# First Presbyterian Church of ores own

101 Bridgeboro Road • Moorestown, NJ 08057 856.235.1688 • *fpcmoorestown.org* Rev. Stuart Spencer, Pastor/Head of Staff Rev. Wes Allen, Associate Pastor



# Sunday, September 12, 2021 ~ 16<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost; Ministry Fair

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 #15

15. WELCOME CHANGE. Be curious about new ideas, perspectives, and approaches. Get excited by the possibilities that change can bring. What worked in the past won't always work in the future, for God is doing new things.

Ideas for Action: This is a simple one, so try it. Sit in a different pew in the sanctuary or seat in Miller Commons next Sunday. See what happens.

Welcome and Work of God's People

# **Music in Preparation for Worship**

My Lord What a Morning Joel Krott, Organ

#### Introit

### Great Day

Adult Choir; Margaret Munro, Grace Rykaczewski and Gwen Wilkie, soloists

*Call to Worship (adapted from Psalm 32)	Wes Allen
O what joy for those whose rebellion is forgiven, whose sin	is put out of sight. Yes, what joy for those
whose record the Lord has cleared of sin, whose lives are lived in complete honesty!	
When I refused to confess my sin, I was weak and miserab	le, and I groaned all day long.

#### Spiritual, arr. Haan

Spiritual

Wes Allen

Day and night your hand of discipline was heavy on me. My strength evaporated like water in the summer heat.

# Finally, I confessed my sins to you and stopped trying to hide them. I confessed and you forgave me. All my guilt is gone!

Therefore, let all the godly confess their rebellion to you while there is time that they may not drown in the floodwaters. So come, let us worship our loving and forgiving God.

# Opening Hymn No. 22 (verses 1, 4)

#### Come, We That Love the Lord

Gwen Wilkie, Alto; Kathy Gunsallus, Piano

*Prayer of Adoration	Wes Allen	
Call to Confession	Stuart Spencer	

#### **Prayer of Confession**

God, you placed us in the world to be salt. We admit that we are afraid of committing ourselves, afraid of getting involved. We do not want to hear what "they" might have to say, and our salt dissolves as if in water.

#### Have mercy upon us, Lord.

God, you place us in the world to be its light. We are afraid of the shadows, afraid of poverty. We do not want to know about other's struggles, and our light slowly fades away.

#### Forgive us, Lord.

God, you placed us in the world to live in community. Thus, you taught us to love, to share in life, to struggle for bread and justice, and to be your truth to others by what we say and do.

Help us to be your salt and light, Lord.

A Time of Silence for Personal Confession

### **Assurance of Forgiveness**

To all who turn from sin in sorrow, to all who turn to God in hope, this is God's certain word of grace found in Jesus Christ:

We are accepted, we are forgiven and we are loved. These are the gifts we have from God today. Thanks be to God. Amen.

### **Testimony**

Wes Allen

#### Anthem

# In My Father's House

Adult Choir; Kathy Gunsallus, Piano

arr. Simms

Come and go with me to my Father's, there is joy, sweet joy. Peace and love abide in my Father's house, there is joy, sweet joy. In my Father's house there'll be no sorrow there, there'll be no pain to bear. Happiness all over the place when we see Him face to face. In my Father's house a feast He will prepare, He'll hear our every prayer, thanks to His amazing grace, we'll see Him face to face.

#### Offertory

Stuart Spencer

Spiritual, arr. Burleigh

Please continue your faithful giving as we begin our programming year. Your tithes and offerings dramatically impact our ministry, and allow us to 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 <u>automatic withdrawal</u>. Online gifts may also be made directly from your phone via the Church Center app.

# **Offertory Music**

#### Don't Be Weary Traveler

Frank Mitchell, Bass; Joel Krott, Piano

Don't by weary traveler, come along home to Jesus.

My head got wet wid de midnight dew, come along home to Jesus. Angels bear me witness too, come along home to Jesus. Don't by weary traveler, come along home to Jesus. Where I go I did not know, come along home to Jesus, Ever since He freed my soul, Come along home to Jesus.

Don't by weary traveler, come along home to Jesus.

#### Sermon

### "Strength in Numbers"

Scripture Text: <u>Hebrews 10: 19-25 (NLT)</u> Sermon Series: Scatter ... Gather

### Hymn No. 839

*God Be With You* Gwen Wilkie, Alto; Kathy Gunsallus, Piano

# **Music in Preparation for Service**

*I'm Goin'a Sing When the Spirit Says Sing* Kathy Gunsallus, Piano

**Benediction and Going Forth** 

Rev. Stuart Spencer

Stuart Spencer

Spiritual, arr. Webb

continued

# 8:30 a.m. Worship Ministry

Audio Technician:	Harris E. Ransom
Live Video Streaming:	Jonathan Nawrocki
Flower Arranger:	Karin Miller and Rumi Sinunu
Ushers:	Michael Welch, Gary Bender, Tom Samuel
Trustee Greeter:	Mike Ramage
Check-In Coordinator:	Amy Coombe

**Today's flowers** are given in honor of today's Ministry Fair and opportunities to join hands as we Worship, Connect, Serve and Devote this coming year.

Ministry Fair Sunday, Sept. 12 – "A Time to Scatter ... Gather": As we begin our 2021-22 year, how is God calling you? Visit the Ministry Fair to Worship, Connect, Serve, and Devote. Fellowship Hall 9:45-10:45 a.m.

Happy 133<sup>rd</sup> Birthday, Church! In honor of the church's founding on September 12, 1888, members are encouraged to support the September 12 Fund. The fund is invested to earn income which helps to support the needs of our church. Bring your donations to today's Ministry Fair (Stewardship table), mail, give online, or place in the offering plate. Offerings collected through December.

<u>New protocols --</u> Session has approved revised COVID-19 safety protocols through October. Masks are mandatory for everyone when gathering indoors (both vaccinated and unvaccinated) when <u>Burlington County</u> is deemed to have high or substantial community spread. <u>At this time we are requiring masks</u>. This applies to worship and all indoor meetings. For outdoor gatherings on site, masking is encouraged but not required. Congregational singing is discontinued, singers will be masked, and seating will be distanced. We'll continue to serve the Lord's Supper in pre-packaged units, and will not serve or eat food indoors. Pre-made/prepared food may be eaten outside.

<u>Sunday, Sept. 19: Bible Sunday</u>: From 9:45-10:45 a.m., it's a Sunday School Meet Your Teachers/Ice Cream Social! Welcome back, we have missed you! **Third Graders Receive their Bibles**: Parents: Contact <u>Holly Asciutto</u> if you would like your third grader to receive a Bible during worship on Sept. 19. This is a special day in the lives of our young people.

<u>Fall Inquirers Class</u> -- Are you interested in learning more about FPC Moorestown? Do you have questions about what being a member means, or what it means to be a Presbyterian? Come to our Fall Inquirers Class. Our pastoral staff will lead this three-part class. Sign up with the church office at (856) 235-1688. A hybrid schedule is planned to allow flexibility and safety. New members will be welcomed during worship **Sept. 26**.

- Wednesday, Sept. 15 (7:00-8:30 pm): Zoom meeting
- Saturday, Sept. 18 (9:00 am-1:00 pm): In-person meeting in Room 3-4
- Sunday, Sept. 19 (12 noon): Meet with Session to present one's Statement of Faith and be officially received into membership (Room 3-4)

<u>Choir Open House: Wednesday, Sept. 29th from 6-7 p.m.</u> – FPC members and guests are invited to come meet current choir members and see video clips from our recent European Choir Tour. Tour music facilities and end with dessert. For questions contact Kristen Perkowski or Laurie LaMonica.

"Now Is The Time" ... It's coming! Sunday, October 17 is Consecration Sunday; COMBINED 9:30 a.m. worship

**SAVE THE DATE: Sunday, October 24** is The Church Has Left the Building. Watch for details and information.