



Sunday, December 22, 2024 ~ Fourth Sunday of Advent
11:00 a.m. Contemporary Worship (*Miller Commons*)

Welcome and Work of God's People

Rev. Wes Allen

Songs of Praise

Worship Team

O Come, All Ye Faithful

Jeremy Riddle

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

Lincoln Brewster

Lighting of the Advent Candle

Michael & Maureen Gaspari

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

We light these candles as a sign of the coming light of Christ. Hear again the words of the prophet Isaiah, "Then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed;

and all people shall see it together, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.

The people who have lived and walked in darkness have seen a great light." Come, let us worship God!

Lessons and Carols: *Jesus is...*

Introduction and Prayer

Rev. Allen

LESSON 1: Jesus is the New Adam

Rev. Allen

Scripture: Genesis 2:4-9, Colossians 1:15-20

***Song of Praise**

Worship Team

Come, Lord Jesus (Even So Come)

Call to and Prayer of Confession *(unison)*

Almighty God, You Who shaped out of nothing all that is,

forgive us for returning to You empty-handed and empty-hearted.

You Who called forth light,

forgive our love of the darkness.

You Who sent Jesus, the Firstborn of all creation,

forgive us when we ignore Him. Remake us in the image of Christ,

so that the light of Jesus Christ may shine in and through us; for we ask these things through the name of Jesus Christ, our newborn Savior and Lord. Amen.

Time of silence for personal prayers of confession and repentance

Assurance of Forgiveness *(responsive)*

Through the work of Jesus, God has reconciled us to Himself; and we rejoice with the angels proclaiming:

Glory to the newborn King! Peace on earth. God and sinners are reconciled. Jesus was born so that we no longer die and so that we may be born again. Thanks be to God!

*Greeting

Rev. Stuart Spencer

LESSON 2: Jesus is the New Noah

Sharon Budka

Remembrance of Baptism

Scripture: Genesis 7:1-5; 1 Peter 3:18-21

Prayer of Thanksgiving

*Song of Praise

Worship Team

Make a Way

Passion

LESSON 3: Jesus is the Son of David

Elder Jenny Legath

Thanksgiving for God's Covenants

Scripture: II Samuel 7:10-14, 16; Luke 1:30-33, 2:4-7

Prayer of Praise

Way of the Week

Elder Cheryl Gaskill

11. MAKE OTHERS AT HOME HERE. Warmly welcome visitors. Offer your name with a smile. Reach out and greet the person you don't know after worship, during Coffee Hour, in Youth Group or Sunday school. Show a genuine interest in others.

Ideas for Action: Look for someone you don't know very well. Invite that person for coffee, a walk or a meal and get to know them. Keep your eyes peeled for the visitor at our church and offer your name with a smile of welcome. Stay open to adding a new friend.

Offering Ourselves to God & Work of God's People

Rev. Spencer



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.

LESSON 4: Jesus is the Good Shepherd

Rev. Spencer

Scripture: Psalm 23, John 10:11-17

The Lord is my shepherd. He takes care of all my needs.

The Lord is my shepherd. God takes care of all my needs.

The Lord watches over me. God gives me a home to live in, water to drink, and food to eat. God gives meaning to my life.

The Lord is my shepherd. God takes care of all my needs.

The Lord guides me along the right way. Even when I'm walking by myself in a strange place, I don't feel scared because I know that the Lord is with me to help me and give me courage.

The Lord is my shepherd. God takes care of all my needs.

The Lord has blessed me with so many things. I will never be able to repay God for His faithfulness and kindness to me.

The Lord is my shepherd. God takes care of all my needs.

Wow Moments

Rev. Spencer

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

Rev. Spencer

Closing Song

Worship Team

O Come, All Ye Faithful

Benediction

Rev. Spencer

11:00 a.m. Worship Ministry

Worship Team:	Wes Allen-Guitar; Kalane Williams-Bass; Joe Wichterman-Electric Guitar; Carl Wilson-Drums; Rebecca Neindorff-Piano; Steve Drzaszcz, Michelle Davis, Vivian Allen-Vocals
Audio Technician:	Joshua Leonard
Sound Technician:	Tony Saranchak
Live Stream Technician:	Dalton Ryan
Visuals:	Alice Conley
Flower Arrangers:	Gretchen Birdsall and Sally Bishop
Usher:	Matt La Grou or Jeff Legath
Trustee Greeter:	Wendy Dougherty
Welcome Desk:	Tamara Trzeciak and Anne Wooley
Hospitality Table:	Sue Piper and Sherrell Fitts
Nursery Caregiver:	Chelsea Margerum

Today's worship flowers are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of her sisters, Eva Rudisel and Harriet Balian by Lucy Rorke-Adams.

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.



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.

Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship Schedule: **December 23** - 3:00 & 7:00 p.m. Outdoor Worship; **December 24** - 4:00 p.m. Family Service, 6:00 p.m. Contemporary Service (Commons), 8:30 p.m. Communion Service, and 11:00 p.m. Lessons and Carols preceded by 10:40 pm Chapel Choir concert. On Christmas Day, there will be a 9:30 a.m. Worship Service led by Dr. Jonathan Miller.

Holiday Schedule: The church campus will be CLOSED Dec. 25-26 and open on Dec. 27-31. The office will also be closed January 1, 2025. *Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from your church staff!*

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 (*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.