

First Presbyterian Church
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**Worship. Connect.
Serve. Devote.**

JOIN US from the safety of your home or safely gathered at church for worship Sunday morning at **9:30 a.m.** This Blended Worship streams live from the sanctuary and participants in attendance observe strict protocols per state regulations. Log on from any device to www.fpcmoorestown.org or [YouTube](#) or [Facebook](#). The service is also posted later in the week to our website.

9:30 a.m. Worship

"Connections" is published weekly for Sunday worship and every two weeks in the summer. Please submit information by

noon Tuesdays to:

Editor Jan Martin
jmartin@fpcmoorestown.org
856-235-1688, Ext. 133

Are you receiving our Friday e-blast with announcements, *Connections* and upcoming events? If not, contact the [church office](#).

Connections

FPC
Moorestown

First Presbyterian Church of Moorestown

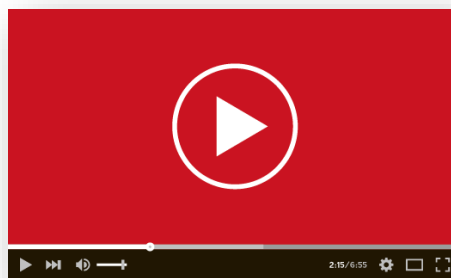
November 22-29, 2020

Way of the Week 23 (November 22-29, 2020)

23. WORSHIP WITH YOUR WHOLE HEART. Your life is meant to be an act of worship. Every breath, action, and thought flows from God and can bring him glory. Praise God everywhere and embrace the opportunities to regularly worship with your church family.

- *"And you must love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, all your mind, and all your strength." (Mark 12: 30)*
- *And so, dear brothers and sisters, I plead with you to give your bodies to God because of all he has done for you. Let them be a living and holy sacrifice – the kind he will find acceptable. This is truly the way to worship him. (Romans 12: 1, 2)*
- *Let everything that breathes sing praises to the Lord! (Psalm 150: 6)*

Ideas for Action: Every morning this week, recite the Jesus Creed: *"Hear, O Israel: the Lord our God, the Lord is one; you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength." The second is this, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." (Mark 12: 29-31)*



[Watch the Way of the Week Video](#) by Rev. Jonathan Leath, Converge Church

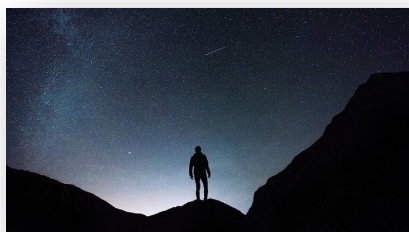
The church campus will be CLOSED November 26-27 for the Thanksgiving holiday.
May the blessings of Thanksgiving come to you and yours.



Longest Night Service
Sunday, December 6, 2020
7:00 p.m.

This service provides peace to those dealing with grief, illness, anxiety or depression this holiday season who may not feel the joy or celebration seen in others. The Longest Night includes elements from the annual Service of Remembrance, including the Lord's Supper, special music and a time for prayer. The service will be live streamed. Seminary intern Beth Douglass will lead this service.

If you, or someone you know needs a quiet place in the rush of December, come to the Longest Night. Open to the community.



West Jersey Chamber:
At Home for the Holidays

Members of the West Jersey Chamber Music Society's Chamber Chorale come together for a socially-distant musical holiday celebration on Sunday, December 13 at 7:30 p.m. This is the second live streamed concert of the 2020–21 season. Watch from the comfort of your home, for free! Host Ivan Woods guides audiences through the festive evening. **This free program will be broadcast online from www.wjcms.org and www.fpcmoorestown.org.** Complete your registration in advance to receive a reminder and a copy of the PDF program.

Sunday Worship

Worship with us Sunday mornings at **9:30 a.m.** as we gather safely on campus. This Blended Worship is limited to 75 attendees and 45 minutes, and is live streamed from the sanctuary. Please enter through the glass doors. Sanctuary doors open at 9:15 a.m. Seating is

first come, first served and overflow will be seated in Miller Commons to view on the big screen. Please physically distance, and download the [Church Center App](#) to your smart phone to facilitate a contact-free check-in. [Visit our website for more information.](#)

Angel Tree ONLINE

Angel Tree will be VIRTUAL this year! While it will operate a little differently, we are thankful to still support this wonderful ministry that connects children with their incarcerated parents. **Keep checking our website for the link to get started!** After entering the code, you will see virtual tags with the names of children assigned to our church. Browse through the tags, select the child(ren) you want to sponsor, and click checkout! With just a few clicks, you can show a prisoner's child the love of Jesus—the greatest Gift of all. Angel Tree is managed by our Deacons. Contact Deacon Steve Connlain at sconnlain@gmail.com or cell 856-425-5043.

Series: The (Un)simple Truth

This adult spiritual formation series is a Zoom webinar on the first Monday of the month (7-8 p.m.), featuring Christian authors, pastors and professors. **Our next event will be Monday, Dec. 7.** Speaker Amanda Mootz is the manager of grassroots organizing for World Vision, where she manages a program for faith-rooted advocacy to federal lawmakers on issues related to global poverty. Amanda has worked with World Vision to support programs to improve global education and literacy rates, as well as the California State Senate, where she crafted statewide policy on behalf of the 38th Senate District. She holds degrees in theology and cross-cultural studies from Fuller Theological Seminary. [See our website for log on information.](#)

Holiday Poinsettias

Each year during Advent, the congregation has the opportunity to remember a loved one, honor an individual or recognize an occasion by purchasing a poinsettia to be placed in our worship spaces.

Order forms available Nov. 22, 29, Dec. 6, 2020 and NOW ONLINE! Plants being taken home will be available after worship on **December 20, 2020.**

Cost is \$13 per plant. Please mail your payment in to the church office with your order form or place in the offering box.



Deacons Offer Seasonal Help for Those in Need

While our Deacons will be unable to assemble their Thanksgiving Food Baskets this year, they will provide grocery gift cards to those who struggle and are working with guidance counselors to identify at-risk families. The Deacons have again arranged with Wegmans to provide turkeys to a food pantry in Camden. Please DO NOT deliver turkeys to the church this year.

First Sunday of Advent Sunday, November 29 Rev. Wes Allen, preaching (Communion)

Christmas Toy Drive

As is tradition, Annette Emerson will be conducting the annual toy drive for the Presbytery Food Shelf in Camden. Can you help? Drop off new, **unwrapped** toys labeled "Emerson" at the Emerson HOME (329 Springhouse Lane, Moorestown). Or call Annette at 856-234-0717 for a pickup. Gifts are most needed for ages 3-13.

Join the Audio Visual Team

Looking for service hours? We are looking for friends high school or older to learn our new multi-camera system and audio for the Sunday morning live stream worship and planned contemporary service in December. We will train. Contact Martin Bass at mbass@fpcmoorestown.org or Steve Drzaszcz at steve@gotsteve.com.

*Please return filled Operation Christmas Child shoe boxes no later than **November 22nd**.*

Alternative Gift Market

The Alternative Gift Market catalog will be available **Dec. 1** and gifts may be purchased at church Dec. 6, 13 and 20th or anytime online. Look for the table in the narthex and Commons Lobby. Purchase your gifts online and pick up with a contact-free drive-up! Volunteers are needed to help with fulfillment; contact Linda Jagiela with the days you can help.

2021 Pulpit Flowers

Reserve Sunday flower donations for 2021 to honor loved ones and special dates in your life. Vases are \$40 each and 2 vases are available each Sunday. To reserve your date(s), contact Rumi Sinunu at 856-266-4047 or rts319@gmail.com.



Phone Live Streaming

Those who may not have a computer or device may take advantage of this new service. When callers opt-in, their phone will ring anytime our Sunday service goes live. Just answer the phone to listen to worship on the phone. To sign up call our dedicated toll-free number **844.723.1340** and **press 1**. Every time we go live, your phone receives the live audio. For information or help, contact [Alison Mackey](mailto:AlisonMackey) at 856.235.1688, Ext. 113.

Deacon Sunday

THANK YOU for generous contributions to the Deacons Fund last Sunday. These gifts offset expenses for the team's 2021 budget. *Deacon Fund* should be written in the memo line. Gifts may be made online, mailed or placed in the offering box at the back of the narthex.

With My Thanks

Thank you to everyone for their kind words and support at the time of our difficult loss. We have a wonderful caring congregation.

- Betsy Gildehaus

Manger Sunday

Visit our website for suggested gift items for Manger Sunday gifts, which we will present on **Sunday, December 13th** (unwrapped please). Gifts will be provided to clients at Oaks Integrated Care.

Special Holiday Giving Opportunities

- ◆ **Year-End Stock Donations** — Please remember the church in your year-end donations. Process gifts expediently by contacting your broker or [Norman Vandergrift](mailto:NormanVandergrift) at 856-235-1688.

For these offerings, you may mail a check, [give online](#), use the special envelopes in boxed sets or leave in the offering box. Please note in memo line.

- ◆ **Christmas Green Offering**— this offering directly assists our church's program areas.
- ◆ **Christmas Joy Offering**— this gift to our denomination assists racial-ethnic schools and retired church workers who need financial assistance.
- ◆ **General Budget Help**— this gift above your pledged giving keeps our ministry going forward. Every love gift helps us close our current gap.

FAMILY MINISTRY

We're back in Sunday School. We have a seat for you.

Sunday School Returns After Worship



Sunday School meets every Sunday morning in Fellowship Hall from 10:45-11:30 a.m. through November, and follows the 9:30 a.m. worship service. Curriculum is for students K-6th grade.

For information contact Holly Ascitutto at 856.235.1688, Ext. 116 or hasciutto@fpcmoorestown.org.

Youth Groups

- ⇒ **Youth groups** meet on Sunday evenings from 6:30-9:00 p.m. in Miller Commons. Middle schoolers and high schoolers: come hang out ...
- ⇒ **Small groups** have started for middle and high schoolers! If you haven't touched base with a leader, talk to Dave Fauvell and he'll set you up.

Dave Fauvell
Interim Youth Director
609.980.7885 cell/text

Kingdom Kids: Grades K-3
Wednesdays 4:45-5:45 pm
Crossing Zone: Grades 4-6
Wednesdays 6:30-7:30 pm
Flock: Grades 7-8
Wednesdays 6:30-8 pm
Wave: Grades 9-12
Sundays 6:30-8:30 pm

Sermon Series Memory Verse

Don't be afraid, for I am with you. Don't be discouraged, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you. I will hold you up with my victorious right hand. - Isaiah 41: 10 (NLT)

For Families and Children:
Holly Ascitutto
856-235-1688, x116
hasciutto@fpcmoorestown.org

For Families and Youth:
Dave Fauvell
609-980-7885 (cell/text)
dfauvell52@gmail.com

Holiday Schedule

Due to the Thanksgiving holiday, there will be no Kingdom Kids, Crossing Zone or Choristers on **Wednesday, Nov. 25**.

Virtual Gingerbread House Challenge!

Join us for a Virtual Gingerbread House Challenge! Come to the church and pick up a gingerbread house for you and your family to decorate together! **You can pick up your house on Nov. 22nd before or after services.** Decorate your house with whatever you'd like, take a picture and post it to our FPC Family Ministries Facebook Group to be entered into the judging. Deadline: **Nov. 29th** by 4:00 p.m. [See our website for information!](#)



Family Advent Wreath

As we celebrate the Advent season we hope families will join us in an [interactive wreath lighting](#). Connect in a new way with our congregation by conducting your own personal wreath lighting at home while participating in our live stream worship service! Light one candle on your wreath with us each Sunday, beginning November 29 through December 24, lighting the Christ Candle on Christmas Eve. **Wreaths will be available for pick up Nov. 22 before or after Worship services.** [See our website for details.](#)

