

First United Methodist Church of Freehold  
Bulletin

Sunday, September 26, 2021  
18<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

Announcements

Prelude

Welcome

Call to Worship:

Leader: We gather to remember that we belong to God and one another.

**People: We gather to reorient ourselves toward God and community.**

Leader: Let's pray and sing songs of praise together!

**People: We give thanks for all that connects us and heals us.**

Leader: Let's commit ourselves to God today and always!

**People: We give thanks for grace that always includes us.**

Leader: Let's stay in love with God today and always!

**People: We give thanks for faith expressing itself in love.**

Opening Prayer: (In Unison)

**Loving One, thank you for the gifts of prayer and praise. Thank you for community and opportunities to heal. Let our worship grow our love for you and commitment to you. Keep us in love with you, and let that love illuminate our way of being in the world. May the love of Jesus define and refine us. Amen.**

Opening Hymn: "Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee" UMH #89

Song: "Gather Us In" TFWS #2236

Prayer Hymn: "His Eye Is on the Sparrow" TFWS #2146

Pastoral Prayer Pastor Wil Wilson

The Lord's Prayer UMH #895

Scripture Reading: James 5:13-20 Lyn Johnson

Sermon: "Living Faith: Stay in Love with God" Pastor, Wil Wilson

Offering: *Our Special Offering for September will benefit **UMCOR: Disaster Relief.***

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

Offertory Prayer Pastor, Wil Wilson

**Loving God, thank you for sustaining this community. Thank you for giving us ways to stay in love with you. Bless our gifts that, through this church and its ministries, we can continue to build each other up and serve others who yearn to know you. Amen.**

Passing of the Peace

Closing Song:

"I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me"

TFWS #2153

Benediction:

Pastor, Wil Wilson

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## **Scripture Passage for Sunday, September 26, 2021**

**Liturgist: Lyn Johnson**

### **James 5:13-20**

#### **The Prayer of Faith**

<sup>13</sup> Are any among you suffering? They should pray. Are any cheerful? They should sing songs of praise. <sup>14</sup> Are any among you sick? They should call for the elders of the church and have them pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord. <sup>15</sup> The prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise them up; and anyone who has committed sins will be forgiven. <sup>16</sup> Therefore confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, so that you may be healed. The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective. <sup>17</sup> Elijah was a human being like us, and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the earth. <sup>18</sup> Then he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain and the earth yielded its harvest.

<sup>19</sup> My brothers and sisters,<sup>[a]</sup> if anyone among you wanders from the truth and is brought back by another, <sup>20</sup> you should know that whoever brings back a sinner from wandering will save the sinner's<sup>[b]</sup> soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.

The Word of God for the people of God.

**Thanks be to God!**

**Opening Song:  
Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee  
UMH #89**

Verse 1

Joyful, joyful, we adore Thee,  
God of glory, Lord of love;  
Hearts unfold like flowers before Thee,  
Opening to the sun above.  
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness;  
Drive the dark of doubt away.  
Giver of immortal gladness,  
Fill us with the light of day!

All Thy works with joy surround Thee,  
Earth and heaven reflect Thy rays,  
Stars and angels sing around Thee,  
Center of unbroken praise.  
Field and forest, vale and mountain,  
Flowery meadow, flashing sea,  
Chanting bird and flowing fountain,  
Call us to rejoice in Thee.

Thou art giving and forgiving,  
Ever blessing, ever blest,  
Wellspring of the joy of living,  
Ocean depth of happy rest!  
Thou our Father, Christ our Brother,  
All who live in love are Thine;  
Teach us how to love each other,  
Lift us to the joy divine.

Mortals, join the mighty chorus  
Which the morning stars began;  
Love divine is reigning o'er us,  
Binding all within its span.  
Ever singing, march we onward,  
Victors in the midst of strife;  
Joyful music lifts us sunward,  
In the triumph song of life.

**Gather Us In  
TFWS #2236**

Here in this place new light is streaming,  
Now is the darkness vanished away,  
See in this space our fears and our dreamings,  
Brought here to you in the light of this day.

Gather us in – the lost and forsaken,  
Gather us in – the blind and the lame;  
Call to us now, and we shall awaken,  
We shall arise at the sound of our name.

We are the young – our lives are a myst'ry  
We are the old – who yearn for your face,  
We have been sung throughout all of hist'ry,  
Called to be light to the whole human race.

Gather us in – the rich and the haughty,  
Gather us in – the proud and the strong;  
Give us a heart so meek and so lowly,  
Give us the courage to enter the song.

Here we will take the wine and the water,  
Here we will take the bread of new birth,  
Here you shall call your sons and your daughters,  
Call us anew to be salt for the earth.

Give us to drink the wine of compassion,  
Give us to eat the bread that is you;  
Nourish us well, and teach us to fashion  
Lives that are holy and hearts that are true.

Not in the dark of buildings confining,  
Not in some heaven, light years away,  
But here in this place the new light is shining,  
Now is the Kingdom, now is the day.

Gather us in and hold us forever,  
Gather us in and make us your own;  
Gather us in – all peoples together,  
Fire of love in our flesh and our bone.

**Prayer Hymn**  
**His Eye Is on the Sparrow**  
**TFWS #2146**

Why should I feel discouraged?  
Why should the shadows come?  
Why should my heart be lonely  
And long for heaven and home,  
When Jesus is my portion?

My constant friend is He:  
His eye is on the sparrow, and I know He watches me;  
His eye is on the sparrow, and I know He watches me.

I sing because I'm happy, I sing because I'm free,  
For His eye is on the sparrow,  
And I know He watches me.

"Let not your heart be troubled,"  
His tender words I hear,  
And resting on His goodness,  
I lose my doubts and fears;  
Tho' by the path He leadeth  
But one step I may see:

His eye is on the sparrow, and I know He watches me;  
His eye is on the sparrow, and I know He watches me.

I sing because I'm happy, I sing because I'm free,  
For His eye is on the sparrow,  
And I know He watches me.

Whenever I am tempted, whenever clouds arise,  
When song gives place to sighing,  
When hope within me dies,  
I draw the closer to Him,  
From care He sets me free:

His eye is on the sparrow, and I know He watches me;  
His eye is on the sparrow, and I know He watches me.

I sing because I'm happy, I sing because I'm free,  
For His eye is on the sparrow,  
And I know He watches me.

**Closing Hymn:**  
**I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me**  
**TFWS #2153**

I'm gonna live so God can use me  
Anywhere, Lord, anytime!  
I'm gonna live so God can use me  
Anywhere, Lord, anytime!

I'm gonna work so God can use me  
Anywhere, Lord, anytime!  
I'm gonna work so God can use me  
Anywhere, Lord, anytime!

I'm gonna pray so God can use me  
Anywhere, Lord, anytime!  
I'm gonna pray so God can use me  
Anywhere, Lord, anytime!

I'm gonna sing so God can use me  
Anywhere, Lord, anytime!  
I'm gonna sing so God can use me  
Anywhere, Lord, anytime!