



Sunday, September 8, 2024 ~ Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
11:00 a.m. Contemporary Worship (*Miller Commons*)

Welcome and Work of God's People

Rev. Wes Allen

Way of the Week

Rev. Allen

21. YOU'RE SENT; NOW GO. We're blessed to be a blessing. God intends to use you to bless, heal, restore, and liberate a dark and hurting world. We're here for others: in our families, our community, and in the world. Go to the need. Live missionally.

Ideas for Action: Check out the Missions tab on our website. Look at our local mission partners' websites for information and ideas for service. Contact Linda Jagiela, Director of Outreach, for additional suggestions. Make plans to go and serve ASAP.

Songs of Praise

Worship Team

Happy Day

Tim Hughes

Great Things

Phil Wickham

Wow Moments

Rev. Stuart Spencer

*Call to Worship (*responsive*)

Rev. Spencer

Come, all who are weary, all who are searching for rest, all who long for the touch of God.

We come, bringing our hearts, our hopes, and our needs before the One Who sows seeds of life and love.

The Sower calls us to prepare the soil of our souls, to open our hearts to the Word that brings life.

We come, ready to receive, ready to grow, and ready to be transformed by God's grace.

The Kingdom of God is at hand, growing among us in ways we can see and ways we cannot yet imagine.

We come with faith and expectation, trusting in the mystery of God's unfolding Kingdom.

Let us worship the Sower of all good things, Who scatters seeds of hope and peace in our lives.

We worship with open hearts, ready to be the soil where God's Kingdom flourishes. Let us worship our Lord!

***Prayer of Adoration**

Rev. Spencer

***Song of Praise**

Worship Team

Graves into Gardens

Brandon Lake

Prayer of Confession (*unison*)

Rev. Allen

Merciful God, we confess that we have not always nurtured the seeds of Your Kingdom in our lives. We have allowed our hearts to be hardened by fear, choked by anxiety, and distracted by the busyness of our days. We have not always been receptive to Your Word; and we have failed to bear the fruits of love, justice, and peace. Forgive us, O God, for the times we have neglected the call to be good soil. Renew our spirits, soften our hearts, and help us to cultivate lives that are fertile ground for Your grace. May Your Word take root in us, grow in us, and bear fruit through us, so that Your Kingdom may flourish in our world. In the name of Jesus Christ, we pray. Amen.

Silence for personal confession & reflection

Assurance of Forgiveness (*responsive*)

Rev. Allen

Beloved in Christ, hear the good news as stated in the Heidelberg Confession of Faith: "By true faith in Jesus Christ, I am righteous before God, an heir to life everlasting." This righteousness is not earned by our own works but is a gift of grace received through faith.

Praise the Lord for His gift of grace!

Even when we stumble and fall, God's grace is greater than our sin. "It is as if I had never sinned nor been a sinner," for the righteousness of Christ has been given to us.

Praise the Lord for His gift of righteousness!

Therefore, let us live in the assurance of this great truth: In Christ, we are forgiven; and we are called to live as new creations.

Thanks be to God for His forgiveness! We are redeemed; we are renewed; and we are free. Amen.

***Greeting**

Rev. Allen

Sharing with Our Young Disciples

Rev. Spencer

Offering Ourselves to God & Work of God's People

Rev. Spencer



Thank you for your faithfulness in blessing FPC Moorestown with your giving. Your offerings allow us to sustain our church programs. Take advantage of [automatic withdrawal](#) or donate from your phone via the Church Center app for your offering and our [Capital 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.**

Song of Praise

Worship Team

The Blessing

Kari Jobe

Sermon

Rev. Allen

Fertile Fields and Kingdom Roots

Scripture Text: [Matthew 13:1-9](#)

Sermon Series: *Stories from the Fields*

Closing Song

Worship Team

This is Our God

Phil Wickham

Benediction

Rev. Allen

11:00 a.m. Worship Ministry

Worship Team:	Matt Russell-Guitar; Ryan Peiffer-Bass; Mike Newcomb-Drums; Rebecca Neindorff-Piano; Michelle Davis-Vocals
Audio Technician:	Joshua Leonard
Sound Technician:	Taylor Adair
Live Stream Technician:	Dalton Ryan
Visuals:	Alice Conley
Flower Arrangers:	Karin Miller and Stacy Schaffer
Usher:	Dave Barr or JoAnn Reynik
Trustee Greeter:	Pete Honeyford
Welcome Desk:	Steve Drzaszcz and Gail Sorin
Hospitality Coordinator:	Carol Wiggans
Nursery Caregiver:	Chelsea Margerum

Today's worship flowers are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Evan Michael Welch by his family, friends, and all who loved him.

Nursery care is provided for children ages 0-5 years old in Room 12.

Check-ins: Check-in is self-check in only on your smart phone. A volunteer is available to assist.

Welcome Back Sunday! Special happenings on **Sept. 8** and **15th**. "I Will Serve" Showcase (between Services) -- Explore areas where you might be able to help.

CREDO Parents' Information Meeting: Sunday, **Sept. 8** from 10:15-10:45 a.m. in the Hayes Room – The CREDO Confirmation Class is open to all high school students.

The Engagement Project is a 10-week program Wednesday evenings **Sept. 11-Nov. 13** in Room 3-4 led by Jim Cole and Sue Piper. [Sign up online](#) or through the Church Center app. Invite friends to this video discussion series led by Dr. Del Tackett. There is no book and no homework.



Prayer on the Porch – 2nd & 4th Thursdays: Sept. 12 & 26: **7:00 PM** on the **Van Camp Porch**. Ice cream will be served.



On September 12, we will celebrate the 136th Birthday of First Presbyterian Church of Moorestown, which was founded in 1888. Watch your mail for a letter from Pastor Stuart sharing about the church's legacy Fund.

Bible Sunday: On **Sunday, September 15**, children entering third grade will receive a Bible as a gift from their church. Bibles will be presented at both Services. If you would like your third grader to receive a Bible, please sign up online or contact Holly Ascitutto hasciutto@fpcmoorestown.org or Jean Marie childrensministries@fpcmoorestown.org.



Fall Prayer Retreat - October 22-25: Registration is open for this 3-night, 4-day Retreat at Holy Cross Monastery (NY) led by Pastor Spencer. Study Book: *One Thousand Gifts: A Dare to Live Fully Right Where You Are* by Ann Voskamp. See our Events page for details and to [register](#). Cost: \$355 study book included; \$340 study book NOT included. Deadline to Register is Sunday, **Sept. 29**.

Howard Univ. Gospel Choir Concert: On Friday, **Oct. 4 at 7:00 PM**, the renowned Howard Gospel Choir of Howard University will be in concert at First Presbyterian Church of Moorestown; and the community is invited! No tickets required. A freewill offering will be taken. Non-perishable food items will be collected for the Moorestown Ministerium Food Pantry.

FPC MOORESTOWN WEEKLY PRAYER OPPORTUNITIES (See *Prayer page on website for links*)

- **Mondays 9-10 AM** – Jim Cole leading - Prayer Chapel. Anyone needing or wanting to pray for others is welcome to join Jim.
- **Tuesdays 9-10 AM** – Jim Cole leading (Zoom)
- **Thursdays 7:00 PM** – Live stream Prayer Service (*praying for our church and discipleship*)
- **Thursdays 7:00 PM** – Prayer on the Porch – Join our Prayer Team for a time of prayer on the Van Camp Porch (2nd & 4th Thursdays June-Sept.)
- **Sundays 10:00 AM** – After Traditional Worship, Beadles available to pray with or for you (David Room). Jim Cole also available in the Prayer Chapel in Commons Lobby for prayer.
- Submit confidential **online prayer requests** – visit <https://www.fpcmoorestown.org/prayer>
- **Fall & Spring Prayer Retreats** to unplug and savor time away in meditation.
- **Prayer Vigils** - sponsored by the Prayer Committee for stewardship, National/World Day of Prayer, etc.