



September 29, 2024 ~ Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost; 5th Sunday

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 #24: Tell Your Story

24. TELL YOUR STORY. God has done and is doing something unique in your life. Has God answered a prayer, provided help, or blessed you? Share it. Ask God for opportunities to share your faith in Christ by words and deeds.

Ideas for Action: At the start of each morning this week, think about one thing you're grateful to God for from the previous 24 hours. Got it? Now share it with someone else in the course of today.

Music in Preparation for Worship

Just a Closer Walk with Thee

Arr. Stokes

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

*Call to Worship

Elder Kevin Fauvell

Dear friends in Christ: Come into God's presence today with gladness!

The Holy Spirit brings light into our darkness, hope to our sadness, joy to our mourning.

Come into God's presence with singing!

The love of Jesus Christ brings faith to our doubt, promise to our uncertainty.

Come into God's presence with joy!

We come, seeking God's new way of life. We are here to hear God, believe God and then to serve God.

Come, let us worship God!

*Prayer of Adoration

Elder Fauvell

*Hymn No. 712

The Kingdom of God is Justice and Joy

***Seating interlude

Call to Confession & Prayer of Confession (unison)

Elder Fauvell

Merciful and gracious God, we confess to You our ingratitude. We have not been truly thankful to You for the blessings You have given us before and after salvation. Instead, we have given ourselves credit for many of the blessings that come from Your hand. We repent. We confess that we've allowed our love for You to grow cold. We have lost our passionate first love for You. Instead, we give our love to our bank accounts, our sports teams, our pleasures, our careers, other people, or even to ourselves. We repent. We confess our love of the world and material things. We complain about or resent the fact that we owe You a minimum of 10 percent of our income. So we don't give it to You. We repent. We confess that we have robbed You of the honor due You. We give You the leftovers of our time, thoughts, emotions, money. We waste time on things that have no eternal value. We exercise our God-given gifts and talents for a fee. We are willing to do for a price what we will not do freely for You. We repent. Have mercy upon us, in the name of Jesus. Amen.

(Silence for our personal prayers of confession and surrender.)

Assurance of Pardon

Elder Fauvell

Hear the good news! The saying is worth everything and is worthy of full acceptance today. Jesus Christ came into this world to save sinners like us.

He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, that we might be dead to sin, and alive to all that is good.

I declare to you, in the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Amen.

*Gloria Patri

Stewardship Moment

Deacon Joshua Leonard

Anthem

Rachel Ferguson, Piano

City Called Heaven

Arr. Poelnitz

Chapel Choir; Julie Barton, Soprano; Alex Perkowski, Tenor

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

Rev. Wes Allen

Offertory



Thank you for your faithfulness and for blessing FPC Moorestown with your giving, especially in this important stewardship season. Your offerings and donations allow us to sustain our church programs year-round. Donate easily from your device 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

Poor, Wayfaring Stranger

Chapel Choir

Rachel Ferguson, Piano

Jensen

*Doxology No. 809

Sermon

"Let Them Grow"

Scripture: Matthew 13: 24-30 (Pew Bible page 14 NT)

Grow The Kingdom Commitment #2: I Will Invite

Sermon Series: Stories from the Fields

Rev. Stuart Spencer

*Hymn No. 710

We Are Called to be God's People

Music in Preparation for Service

Jesus, Priceless Treasure

Layla Joshi, Organ

J.S. Bach BWV 610

*Benediction and Going Forth

Rev. Spencer

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Worship flowers are given by Joyce Wenzke to the glory of God and in loving memory of Al on his birthday.

9:00 a.m. Worship Ministry

Beadle: Elder Kevin Fauvell; **Audio Technician:** Harris Ransom; **Live Stream Technician:** Jonathan Nawrocki; **Ushers:** Dave Rebuck, John Miller, James Clinton; **Flower Arrangers:** Gretchen Birdsall and Robin Godonis; **Trustee Greeter:** Mike Welch; **Sanctuary Greeter:** Stephen Minister Doris Kahley; **Deacon Greeters/Welcome Centers:** Deacons Susan Horn and Steve Emerson; **Bagel Pick-Up:** Bob Plant or Carol Wiggans; **Coffee Hospitality:** Bob Plant or Carol Wiggans; **Nursery Care:** Chelsea Margerum.

[Howard Gospel Choir is coming!](#)

The award-winning Howard University Gospel Choir will be in concert on **Friday, October 4th** at 7:00 pm at FPC Moorestown and the community is invited! The first collegiate choir of its kind in the world, HGC has pioneered an international legacy in gospel music ministry. Tickets are not required; a free will offering will be taken. In addition, a nonperishable food collection will be taken that evening to support the Moorestown Ministerium food pantry. See our event page for full details. Come early, we are expecting to sell out. Overflow seating will be available in Miller Commons.

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



NEW: Wednesday Series "God's Good News About Politics" – Wes Allen will be offering a time of prayer and study on Wednesday evenings in October (**Oct. 2, 9, 16, 23 and 30**) from 6:30 - 8:00 p.m. following Family Dinner in the Commons. Meet in the Lounge. Sign up online or through the app.



See *Connections*, Church Center events, website and the church calendar for full details on

Children's Sunday School, Adult Spiritual Formation, and other ministries. Parents: Don't forget to sign up online for your child's Sunday School class. 😊 **Adult Spiritual Formation** – Join us Sunday mornings for the adult study on the Book of Philippians (Sept. 22-Nov. 19 in Fellowship Hall, **10:15 am.**)

NEW: Online sign ups are OPEN for [K-12 fellowship groups for 2024-25](#): Kingdom Kids (K-3rd), Crossing Zone (gr. 4-6), Middle School Youth Group (gr. 7-8) and High School Youth Group (gr. 9-12). [Please sign up online](#) so we can be sure to have correct information for our leaders.

- Middle School Youth Group began **Wed. Sept. 18** (grades 7-8)
- High School Youth Group began **Sunday, Sept. 22** (grades 9-12)
- Kingdom Kids (K-3rd) and Crossing Zone (Grades 4-6) begin **Wed. Oct. 2**
- Family Dinner begins **Wed. October 2** and is open to the entire congregation (\$7.00 per person). Pay online, via Venmo (@fpcmoorestown) or at the door.

Fall Prayer Retreat October 22-25 – Register **by Sunday, Sept. 29** for this 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.



Consecration Sunday is October 13 – one **9:30 am** combined worship; watch your mail for information. The theme for Consecration Sunday is *Grow the Kingdom - I Will Pray, I Will Invite, I Will Serve, I Will Give*. We will gather as a church family to dedicate our 2025 Estimate of Giving cards (please bring yours with you to church) and enjoy a Covered Dish Brunch after church! If you unable to be with us on October 13, we'll miss you. Please complete your Estimate of Giving online, mail to the office or drop in the offering plate ahead of time. Your estimates allow church leaders to more accurately budget for fiscal year 2025.

Prayer Vigil October 12: As a church we will be praying for 12 hours in particular for Consecration Sunday. Sign up online for the slot that works for you. [Find the link](#) on the Consecration Sunday event page or our website.

NEW: High School Retreat Nov. 15-17 at Lake Champion Young Life Camp, Glen Spey, NY; gr. 9-12. Don't miss this amazing Spirit-filled weekend! Sign up on our event page. **Money is nonrefundable after Friday, Nov. 8.**

YES, there's still time to register your high school student for our upcoming [CREDO Confirmation Class](#). **Sunday, Oct. 6** will be the last day to register. CREDO is open to all high school students (grades 9-12).

Save the Date: [Red Cross Blood Drive](#) -- Monday, October 28 from 11:00 am-4:00 pm in Miller Commons

Reservations are being taken now for **2025 Sunday flower donations**. Two pedestal vases are available each Sunday, and each vase is \$40. What better way to commemorate loved ones or special dates in your life. To reserve your date(s), contact Rumi Sinunu at 856-266-4047 or rts319@gmail.com with your requested date(s) and exact wording for the worship guide. You may purchase one (\$40) or two (\$80) vases. Please make checks payable to the church. Payment is requested at the time of ordering.