



**Sunday, December 15, 2024** ~ Third Sunday of Advent  
11:00 a.m. Contemporary Worship (*Miller Commons*)

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**Welcome and Work of God's People**

Rev. Wes Allen

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**Songs of Praise**

Worship Team

*God of Wonders*

The Worship Initiative

*Reckless Love*

Cory Asbury

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**Wow Moments**

Rev. Allen

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**Lighting of the Advent Candle**

Paul & Margie Grossmann

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**\*Call to Worship** (*responsive*)

In the stillness of this sacred season, we gather to prepare the way of the Lord.

**God shakes the heavens and the earth to awaken us to hope.**

In the beauty of Mary's song, we hear God's promise of justice.

**God lifts the lowly and fills the hungry with good things.**

Come, let us worship the God of Advent, Who makes all things new.

**We lift our voices with joy and expectation, for the Lord is near.**

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**\*Prayer of Adoration**

Rev. Stuart Spencer

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**\*Song of Praise**

Worship Team

*Hosanna (Praise is Rising)*

Paul Baloche

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**Prayer of Confession** (*unison*)

Rev. Spencer

Gracious God, we confess that we have often clung to what is comfortable and familiar, resisting the newness You bring. We fail to trust Your promise that justice will flow and hope will rise. Forgive us for the times we have ignored the cries of the oppressed and turned away from Your

call to love. In the quiet of Advent, help us make room in our hearts for Your transforming presence. Teach us to live as people of hope, proclaiming Your kingdom with courage and joy. Amen.

Lord, hear us, your beloved, as we humble ourselves before You...

*A time of silent prayer & reflection*

### Assurance of Forgiveness *(responsive)*

Rev. Spencer

Brothers and Sisters in Christ, hear the good news! In Jesus Christ, God has entered the world to lift us from despair and lead us into life.

**God's mercy is from generation to generation.**

Rejoice and be glad; for in Christ, we are forgiven.

**Thanks be to God! Amen.**

### \*Greeting

Rev. Spencer

### Way of the Week

Rev. Kathy Dain

**10. JOIN HANDS.** Work as a team. Collaborate with each other, our professional staff, our lay leaders, and our congregants to find the best solutions. Collaboration lightens the load, generates better ideas than individuals working alone, and unleashes the gifts God has given us all.

**Ideas for Action:** Is there some task you're doing at church that you could invite someone to share with you? Think of someone from our church who can help you sort out a challenge or problem you're facing.

### Offering Ourselves to God & Work of God's People

Rev. Allen



**Throughout December, Christmas Green envelopes are available for your holiday offering to First Presbyterian Church.** Thank you for your faithfulness and 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.

### Song of Praise

Worship Team

***Born That We May Have Life***

Chris Tomlin

### Sermon

Rev. Allen

***Hope in a Shaken World***

Scripture Texts: [Haggai 2:6-7](#); [Luke 1:26-38](#), [47-55](#)

Sermon Series: *O Come, Emmanuel!*

### Closing Song

Worship Team

***Hark the Herald Angels Sing/King of Heaven***

Philippa Hanna

## 11:00 a.m. Worship Ministry

<b>Worship Team:</b>	Jeff German-Guitar; Kalane Williams-Bass; Carl Wilson-Drums; Rebecca Neindorff-Piano; Matt Russel-Keys; Steve Drzaszcz, Michelle Davis-Vocals
<b>Audio Technician:</b>	Tony Saranchak
<b>Sound Technician:</b>	Taylor Adair
<b>Live Stream Technician:</b>	Jacob Allen
<b>Visuals:</b>	Jennifer Allen
<b>Usher:</b>	Dave Barr or JoAnn Reynik
<b>Trustee Greeter:</b>	Jeff Legath
<b>Welcome Desk:</b>	Jenna Cole and Owen Dietz
<b>Hospitality Table:</b>	Kelly Eagles and Carol Wiggans
<b>Nursery Caregiver:</b>	Chelsea Margerum

**Today's worship flowers:** Poinsettia memorials (*See insert*)

**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.



**Manger Sunday:** Members are invited to bring unwrapped gifts **TODAY** to place in the manger. Gifts will be given to Oaks Integrated Care clients to use as gifts for their own families. For those NOT attending, gifts may be dropped off before or after Services outside on the steps of the Sanctuary Courtyard by **12 p.m.**

**Family Advent Kit:** Families are encouraged to pick up an *Advent Kit* in the Commons Lobby as we prepare ourselves for Christmas. Everything you need is included!



**Alternative Gift Fair** is now available through **Dec. 24**. See table in the Lobby to purchase your gifts. A broad range of gifts is offered to assist our mission partners (cash or checks).

The Deacons are asking congregants to bring in nonperishable food items, so we can restock our **Blessing Box**, and also gently-used and new coats for Haitian and Ukrainian refugees.

**Couples' Retreat** in Cape May – *April 11-13, 2025*: Want a Christmas gift for your marriage? **Register by Jan. 31** to take advantage of our **Early-Bird Special of \$400 per couple!** The cost includes breakfast, two nights, group sessions with Dr. Paul Booker, and dinner on Saturday.



**Hurricane-Relief Mission Trip:** Please register on our website if you're interested in being a part of our Mission Team to help in the areas that were affected by the recent hurricanes. This multi-generational Trip is being planned for the **week of July 7, 2025**.

Pick up a copy of the **2024-25 Program Guide** to see the many opportunities we have to *Serve, Invite, Pray,* and *Give* throughout the coming year. They can be found in the narthex, Commons, and on the Welcome Desk.

**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 (2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> 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.