

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



Sunday, November 28, 2021 ~ First Sunday of Advent

11:00 a.m. Contemporary Worship (Miller Commons)

Way of the Week

1. BE THIRD. God is first, others are second, and you're third. Don't just think about your own interests; be interested in others. Don't think less of yourself, just think of yourself less and others more.

"Don't look out only for your own interests, but take an interest in others, too." (Philippians 2:4)

Ideas for Action: Ask God, "Whom can I serve today?" Look for an opportunity to be last ... in line, the last to speak, or last to be served.

Welcome and Work of God's People

Wes Allen

Lighting the Advent Wreath

Mark and Lori Bell

Songs of Praise

Worship Team

Forever Great Is The Lord

Prayer of Confession

Stuart Spencer

We are captive, exiled, O God, because we have, each in our own way, chosen our own path, away from you. We are hungry for wisdom and knowledge, because we have, too often, substituted our judgment for yours. We are lost, in need of guidance.

Silent Prayer, concluded with:

Come, Lord Jesus; forgive us and restore us. Come, Lord Jesus; guide us and deliver us. Come, Lord Jesus; teach us and renew us. Come, Lord Jesus.

Assurance of Forgiveness

God, our kind and loving Savior God, has stepped in and saved us.

God gave us a good bath, and we came out of it new people, washed inside and out by the Holy Spirit. Our Savior Jesus poured out new life so generously.

God's gift has restored our relationship with God and given us back our lives.

And there's more life to come—an eternity of life!

Prayers of the People and Lord's Prayer

Paul Savage

Offertory Paul Savage

THANK YOU for your faithful giving. **We give thanks for you.** 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 <u>automatic withdrawal</u>. Donate directly from your phone via the Church Center app too.

Praise Song Worship Team

O Come, O Come Emmanuel

Sermon Rev. Spencer

Active Waiting

Scripture Text: Luke 12:35-40 (NLT)

Sermon Series: What Are You Waiting For?

Communion Song Worship Team

This is Amazing Grace

Communion Rev. Wes Allen

Invitation to the Table

Words of Institution and the Lord's Prayer ('debts')

The Bread and the Cup (*Please prepare a communion serving for yourself and any who are worshipping with you.*) Prayer of Thanksgiving

Benediction and Going Forth

11:00 a.m. Worship Ministry

Audio: Taylor Adair
Live Stream: Jonathan Nawrocki

Visuals: Alice Conley

Worship Team: Martin Bass-Guitar; Christine Bass-Keys; Rebecca Neindorff-Piano; Don Stevens-

Bass; Barry Overton-Drums; Michelle Davis and Cheryl Stevens-Vocalists

Flower Arranger: Debbie Heller

Ushers: Dave Barr and Jason Rose

Trustee Greeter: Adrienne Barr Nursery Caregiver: Amy Coombe

Today's flowers are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Jack with thanksgiving for his life by the Sinunu Family.

Check-ins: Check-in is <u>self-check in only</u> on your smart phone (no QR code to swipe). Volunteer(s) remain available to assist. Please remember to check in from home when watching the live stream.

Coronavirus Protocols: Effective November 1, Session approved revised COVID-19 safety protocols effective immediately. Masks are optional for vaccinated adults. Masks are recommended for those unvaccinated. Individuals 18 years or younger are required to wear masks. Congregational singing remains suspended; singers are masked. We will not serve nor eat food indoors. Session and staff will continue to monitor the pandemic and make changes as warranted.

Adult Education: Join Lorenzo Eagles and Rev. Wes Allen on Sunday mornings, 9:45-10:45, in Fellowship Hall or via Zoom for our fall Adult Education hour (7th grade and older). Each week we will dive headfirst into the Word of God as we reflect on and explore that week's sermon text. A study guide is provided electronically on the church website.

Week 9: December 5 – John 1:1-18; 9:5

<u>Longest Night Service</u> 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 <u>Alison Mackey</u> in the church office so we may send them an invitation letter.

<u>NEW! High School Winter Retreat to Lake Champion</u> January 21-23, 2022. Register ONLINE **by November 30**, check out the current event page and website. \$150 per person, grades 9-12; reconnect with God and each other

<u>Poinsettia Sales</u> will be Nov. 21, Nov. 28 and Dec. 5. Look for <u>order forms online</u> and at church. Plants are \$15 each and orders are due by Dec. 5. Poinsettias will be placed in our worship spaces on Manger Sunday Dec. 12.

The Deacons have organized a convenient <u>online gift drive</u> through YouGive Goods to provide much needed items to local families this holiday season. Visit <u>yougivegoods.com/fpcm2021</u> to go to our personalized page where you can "shop" their Wish List of cold weather accessories, clothing, games and books. Items will be delivered directly to the Christian Caring Center and distributed to those in need this December. **Please complete online gift purchases by Monday, Nov. 29.**

Advent Devotional: Give yourself the gift of God's presence in your life this Advent. Join us as we read *Watch for the Light: Readings for Advent and Christmas*, a collection of writings from classic and contemporary Christians. Order your copy online at amazon.com. A limited number of copies are available in the church office for \$12. Readings are Nov. 24-Jan. 7, 2022. The First Sunday in Advent is November 28th.

Watch for our Advent program guide detailing the events and activities of this special season of Waiting.

The Alternative Gift Market Catalog is available ONLINE and at church December 5, 12 and 19. Gifts begin at \$5.00 and a broader range of 50 gifts is now available to assist our ministries. Visit the tables in the narthex and Commons Lobby to purchase your alternative gifts. Online orders, cash or checks please (checks made payable to FPC Moorestown). Or pick up your gifts at a contact free pickup.

<u>Manger Sunday Gifts</u>: In one of our congregation's many beautiful traditions, members are invited to bring **unwrapped** gifts to services on Sunday, December 12th for our annual Manger Sunday presentation. Gifts will be given to the clients and families of <u>Oaks Integrated Care</u>. Gifts will be received under the portico for easy drop off. For those NOT attending services, gifts may be dropped off between 10:30 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. at a contactless drop at the Blessing Box.

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