



## May 12, 2024 ~ Seventh Sunday of Easter; Remembering Mothers

9:00 a.m. Traditional Worship (Sanctuary) -- \*please stand as you are able

Have you **checked in** for worship today on the Church Center app? Please remember to also **sign** the Friendship pads in the pews and greet those seated near you.

### Welcome & Work of God's People

Rev. Stuart Spencer

### Way of the Week #4: Always Encourage and Celebrate

**4. ALWAYS ENCOURAGE AND CELEBRATE.** Show gratitude and appreciation by regularly acknowledging the good works you see everywhere. Look for signs of spiritual growth and maturity among our members and staff. When you see it, point it out and rejoice. Pass on good reports that you hear about others.

**Ideas for Action:** Write a text or a note to someone close to you who just did something wonderful or important. With many details, tell them why you're grateful or delighted by them.

### Music in Preparation for Worship

Dr. Amit Joshi, Piano

*Italian Concerto, BWV 971 3<sup>rd</sup> Movement (Presto)*

J.S. Bach

### Introit

Kathy Gunsallus, Organ

*God is Love, and Where True Love Is*

Gregory Murray

Adult Choir

### \*Call to Worship (adapted from Luke 24:44-47)

Elder Kristen Perkowski

Jesus said, "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you, that everything written about me in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms must be fulfilled."

**Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures.**

And Jesus said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning with Jerusalem.

**You are my witnesses of these things. And behold, I am sending the promise of my Father upon you."**

## \*Prayer of Adoration (responsive)

Elder Perkowski

People of God, Rejoice! Our Eternal and Beautiful God is near. The One who gives us new birth by water and Spirit. The One who names us beloved; the One who delights in our very existence. Come and worship.

**Holy Spirit, Holy One, Descending Dove, Shine on me that I may know your presence; anoint me that I may know your call. Fill me that I may know your power. Guide me that I may know your path. Name me that I may know who I am in and through you.**

## \*Hymn No. 353

### ***For the Beauty of the Earth***

\*\*\*Seating interlude

## Call to Confession & Prayer of Confession (unison)

Elder Perkowski

Eternal and everlasting God, we confess that we often forget we are Your children. At times, we live our lives as if You don't exist, and we fall short of being credible witnesses of Your love and grace. For the times we have failed You, we ask Your forgiveness. Clear our minds and open our hearts so that we may be faithful to You in everything we say and do. We ask all this in the mighty name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.

*Time of silent and personal prayer*

## Assurance of Pardon

Elder Perkowski

Through Jesus Christ we receive forgiveness.  
**Glory to God in the highest! Hallelujah, amen!**

## \*Gloria Patri

## Sharing with our Young Disciples

Rev. Stuart Spencer

## Anthem

### ***Love is of God***

Adult Choir

Austin Lovelace

Beloved, let us love: for love is of God; in God alone has love its true abode.  
Beloved, let us love: for those who love, they only are His children born from above.  
Beloved, let us love: for love is light, and those who do not love still live in night.  
Beloved, let us love: for only thus shall we see God the Lord Who first loved us. Beloved, let us love.

## Prayer of Intercession and the Lord's Prayer ('debts')

Rev. Stuart Spencer

## Offertory

Rev. Stuart Spencer



*Thank you for your faithfulness and for blessing FPC Moorestown with your giving. Your offerings and donations allow us to sustain our church programs. Take advantage of secure or donate easily from your phone via the Church Center app for your tithes, offerings and other fund contributions. If you're watching via live stream, you can give online right now as well! To mail offerings, send to P.O. Box 868, Moorestown, NJ 08057.*

## Offertory Music

Kathy Gunsallus, Organ

### ***A Mother's Love***

Sjolund

Amanda Schkeeper, Alto

Something of God is in a mother's love, Something of His tenderness and care:  
I never see a mother bent above an ailing child - but I can see God there.  
And I can hear Him in the words she says, to little children gathered at her knee:  
God's own voice speaking thru her lips, the words that will bear fruitage for eternity.  
And I can feel him in a mother's touch; across the wid'ning years,  
Her shielding hands will still reach out as if to keep from harm her little child,  
How well God understands a mother's heart, so like His own it is!  
True motherhood has touched His garments hem for strength and wisdom,  
And, surely, O God, we honor Thee the day we honor them.

## \*Doxology No. 809

### Sermon

Rev. Wes Allen

#### ***"Now Testify!"***

**Scripture:** Acts 5 : 26-32 (Pew Bible page 123 NT)

**Sermon Series:** Priorities of a Powerhouse People

## \*Hymn No. 393

### ***Our Father, by Whose Name***

### Music in Preparation for Service

#### ***A Day to Rejoice***

Mazzatenta

Bell Choir: Jim Cole, Barbara Fletcher, Lissa Herman, Melissa McNab, Sawyer McNab, Marion Norcross, Peg Pierce, Vicki Terry; Kathy Gunsallus Director

## Benediction and Going Forth

Rev. Wes Allen

~ ~ ~

**Worship flowers** are given by Sheila Schneider in loving memory of Franz Schneider and their parents.

## 9:00 a.m. Worship Ministry

**Acolytes:** Isaac and Avery Gordon; **Beadle:** Elder Kristen Perkowski; **Audio Technician:** Joshua Leonard; **Live Stream Technician:** Jonathan Nawrocki; **Ushers:** John Miller, Barry Leatherman, Leonard Fitts; **Flower Arranger:** Stacy Schaffer; **Trustee Greeter:** Joe Molloy; **Sanctuary Greeter:** Stephen Minister Nancy Dodimead; **Deacon Greeter:** Deacon Janet D'Angelo; **Coffee Hospitality:** Paul Grossmann and Jim Cole; **Bagel Pick-Up:** Amy Mace; **Nursery Care:** Chelsea Margerum.

### [TODAY: Mother's Day Bake Sale Fundraiser for Honduras](#)

Pick up some sweet treats and support the 9-member mission team as they fundraise for their July 9-14 trip overseas. Online giving is also now OPEN – donate at [fpcmoorestown.org/give](http://fpcmoorestown.org/give) and use the drop down for Honduras.

Mission trip travelers are Holly Ascitutto, Sandy Batezel, Doug Batezel, Jim Clinton, Margaret Dealy, Earl Gage, Debbie Heller, Linda Jagiela and Philip Jagiela.

## Work of God's People (See *Connections*, eblast, website and Church Center app for details)

**NEXT WEEK: Sunday, May 19:** Last day of Children's Sunday School and is Teacher & Leader Appreciation Sunday. That day is also Pentecost, celebrated by Full Communion. Remember to **wear red**.

Thank you to the men and women who have answered the call to serve incoming terms as elders, deacons or trustees. "I Will Serve" is one of the tenets of our Grow The Kingdom emphasis. Officer training will be **Wednesday, May 15** (6:30-8:00 pm) and **Saturday, May 18** (9-11 am). Installation and Ordination will be on **Sunday, June 9**. Several officer positions remain and the Nominations Committee continues to look for individuals to fill these needs. Want to learn more? Contact Nominations chair Gil Warren at [gbkwarren@verizon.net](mailto:gbkwarren@verizon.net).

[Registration is now OPEN](#) online for students and volunteers for [Vacation Bible School 2024](#) "Race to the Finish," **June 24-28** for students entering kindergarten to entering 6<sup>th</sup> grade. VBS set up week will be June 17-21 -- meetings and events may be moved accordingly. See *Connections* or [www.fpcmoorestown.org/vbs](http://www.fpcmoorestown.org/vbs) for more information.

**New sermon series "Fan the Flames;" spiritual gifts SURVEY** – On May 26, we begin our sermon series "[Fan the Flames](#)" which will highlight the work of the Holy Spirit in equipping men and women of faith with spiritual gifts suited for growing God's Kingdom. We are asking everyone to participate in three critical ways:

1. Take the spiritual gifts survey at your earliest convenience at <https://gifts.churchgrowth.org/spiritual-gifts-survey/?id=902651> (see eblast, website, event page for a letter from Pastor Allen).
2. Use your spiritual gift inventory to explore new ways to serve God's Kingdom by identifying volunteer opportunities at FPC Moorestown
3. Worship regularly, in person or online, this summer and welcome the Spirit's guidance and movement

**Middle School & High School Youth Groups** -- Middle School Youth Group (gr. 7-8), last meeting **Wednesday, May 29** (6:30-8:00 pm). High School Youth Group (gr. 9-12) last meeting **Sunday, May 26** (6:30-8:30 pm). Both groups will gather for a [Year-End Youth Groups Cookout](#) on **Sunday, June 2** in our parking lot from 6:00-8:30 pm. SIGN UP ONLINE. Check us out on FPC Youth's Instagram and watch for weekly Youth Group Hangouts on Wednesdays this summer (7-9 pm) starting June 26<sup>th</sup>.

[The 65<sup>th</sup> Annual Strawberry Festival](#) is coming **Friday, June 7 (6-9 pm)**. [Registration is OPEN](#) and LOTS of volunteers are needed. The event is free, suggested donation \$8 per person. Venmo too: @fpcmoorestown. [Sign up online](#) or at church.

**NEW: [West Jersey Music Academy Little Beats Summer Music Camp](#)**: see flyers around the church for information about an engaging new beginner music Summer Camp from July 8-19 for grades 1-5; visit <http://www.westjerseymusicacademy.org> to sign up.

**Summer Inquirers Class:** Are you interested in learning more about FPC Moorestown and possibly joining the congregation? The Membership Committee extends an invitation to you to attend its Inquirers' Class on June 19, June 22 and June 23. The three-part series is designed to work with today's busy schedules. Sign up online at <https://fpcmoorestown.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/2308568>.



Volunteers are needed to support our coffee hospitality on Sunday mornings and set up and clean up the coffee and service area. If you enjoy having bagels and coffee, please contact Carol Wiggans at (267) 496-0450 or [jcwiggans@gmail.com](mailto:jcwiggans@gmail.com) to offer to periodically assist on a support team. Drivers are also needed to pick up the bagels Sunday morning from Manhattan Bagel in Moorestown. Please contact scheduler Amy Mace at 856-524-0481 if you can offer to take a turn picking up the bagels one week.