

101 Bridgeboro Road ● P.O. Box 868 ● Moorestown, NJ 08057 856.235.1688 ● *fpcmoorestown.org*Rev. Stuart Spencer, Pastor/Head of Staff
Rev. Wes Allen, Associate Pastor



# February 2, 2025 ~ 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Epiphany

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. **NOTE: Worship announcements begin at 8:55 am.** 

| Welcome & Work of God's People                                   | Rev. Wes Allen      |
|--|---------------------|
| Music in Preparation for Worship                                 | Joel Krott, Organ   |
| Aria   | Callahan            |
| Introit  | Carol Manion, Piano |
| Sometimes in the Dark of Night Junior Choir; Sawyer McNab, Flute | Leaf                |
| *Call to Worship   | Rev. Stuart Spencer |

Come, let us worship the Lord, who sees beyond outward appearances and looks into our hearts.

We come to worship the One who knows our needs and offers grace freely.

Jesus calls us to healing, to restoration, and to life abundant.

We come with open hands and expectant hearts, ready to receive His mercy.

Though the world may harden its heart, our God is compassionate and just.

We rejoice in the love of Christ, who makes the broken whole!

| *Prayer of Adoration Rev. Spencer |
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\*Hymn No. 26

Praise My Soul, the King of Heaven

Merciful God, we confess that we are too often like the Pharisees, more concerned with rules than with love. We have judged when we should have shown grace. We have resisted change when we should have embraced Your healing power. We have cared more about appearances than about the needs of others. Forgive us, Lord. Soften our hearts, that we may see as You see, love as You love, and live as You call us to live. In the name of Jesus, who heals and restores, we pray. Amen.

(Silence for our personal prayers of confession)

## **Assurance of Pardon (responsive)**

Elder Wenzke

Hear the good news: Jesus came not to condemn, but to bring life and healing. When we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Thanks be to God! In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

Friends, believe the gospel: God's mercy is greater than our failures, and His love knows no bounds.

We rejoice in the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen!

#### \*Gloria Patri

Anthem Kathy Gunsallus, Organ

## I Will Lift Up Mine Eyes

Sowerby

Adult Choir; Amanda Schkeeper, Alto

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

Rev. Stuart Spencer

### Way of the Week #17: Show Who You Really Are

Speaker: Cynthia Saint Cyr

**17. SHOW WHO YOU REALLY ARE.** Our church is for "real" people. Bring your true self, including your joys, your sorrows, your fears, your strengths, and your weaknesses. God loves you as you are. Don't hide your struggles, failures or problems.

Offertory Rev. Spencer



Thank you for your faithfulness and for blessing FPC Moorestown with your giving, as a new year Growing God's Kingdom begins. 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 Joel Krott, Piano

#### Gentle Redeemer

Handel

Sam Day, Tenor

Gentle redeemer, I turn to Thee on this Thy Sabbath Day.

Gentle redeemer, help me to find the way.

I would be near Thee forever, never from Thee depart.

Hold Thee in my heart, within my heart.

Though I must travel onward, yet do I need thine arm

Strong to protect me from harm. Hold me!

#### \*Doxology No. 809

Sermon Rev. Wes Allen

### "A Sabbath Well Spent"

Scripture: Luke 6: 6-11 (Pew Bible page 64 NT)

Sermon Series: "Stop at the Stop Signs: Entering God's Gift of Rest" (see online resources page)

### \*Hymn No. 409 (verses 1, 2)

### Your Hands, O Lord, in Days of Old

### The Lord's Supper and Home Communion

Revs. Allen & Spencer, Elders

The Invitation to the Table

The Lord be with you. And also with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right and good to give You thanks, Almighty God. From the very beginning, You formed us in Your image, breathing into us the breath of life. Though we turned from You, Your love never failed. You called us back to You, leading us by prophets and promises, until at last You sent Jesus, Your Son, our Savior, to bring light to our darkness, hope to our despair, and salvation to all who trust in Him. And so, with angels and archangels, and all the company of heaven, we join in their unending hymn of praise:

Holy, holy, holy, lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

The Words of Institution

The Prayer of Consecration

\*The Prayer of Thanksgiving

**GROW THE KINGDOM!** As we commit to growing God's Kingdom, every member and friend of FPC Moorestown is invited into a covenant with four commitments: I will pray. I will invite. I will serve. I will give. Every member and friend is asked to commit to doing all four. For additional information including commitment forms: <a href="https://www.fpcmoorestown.org/grow-the-kingdom/">https://www.fpcmoorestown.org/grow-the-kingdom/</a>.

## \*Hymn No. 409 (verse 3)

### Your Hands, O Lord, in Days of Old

| Music in Preparation for Service          | Kathy Gunsallus, Organ |
|---|------------------------|
| Fughette on "In Thee Lord I Put My Trust" | J.C. Bach              |
| *Benediction and Going Forth              | Rev. Allen             |

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Worship flowers are given by Jane Murphy to the glory of God and in loving memory of her father Alfred Fisher.

## 9:00 a.m. Worship Ministry

Beadle: Elder Joyce Wenzke; Communion Elders: Jim Cole, Lorenzo Eagles, Pam Engle, Joyce Wenzke; Audio Technician: Harris Ransom; Live Stream Technician: Jonathan Nawrocki; Ushers: Mike Welch, Paul Grossmann, Sherrell Fitts; Flower Arrangers: Debbie Heller and Kristin Zorn; Trustee Greeter: Joe Molloy; Sanctuary Greeter: Stephen Minister Jim Cole; Deacon Greeters/Welcome Centers: Deacons Diane Samuel and Joshua Leonard; Hospitality: Donna Leatherman and Sarah Dietz; Nursery Care: Chelsea Margerum.

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

Feb. 8 Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon -- In recognition of the invaluable contributions of our dedicated volunteers, FPC Moorestown cordially invites all volunteers to an Appreciation Luncheon on Saturday, Feb. 8, from 11:30 AM to 1:00 PM. We are blessed with countless volunteers who give of their time and talents to serve our community: office volunteers, choirs, elders, deacons, trustees, youth leaders, VBS and Wednesday Night helpers, audio and visual operators, ushers, Stephen Ministry greeters, musicians, and more. This luncheon is an opportunity to express our heartfelt gratitude to all who serve. Please RSVP online by Feb. 5 so we can accurately gauge our food needs.

NEW: Lenten Study (I Will Invite) -- This year our Lenten Study will be reading "Practicing the Way" by John Mark Comer. We need people to SERVE by hosting the 8-week course. If you are able please let Wes know. Everything is provided for you! We hope groups will proactively INVITE neighbors, family and friends to participate - including those who are not affiliated with FPC Moorestown and those on the fringes. Please PRAY, asking for God's guidance and blessing upon us. Since Lent is only six weeks and the materials span eight weeks, groups will either begin two weeks before Lent (the week of Feb. 23) or continue two weeks beyond Easter (Easter is April 20). Watch for more information!

**COMING:** <u>Deacon Sunday</u> is **February 9** and an opportunity to support our Board of Deacons. Please write "Deacon Sunday" in the memo field for checks and use the drop down for online giving.



<u>We're Coming Back!</u> High School Youth Group (grades 9-12) returns **Sunday, Feb. 2.** Kingdom Kids (K-3<sup>rd</sup>), Crossing Zone (gr. 4-6), Middle School Youth Group (gr. 7-8) and Family Dinner (All) return on **Wednesday, Feb. 5.** 

<u>Women's Morning Prayer Event</u> (I Will Pray) -- **Saturday, February 22** (8:00 am-12 noon) -- Experience joy and wonder spending time alone with God in prayer. Bring your Bible, journal and a snack. Coffee, hot tea, and water provided. Women of high school age or older and friends are welcome. <u>Sign up online</u>. Event starts in the Lounge.

Per Capita Support (I Will Give) -- As Presbyterians, we are a connectional church. The annual "per member" or "per capita" contribution of \$38.75 above one's pledge supports the General Assembly, Synod and Presbytery. Our church is required to pay this assessment. The Stewardship Team asks you to please cover your share of \$38.75/each per member. If you do NOT wish the church to pay your Per Capita, you must submit an opt-out form online. The church must pay for all non-responding members. Please note not responding is NOT the same as opting out. Per Capita payments and opt-out requests are due to the church by February 28. This contribution is not deducted from one's pledge. Watch your mail for a letter from the Pastor and Stewardship team.

➤ NEW: <u>Inquirers Class</u> — Are you interested in learning more about FPC Moorestown? Come to our Inquirers Class series which begins **February 26.** <u>See our Church Center event page</u> for info and to sign up.

<u>Noah Trip</u> – Come on a Sight and Sound Bus Trip Thursday, **March 20, 2025** to see the production of "Noah." We will depart from church and enjoy lunch at Miller's Smorgasbord in Lancaster, PA. We will attend the 3:00 pm show, and return that evening to the church. Just **14 tickets** remain. Cost is \$150 per person and includes bus cost (the church is paying this expense), ticket, lunch and driver gratuity. <u>Sign up online</u>. <u>No refunds or exchanges.</u>

**Open Registration for 2025-2026 Step by Step Christian Preschool** began January 21. Applications are available by emailing director Amy Delgado at <a href="mailto:adelgado@fpcmoorestown.org">adelgado@fpcmoorestown.org</a> or calling the school at 856.235.1688, x132.

**NEW:** Spring Prayer Retreat will be held **April 1-4, 2025** at Holy Cross Monastery. See our event page to register.