thee,
Ready, my God, Thy will to see.
Open my ears, illumine me,
Spirit divine!**

(Verse 3)

Open my mouth, and let me bear
Gladly the warm truth everywhere;
Open my heart and let me prepare
Love with Thy children thus to share.

(Chorus 3)

**Silently now I wait for Thee,
Ready, my God, Thy will to see.
Open my heart, illumine me,
Spirit divine!**

Praise Song:
“Holy Spirit, Rain Down”
Russell Fragar

(Chorus 2X)

Holy Spirit, rain down, rain down,
O, Comforter and Friend,
How we need Your touch again.
Holy Spirit, rain down, rain down,
Let Your power fall, let Your voice be heard,
Come and change our hearts
As we stand on Your Word.
Holy Spirit, rain down.

(Verse)

No eye has seen, no ear has heard,
No mind can know what God has in store.
So, open up heaven, open it wide,
Over Your church, and over our lives.

(Chorus)

Holy Spirit, rain down, rain down,
O, Comforter and Friend,
How we need Your touch again.
Holy Spirit, rain down, rain down,
Let Your power fall, let Your voice be heard,
Come and change our hearts
As we stand on Your Word.
Holy Spirit, rain down.

(Ending)

Rain down, rain down,
Rain down, rain down,
Rain down, rain down,
Rain.

**Prayer Hymn:
"He Touched Me"
UMH #367**

Shackled by a heavy burden,
Neath a load of guilt and shame,
Then the hand of Jesus touched me,
And now I am no longer the same.

*He touched me, O he touched me,
And O the joy that floods my soul!
Something happened, and now I know,
He touched me and made me whole.*

Since I met this blessed Savior,
Since he cleansed and made me whole,
I will never cease to praise him;
I'll shout it while eternity rolls.

*He touched me, O he touched me,
And O the joy that floods my soul!
Something happened, and now I know,
He touched me and made me whole.*

**Doxology:
"Thank You, God"
Mitch Samu**

Thank you, God, Thank you, God,
Thank you, God,
For giving me this life I get to live.

Thank you, God, Love you, God,
Praise you, God,
Forever I will give all I can give.

Amen!

**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.**

Altar Flowers are donated by Ray and Anita Ritchie, "In memory of our mothers, and in honor of Christina's birthday."

Save the Date: The First United Methodist Church of Freehold Presents:
Vacation Bible School 2026 "Rainforest Falls: Exploring the Nature of God"
June 29 – July 2 4:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.
For children Pre-K – 5th Grade.
Children will enjoy games, crafts, music, bible stories & more!



Join us for a SPECIAL ELIZABETH CIRCLE MEETING – Monday, May 18th at 2:00 p.m. - All women are invited (bring a friend) to attend Elizabeth Circle when our own Mitch Samu will be sharing his story and music. This promises to be special. Don't miss it!!

Join us in Wesley Hall on May 21st for our next Soul Supper. The menu will be Ham, Potatoes, Salad and Brownies. Please sign up on the sheet in Fellowship Hall if you plan to attend.

Community Events:

On Saturday, May 16, 2026 at 7:00 p.m. -

The First Presbyterian Church of Freehold will host an evening of music featuring The Orchestra of St. Peter by the Sea in celebration of the 250th Anniversary of the Declaration of Independence. Tickets are \$45. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. Proceeds help to fund the Freehold Memorial Day Parade.

GET TICKETS: www.DowntownFreehold.com

Freehold Area Open Door GRAND REOPENING! Freehold Area Open Door is thrilled to announce their move to a new, larger location! The new facility almost doubles their size and is custom-designed to better meet the needs of our neighbors and volunteers. Join us to celebrate at the Grand Reopening event, taking place at the new facility, at **80 Throckmorton St. in Freehold, on Saturday, May 30, 2026 from 1 - 4 pm.** The celebration is open to the public.

Food, entertainment, and the opportunity to celebrate with your friends and neighbors!

www.faopendoor.org

Unable to make it to church? There are several ways you can join us virtually: Find us on:

- **Our website:** www.freeholdmethodist.org/livestream
- **Youtube.com:** search Freehold Methodist Church
- **Our Newsletter:** Click on the service title picture.
- **ZOOM:**
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/2890014881?pwd=QnpGZkxudzR4cU9zV0hYcnlQV0hjZz09&omn=82251952816>

One tap mobile

+1-305-224-1968,,2890014881#,,,,*851247# US

Meeting ID: 289 001 4881

+1-309-205-3325,,2890014881#,,,,*851247# US

Passcode: 851247

This Week at a Glance (May 11 – May 17)

Monday: 7:00 p.m. - Jersey Girls (Wesley Hall)
7:00 p.m. - United Theatre Rehearsal (Classroom)
7:30 p.m. - Seventh Day Adventist Church (Sanctuary)

Tuesday: 8:30 a.m. - Walking Group (ZOOM)
7:00 p.m. - United Theatre Rehearsal (Wesley Hall)
7:30 p.m. - Seventh Day Adventist Church (Sanctuary)

Wednesday: 10:00 a.m. - "Oasis" Bible Study Group (Coffee Room)
7:00 p.m. - United Theatre Rehearsal (Wesley Hall)
7:30 p.m. - Seventh Day Adventist Church (Sanctuary)

Thursday: 8:30 a.m. - Walking Group (ZOOM)
6:00 p.m. - A.A.U.W. Event (Wesley Hall)
7:00 p.m. - United Theatre Rehearsal (Classroom)
7:30 p.m. - Seventh Day Adventist Church (Sanctuary)

Friday: 7:30 p.m. - Seventh Day Adventist Church (Sanctuary)

Saturday: 9:00 a.m. - Seventh Day Adventist Church (Sanctuary & Wesley Hall till 4:00 p.m.)

Sunday: 8:30 a.m. - Seekers Class (Seekers' Classroom)
8:45 a.m. - Youth Sunday School (Classrooms)
9:00 a.m. - Joyful Noise Warm-Up (Sanctuary)
10:00 a.m. - Worship (Sanctuary)
11:30 a.m. - Fellowship Time and Refreshments (Fellowship Hall)
5:00 p.m. - iZion Christian Church (Sanctuary & Wesley Hall)

May Birthdays

(14) Kim O'Brien	(19) Annabell Minty	(21) Virginia Sologuren	(23) Thomas Dreyer
(14) Susan Wilson	(20) Connor Groh	(21) Vivian Walters	(29) Carrie Shutzer
(17) Sharon Shutzer	(20) Myra Pierce	(22) Tresssa Johnson	(30) Bryan Wilson
			(30) Stephanie Walters-Laurino