

Live-able

The Discipleship Gospel



Sunday, July 4, 2021 ~ Independence Day

8:30 a.m. Traditional Worship (Sanctuary) -- *Have you checked in on the Church Center app?*

*please stand as you are able

Way of the Week #5

5. **ASSUME POSITIVE INTENT.** Decide to trust that other members are being fair, honest, and concerned for the well-being of our church. Set aside your own judgments and preconceived notions. Surrender the urge to criticize and judge – it doesn't help. Graciously give people the benefit of the doubt.

- *Love is patient and kind. Love is not jealous or boastful or proud or rude. It does not demand its own way. It is not irritable, and it keeps no record of being wronged. It does not rejoice about injustice but rejoices whenever the truth wins out. Love never gives up, never loses faith, is always hopeful, and endures through every circumstance. (1 Corinthians 13: 4-7)*

Ideas for Action: Take a "criticism inventory." Just how critical are you, really? Ask someone you love and trust to tell you how you're doing in this area. Try a 24-hour fast from all forms of criticism. No complaining or criticism for an entire day.

Welcome and Work of God's People

Peter Jonescu

Music in Preparation for Worship

Anonymous American Colonial Music

Joel Krott, Organ

Andante

General Washington's March

General Washington's New March

*Call to Worship

Peter Jonescu

O Sing to the Lord a new song;

Sing to the Lord, all the earth.

Sing and give praise to God's name;

Tell the good news of salvation from day to day.

*Opening Hymn No. 317 (in unison)

All People That on Earth Do Dwell (verses 1, 3)

All people that on earth do dwell, sing to the Lord with cheerful voice;
Him serve with joy, his praise forth tell, come ye before him and rejoice.

O enter then his gates with praise, approach with joy his courts unto;
Praise, laud and bless his name always, for it is seemly so to do.

*Prayer of Adoration

Peter Jonescu

Call to Confession

Stuart Spencer

Prayer of Confession (in unison)

Stuart Spencer

God, forgive us. Our communion is not always visible to the world. Sometimes we allow threats to unity to enter the church, making it hard to see that we are your community. We act as though we do not need each other. We do not always love one another. We do not know and bear one another's burdens. We fail to build each other up. We do not always give ourselves willingly and joyfully to one another. Forgive us, and strengthen us so that we may live in the unity that you grant us.

A Time of Silence for Personal Confession

Assurance of Forgiveness

Stuart Spencer

By Christ's work, we are reconciled and united with God and with one another. Thanks be to God for the Good News.

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Amen

*Gloria Patri

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.**

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

Stuart Spencer

Offertory

Peter Jonescu

Your giving dramatically impacts the ministry of First Presbyterian Church. Your tithes and offerings allow us to fully support church operations and our work in the world. Our ministry continues every day. Those attending in person may leave an offering in the box located in the narthex. Electronic giving is here to stay! Sign up for this simple, secure [automatic withdrawal](#). Online gifts may also be made directly from your phone via the Church Center app.

Offertory Music

America, the Beautiful

Samuel Ward

Harry Pfeiffer, Soprano

O beautiful for spacious skies, for amber waves of grain,
For purple mountain majesties above the fruited plain!
America! America! God shed His grace on thee,
And crown thy good with brotherhood from sea to shining sea.

O beautiful for patriot dream that sees beyond the years
Thine alabaster cities gleam undimmed by human tears!
America! America! God shed His grace on thee,
And crown thy good with brotherhood from sea to shining sea.

Sermon

Peter Jonescu

“Mountain-Moving Faith”

Scripture Text: [Mark 11: 12-25 \(NLT\)](#)

Sermon Series: Live-able: The Discipleship Gospel

The Lord's Supper

Rev. Stuart Spencer

The Invitation to the Table
The Words of Institution
The Prayer of Consecration
The Prayer of Thanksgiving

*Hymn No. 417 (in unison)

My Country, 'Tis of Thee (verse 3)

Samuel Francis Smith

Let music swell the breeze, and ring from all the trees sweet freedom's song:
Let mortal tongues awake, let all that breathe partake; let rocks their silence break, the sound prolong.

Music in Preparation for Service

Trumpet Minuet

Duncombe

Joel Krott, Organ

Benediction and Going Forth

Peter Jonescu

8:30 a.m. Worship Ministry

Audio Technician:	Harris E. Ransom
Live Video Streaming:	Harris A. Ransom
Flower Arrangers:	Debbie Heller and Fran Green
Ushers:	Paul Lewis, Barry Leatherman and Jack Terry
Trustee Greeter:	John Miller
Check-In Coordinator:	Amy Coombe

Today's flowers are given to the glory of God and in honor of the founders of this country who won liberty for themselves and for us and lit the torch of freedom.

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Vacation Bible School "Rocky Railway": See our [event page](#) and front of Connections for a listing of our fantastic adult volunteers, teen volunteers, office staff and property staff who helped with this important community outreach. It was good to be back! Special kudos to VBS Director Holly Ascitutto, assistant Lauren Clark and their creative team!



Deacons Toiletry Drive -- Visit our [online event page](#) for information about the Deacons Toiletry Drive to support the Moorestown Ministerium. Continues through September.

The church campus will be CLOSED on **Monday, July 5** in observance of Independence Day.

Revised Protocols for Worship: At its stated meeting Tuesday, June 22, Session approved revised guidelines for our worship services and meeting:

- Effective Sunday, June 27, facemasks are optional. Some people may decide to wear a mask for a number of reasons. As disciples, we honor and love one another without judgment.
- Beginning today, our Independence Day, limited congregational singing will be permitted at both services, with the congregation singing a few times in each worship service. Singers at both services no longer need to wear masks.
- **Check-In** has shifted to a **self-check in only** on your smart phone (**no QR code to swipe**). Volunteers remain available to assist. Please check in on our phone when arriving OR watching the live stream.

Outdoor Hymn Sings: Join your church family as we gather safely outdoors to sing God's praises and offer our prayers. On the first Wednesday evening of July, August and September at 7:00 p.m. we'll meet in the courtyard between the Commons Lobby and the main parking lot. Bring your chair. Our Hymn Sing includes lots of singing with a reflection on our Way of the Week and a time to share prayer requests with prayer. If you've been vaccinated you need not wear a mask. However, we'll respect anyone who chooses to do so. In the event of rain, it will be held the following Wednesday. How wonderful to gather together to ask the Lord's blessing! SAVE THE DATES: **July 7, August 4, Sept. 1.**

July Book Club -- Join us on **FRIDAY, July 30 at 6:00 p.m.** for the Mission Book Club via Zoom. We will be discussing *The Simple Faith of Mister Rogers* by Amy Hollingsworth. See our website/events for information.

Discipleship Study (Sundays 9:45 a.m.) -- Join Pastor Stuart, Peter Jonescu and Rev. Paul Ascitutto for a Sunday study of discipleship. Participants will use the companion Study Guide for the Discipleship Gospel (\$10). The class concludes on August 16th, and is offered both in-person and virtually via Zoom. Please REGISTER on our [online Events page](#) and visit www.fpcmoorestown.org.

Summer Reminders – Worship times for the summer are 8:30 a.m. Traditional and 11:00 a.m. Contemporary. *Connections* prints every TWO weeks, the current issue is July 4-17. Sunday School returns in September.

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