



October 13, 2024 ~ Consecration Sunday

9:30 a.m. Blended 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

Music in Preparation for Worship (see Hymn 435 for text)

Kathy Gunsallus, Piano

They Asked: "Who's My Neighbor?"

Jan Wesson

Choristers; Abigail Sempier, Sofia Rubcich, Annabella Scafario, Nadia Khalifa, Soloists

Introit

Kathy Gunsallus, Organ

As Thou, Lord, Hast Lived for Others

Dutch Melody, Arr. T. Tertius Noble

Adult Choir

As Thou, Lord, hast lived for others, so may we for others live;
Free have Thy gifts been granted, freely may Thy servants give.
Thine the gold and Thine the silver, thine the wealth of land and sea,
We but stewards of Thy bounty, held in solemn trust for Thee.

*Call to Worship

Elder Matt Livingston

Come, everyone, and clap your hands for joy!

For the Lord Most High is awesome. God alone is the great King of all the Earth.

Sing to the Lord a new song; sing wherever you go, for the Lord is worthy of our praise and prayer.

Sing to the Lord; praise God's name. Declare God's desire to save us, day after day.

Come, bow down and worship; kneel to the Lord, our Maker.

For the Lord is our God, our Shepherd; we are the flock that God leads with care.

Praise God, then, with me. Praise God with all that you have to offer. God is worthy. Let us worship God!

*Prayer of Adoration

Elder Livingston

*Hymn No. 568

Take My Life and Let It Be Consecrated

***Seating interlude

Call to Confession & Prayer of Confession (unison)

Elder Livingston

Lord God, Master of the universe, You are good, wise, and just. In Christ, You have shared Your authority with Your people, and You have invited us to rule alongside You, for the benefit of the whole world. But we do not rule well. We misuse our authority and abuse our position. We fail to see that all we have is Yours. We hoard our time, energy, and resources. We treat others as means to our own ends. But, Lord God, we have seen our sin, and we are sorry; in Your great mercy forgive us. Transform our hearts to reflect Your goodness, wisdom, and justice. In Jesus' name. Amen.

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

Assurance of Pardon

Elder Livingston

God is slow to anger and full of compassion. He forgives all who humbly repent and trust in his Son as Savior and Lord. There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.

We will not doubt or question God's mercy. Through our Savior and Lord, Jesus, we are forgiven. Amen.

*Gloria Patri

Sharing with our Young Disciples

Rev. Wes Allen & Holly Ascitutto

Anthem

Poor Man Lazrus

Adult Choir

Jester Hairston

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

Rev. Spencer

Way of the Week #1: Be Third

Speaker: Wes Allen

1. **BE THIRD.** God is first, others are second, and you're third. Don't just think about your own interests, be interested in others. Don't think less of yourself, just think of yourself less and others more.

NOTE: As we begin our 13th round of the Ways, weekly speakers will briefly share what they are thankful for about this Way and/or how they try to live the concept in their lives.

Offertory

Rev. Spencer



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

Power of the Gospel

Wes Allen, acoustic guitar

Ben Harper

*Doxology No. 809

Sermon

Rev. Stuart Spencer

“Smart, Not a Sacrifice”

Scripture: Matthew 13: 44-46 (Pew Bible page 15 NT)

Grow The Kingdom Commitment #4: I Will Give

Sermon Series: Stories from the Fields

*Hymn No. 297

Spirit of the Living God

Dedication of our Gifts

Rev. Spencer



*This morning as an act of worship, members will thoughtfully and prayerfully consider their 2025 gift to the Lord's work at First Presbyterian Church. **Please walk forward to dedicate your gifts.** [Estimates of Giving](#) may be returned by mail, [online](#), or dropped off in the church office during the week. Celebrate God's goodness at our church-wide Celebration Brunch today in Fellowship Hall.*

Music in Preparation for Service

God is God

Wes Allen, acoustic guitar and harmonica

Steve Earle

Even my money keeps telling me it's God I need to trust.

*Benediction and Going Forth; Stewardship Video; Grace

Rev. Spencer

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Worship flowers are given by Gina Teague-Mancillas in loving memory of her husband Fernando Mancillas. We all miss you.

9:00 a.m. Worship Ministry

Beadle: Elder Matt Livingston; **Audio Technician:** Harris Ransom; **Live Stream Technician:** Jonathan Nawrocki; **Ushers:** John Miller, Jack Terry, Brett Couvillion; **Flower Arrangers:** JoAnn Reynik and Fran Green; **Trustee Greeter:** Wendy Dougherty; **Sanctuary Greeter:** Stephen Minister Barbara Lewis; **Deacon Greeters/Welcome Centers:** Deacons Andrew Ehala and Jessica Zorn; **Coffee Hospitality:** Jane Murphy and Bob Plant; **Nursery Care:** Chelsea Margerum.

Brunch Helpers (thank you): Dave Barr, Janet D'Angelo, Helen Dominy, Susan Horn, Laurie LaMonica, Tamara Trzeciak, Jessica Zorn. **Kids Craft Areas:** Holly Ascitutto

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

TODAY: Consecration Sunday – one **9:30 am** combined worship. 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 and enjoy a Covered Dish Brunch after church! **NOTE:** If you are unable to be with us, please complete your 2025 Estimate of Giving [online](#), mail to the office or drop in the offering plate. These estimates allow church leaders to accurately budget for fiscal year 2025.

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.**



Are you interested in taking a trip to North Carolina to assist in repairs after the recent hurricanes? We are creating a list of those interested to see if we can get a team together. Contact Steve Engle at sengle1017@aol.com or 609-332-8692.



NEW: Wednesday Series "God's Good News About Politics" – Wes Allen offers a time of prayer and study on Wednesday evenings in October from 6:30-8:00 p.m. following Family Dinner. Meet in the Lounge. Sign up online or through the app.

Donate new and nearly new treasures for the Saturday, Nov. 16 PW Holiday Bazaar (10 am – 3 pm). Look for donation boxes in the Commons Lobby for drop offs. We are looking for: Gently used jewelry, accessories (scarves, belts, purses, umbrellas, gloves); sporting goods, accessories, books and videos, gift items, holiday and seasonal décor. Contact Edith McFalls.



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 collect current information for our leaders. Family Dinner is open to the entire congregation (\$7.00 per person, pay at the door or via Venmo too - @fpcmoorestown or pre-pay online



Save the Date: Red Cross Blood Drive -- Monday, October 28 from 11:00 am-4:00 pm in Miller Commons; see our event page to sign up or see Debbie Heller at the Welcome Desk on Sunday mornings

West Jersey Chamber Music Society opens its 2024-25 season with "*Autumn Serenade*" **Sunday, Oct. 20** with the West Jersey Chamber Symphony, and will perform enchanting string works by F. Schubert, W. Mozart, D. Wirén, and others that span the Classical, Romantic, and Modern eras. **Tickets:** \$30 Adults; \$24 Seniors, Children (under 18) – Free. Purchase tickets at wjcms.org or at the door.

Reservations are being taken now for **2025 Sunday flower donations**. Two vases are available each Sunday. 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. You may purchase one (\$40) or two (\$80) vases. Please make checks payable to the church. Payment is requested at the time of ordering.

Pastor/Staff Appreciation Sunday Oct. 20: bring cards or notes for our pastors and program staff to let them know how much they are appreciated. Blank cards will be available that day too.

Wed. November 13: Prayer and Discipleship in India; guest speaker missionary Rev. Cliff Jones. Please join us for Family Dinner at 5:45 pm and hear how the Holy Spirit is working in India to make disciples. Room 3-4 at 7:00 pm.