



Sunday, November 14, 2021 ~ Deacons Sunday

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 #24

24. TELL YOUR STORY. God has done and is doing something unique in your life. Has God answered a prayer, provided help, or blessed you? Share it. Ask God for opportunities to share your faith in Christ by words and deeds.

Ideas for Action: At the start of each morning this week, think about one thing you're grateful to God for from the previous 24 hours. Got it? Now share it with someone else in the course of today.

Welcome and Work of God's People

Rev. Stuart Spencer

Music in Preparation for Worship

Joel Krott, Organ

A New Ground

Purcell

Introit

Rebecca Neindorff, Piano

Our World

Padgett

People Praise God

Butler

Primary Choir

*Call to Worship

Rev. Stuart Spencer

Praise the Lord!

The Lord's name be praised today and forever.

Great God, You have been generous and marvelously kind.

Lord, give us such wonder, love, and gratitude that we may sing praises to You and joyfully honor Your name with our words and our lives.

Come and let us worship the Lord, for God's love endures forever.

Hymn No. 78 (verses 1, 6)

Joel Krott, Organ

O God, Our Help in Ages Past

Frank Mitchell, Bass

Prayer of Adoration

Rev. Spencer

Call to Confession

Paul Savage

Prayer of Confession (*offered in unison*)

Holy Lord, God of life, hear our prayer. Forgive us when we follow those paths that do not lead to life, that lead instead to violence, hate, or fear, paths that lead to dread and death. Forgive us when we forget that You offer us life, life that is abundant and eternal; life that began at the Creation of all things. Forgive us, turn us to the right path; and let Your love and grace flow over us and the world. We pray in Jesus' name and for His sake. Amen.

Time of silence for personal confession

Assurance of Forgiveness

Friends, hear the Good News: "God so loved the world that God sent Jesus to us, not to condemn the world but in order that we might be saved" – healed and forgiven – through Him.

Thanks be to God! Alleluia! Amen.

Anthem

Kathy Gunsallus, Piano

He, Watching Over Israel

Adult Choir; Michael Martin, Director

Mendelssohn

*He, watching over Israel slumbers not nor sleeps.
Shouldst thou, walking in grief, languish, He will quicken thee.*

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

Rev. Wes Allen

A Word from the Deacons

Deacon Andrew Ehala

Offertory

THANK YOU for your faithful giving. 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! Take advantage of this simple, secure [automatic withdrawal](#). Donate directly from your phone via the Church Center app too.

Offertory Music

Joel Krott, Piano

In Prayer

Fauré

Janet Wilkie, Soprano

Sermon

Rev. Spencer

“A Future That Won’t Disappoint”

Scripture Text: [Jeremiah 29: 8-13 \(NRSV\)](#) (pg. 731)

Sermon Series: A Letter for Exiles

Hymn #84 (verses 1, 4)

Joel Krott, Organ

Children of the Heavenly Father

Gwen Wilkie, Alto

Music in Preparation for Service

Joel Krott, Organ

Lilliburleo

Purcell

Benediction and Going Forth

Rev. Spencer

8:30 a.m. Worship Ministry

Audio Technician:	Harris E. Ransom
Live Video Streaming:	Harris A. Ransom
Flower Arrangers:	Carol Morgan and Carol Benner
Ushers:	Paul Lewis, Barry Leatherman, Leonard Fitts
Trustee Greeter:	Patrick McIlroy
Check-In Volunteers:	<i>Needed</i>
Interim Nursery Caregiver:	Amy Coombe

Today’s flowers are given by Jane Murphy on behalf of Kim Murphy and in loving memory of Kim's father, Charles Y. Murphy, Jr.

TODAY is Deacons Sunday. Thank you for your support of this hands-on Board of ministry.

Updated COVID-19 Safety Protocols from Session: Effective Nov. 1, Session updated our Coronavirus protocols: masks are optional for those fully vaccinated and highly encouraged for those not vaccinated; seat and space as you are comfortable; children 18 and under shall be masked; congregational singing remains suspended; singers shall be masked; no food on premises; masks if anyone under 18 in group. Read the [Pastor’s letter](#) online.

If you have not yet returned your 2022 *Estimate of Giving*, kindly return **by November 14** to assist our budget preparations. Return by mail, [fill out online](#), place in the offering, or email to Norm Vandergrift in the church office. As of November 5, we have received 170 pledges en route to our goal of 185.

[Installation Service](#) for Rev. Wes Allen will be held in our Sanctuary today at 4:00 p.m. All are invited to attend. There will be an outdoor reception with s'mores and fire pits.

Christian Caring Center: Please visit yougivegoods.com/fpcm2021 to go to our personalized event page where you can “shop” and choose items to give. This Wish List includes an array of cold weather accessories, clothing, games, and books. Items purchased will be delivered directly to the Christian Caring Center and distributed to those in need this December. The starting date is November 11. **Please complete online gift purchases by Monday, November 29.** Have fun shopping!

Thanksgiving Break: Wed. Nov. 24 - No kids groups or middle school youth group. The church office is closed Nov. 25-26.

[Advent Devotional:](#) *Watch for the Light: Readings for Advent and Christmas* – Give yourself the gift of God’s presence in your life this Advent as we read through a collection of writings from classic and contemporary Christians, including Henri Nouwen, Philip Yancey, Bernard of Clairvaux, Dietrich Bonhoeffer, and more. The church office has a limited quantity for \$12/each. (Exact change is appreciated.)

[Longest Night Service](#) will be held **Sunday, Dec. 12** at 7:00 p.m. to provide peace to those dealing with grief, illness, anxiety or depression who may not feel the holiday joy. Seminary intern Paul Savage preaches. If you have someone you would like us to invite, please provide their name and address to Alison Mackey in the church office so we may send them a letter.

Poinsettia Sales will be November 21, November 28 and December 25. Look for order forms online and at church.