

101 Bridgeboro Road ● Moorestown, NJ 08057 856.235.1688 ● fpcmoorestown.org Rev. Stuart Spencer, Pastor / Head of Staff Kelly LePenske, Director of Congregational Ministries



# Sunday, January 17, 2021 ~ 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday after Epiphany

9:30 a.m. Worship (Sanctuary)

### Way of the Week #6

**6. FORGIVE ... AGAIN.** Just as God forgives us, heal relationships by extending forgiveness with grace and generosity. Forgive everyone everything. Start by praying for those you resent or hate. Ask for every blessing you would want for the one you're struggling to forgive.

Make allowance for each other's faults, and forgive anyone who offends you. Remember, the Lord forgave you, so you must forgive others. (Colossians 3: 13)

**Ideas for Action:** Work on "dropping" the anger you have. Don't let it come between you and someone else. Stop bringing up the hurt in public or with friends. Stop nursing the memory of how you've been wronged.

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

**Stuart Spencer** 

### **Music in Preparation for Worship**

# Prelude and Fugue in F Major

Arr. Krebs

Layla Joshi, Organ, age 12

#### **Call to Worship**

Frantz Constant

Lord God, you hold the heavens in your hand; all stars rejoice in your glory. You come to us in the sunrise and the song of morning.

#### We praise you, we worship you, and we adore you, Lord God.

Your voice comes in the thunder of the storm; the song of the wind whispers of your majesty. You satisfy all things living with your abundance, and our hearts bow in your presence.

We praise you for creating this world in all beauty and for redeeming the world through Christ, our Lord.

Accept us, your children, eternal God and hear our prayer today. Bend over us, eternal Love, and bless us.

Let us praise, worship, and adore the Lord!

### **Prayer of Confession**

Kelly LePenske

Lord, you come to us, but we do not recognize you; you call, but we do not follow; you command, but we do not obey, you bless us, but we do not thank you. Please forgive and help us. Lord, you accept us, but we do not accept others; you forgive us, but we do not forgive those who wrong us; you love us; but we do not love our neighbors. We ask for your pardon of our wrongs today. Amen

Silence for personal prayers of confession

# **Assurance of Forgiveness**

Kelly LePenske

This is the message we have heard from God and proclaim to you, that God is light and in God there is no darkness at all.

If we walk in the light, as God is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sins. Amen.

#### Solo

## For the Beauty of the Earth

Virgil T. Ford

Gwen Wilkie, Alto Joel Krott, Piano

> For the beauty of the earth, for the glory of the skies, For the love which from our birth over and around us lies; Lord of all, to Thee we raise, this our hymn of grateful praise.

For the wonder of each hour of the day and of the night, Hill and vale and tree and flow'r, sun and moon and stars of light Lord of all, to Thee we raise, this our hymn of grateful praise.

For the joy of ear and eye, for the heart and mind's delight, For the mystic harmony linking sense to sound and sight; Lord of all, to Thee we raise, this our hymn of grateful praise.

For the joy of human love, brother, sister, parent, child, Friends on earth, and friends above, for all gentle thoughts and mild; Lord of all, to Thee we raise, this our hymn of grateful praise.

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

Kelly LePenske

Offertory Stuart Spencer

**FROM THE TRUSTEES:** We express our sincere gratitude to the entire congregation for your year-end financial support. Thanks to your response to our appeals, December collections significantly exceeded expectations and allowed us to close the year without a shortfall. Any surplus is now available to reduce the projected deficit we face in 2021. While we are still contending with financial challenges in 2021 due to the COVID pandemic, your incredible response has brightened the picture meaningfully. We are very appreciative of the sacrifices and efforts all of you make for the good of our Church and the missions we serve.

### All Things Bright and Beautiful

Trad. English Melody

Janet Wilkie, Soprano; Gwen Wilkie, Alto; Fernando Mancillas, Tenor; Frank Mitchell, Bass Karen Molloy, Piano

All things bright and beautiful, all creatures great and small, All things wise and wonderful: the Lord God made them all.

Each little flower that opens, each little bird that sings: He made their glowing colors, He made their tiny wings. REFRAIN

The purple-headed mountain, the river running by, The sunset and the morning that brightens up the sky. REFRAIN

The cold wind in the winter, the pleasant summer sun, The ripe fruits in the garden: He made them every one. REFRAIN

He gave us eyes to see them, and lips that we might tell How great is God Almighty, who has made all things well. REFRAIN

**Sermon** Stuart Spencer

# "Day 3: A Wonderful, Fruitful World"

Scripture Text: Genesis 1: 9-13 (NLT)

<sup>9</sup>Then God said, "Let the waters beneath the sky flow together into one place, so dry ground may appear." And that is what happened. <sup>10</sup> God called the dry ground "land" and the waters "seas." And God saw that it was good. <sup>11</sup>Then God said, "Let the land sprout with vegetation—every sort of seedbearing plant, and trees that grow seed-bearing fruit. These seeds will then produce the kinds of plants and trees from which they came." And that is what happened. <sup>12</sup>The land produced vegetation—all sorts of seed-bearing plants, and trees with seed-bearing fruit. Their seeds produced plants and trees of the same kind. And God saw that it was good. <sup>13</sup> And evening passed and morning came, marking the third day.

# **Music in Preparation for Service**

# Prelude and Fugue in C Major

Arr. Krebs

Vikram Joshi, Organ, age 10

# **Benediction and Going Forth**

**Stuart Spencer** 

The people are invited to leave an offering in the offering box located at the back of the narthex. Online gifts may also be made directly from the Church Center app on your smartphone.

### Special Music (presented by video)

#### I Am Not Alone

Lauren Clark, Alto

Songwriters: Austin Davis, Ben Davis, Dustin Suader, Gary Pittman, Kari Jobe, Marty Samson, Mia Fieldes

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#### 9:30 a.m. Worship Ministry

Audio Technician: Harris E. Ransom Live Video Streaming: Harris A. Ransom

Flower Arrangers: Debbie Heller and Carol Benner

**Ushers:** Dave Rebuck, Leonard Fitts, Gary Bender, Jim Clinton, Michael Welch

Trustee Greeter: Adrienne Barr Seminary Intern: Frantz Constant

**Today's sanctuary flowers** are given to the glory of God and in celebration of peace and understanding. "We may have all come on different ships, but we're in the same boat now." - Martin Luther King, Jr.

• This Sunday we welcome Frantz Constant, our new seminary intern for the next 16 weeks. Frantz is completing his Masters degree in Divinity with a concentration in Theology from Liberty University, Rawlings School of Divinity (Liberty Theological Seminary) and is volunteering with us to augment his studies. He will graduate in May 2021. Frantz has a Masters degree in Public Administration from Fairleigh Dickinson University with Honors, and works for a bi-state agency in the New York and New Jersey area. At his previous church, he served as a director of the food pantry



- and New Jersey area. At his previous church, he served as a director of the food pantry, a member of the Finance Committee and Sunday School instructor. He is also a certified Prepare/Enrich facilitator (a premarital and marital counseling tool), and certified SYMBIS assessment facilitator. Frantz and his wife Joyce have one daughter, Patrice, currently attending Penn State University. Frantz lives in Medford.
- In observance of the birthday of Martin Luther King, the church campus will be CLOSED on Monday, January 18. To honor the legacy of Dr. King (1929-1968), you are encouraged to make it a "day on, not off," and volunteer, engage with communities and lend a hand where it's most needed.
- SAVE THE DATE: <u>PW Winter Gathering via Zoom</u> Monday, January 25 at 7:00 pm; speaker Linda Jagiela presents The Changing Face of Mission in the World. ZOOM LINK: <u>www.zoom.com</u>; Meeting 811 1846 5581; Passcode: 3P7FOM.
- Blanket Sunday, a special offering sponsored by our Deacons and Church World Service, is Sunday, January 31. Your contributions enable Church World Service to help families around the world stay warm, recover from disasters and displacement, while helping to rebuild viable, sustainable lives and communities. Visit our Events page to watch a short video. To donate, select the drop down from our secure online menu at <a href="https://www.fpcmoorestown.org">www.fpcmoorestown.org</a>, or you may mail checks made out to First Presbyterian Church with Blanket Sunday noted in the memo line.
- Annual Meeting -- The Annual Congregational Meeting will be held on Sunday, Feb. 7, 2021 at 11:00 am via Zoom webinar. The purpose of the meeting is to share the Annual Report, receive the 2021 church budget, and approve the 2021 pastor's terms of call. Watch our website, eblast and Events page for the webinar link.
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