First Presbyterian Church of 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, November 28, 2021 ~ First Week in Advent

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

*please stand as you are able

Welcome and Work of God's People	Wes Allen
----------------------------------	-----------

Lighting the Advent Wreath

Richard and Melissa Corbin

Way of the Week #1

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.

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.

Music in Preparation for Worship

O Come, O Come Emmanuel Rebecca Neindorff, Piano

arr. Victor Labenske

continued

What are you waiting for?

We wait in hope for the Lord; he is our shield. But if we hope for what we do not yet have, we wait patiently for it.

Where is your hope?

For the grace of God has appeared that offers salvation to all people. It teaches us to live in this present age while we wait for the blessed hope—the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ. But as for us, we watch in hope for the Lord; we wait for God our Savior. Let us worship God!

Hymn No. 133 (verse 1)

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel	
Gwen Wilkie, soloist	Kathy Gunsallus, Organ
Prayer of Adoration	Wes Allen
Call to Confession	Stuart Spencer

Prayer of Confession

Lord, we have not kept watch for you. We have occupied ourselves with our own concerns. We have not waited to find your will for us. We have not noticed the needs of the people around us. We have not acknowledged the love that has been shown to us. Forgive us for our lack of watchfulness. Help us to wait to know your will. Help us to look out for the needs of others. Help us to work and watch for your coming. Amen.

Time for silent prayers of confession

Assurance of Forgiveness (adapted from Isaiah 40: 1 – 2)

Comfort, comfort my people, says your God. Your sins are pardoned. The penalty is paid. We will believe God's gracious and powerful word. We are forgiven! Amen.

Anthem

Daughter of Zion

Adult Choir; Gwen Wilkie, Soloist Michael Martin, Director Clokey Kathy Gunsallus, Piano

Daughter of Zion, behold thy salvation cometh, the Lord shall cause His glorious voice to be heard, and ye shall have gladness of heart.

Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel, Thou that leadeth Joseph like a flock. Glory be to the Father and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

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

Offertory

Paul Savage

Williams; arr. Deitterich

Kathy Gunsallus, Piano

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 automatic withdrawal. Donate directly from your phone via the Church Center app too.

Offertory Music

Come Down, O Love Divine

Adult Choir; Grace Rykaczewski, Director

Come down, O Love divine! Seek out this soul of mine and visit it with your own ardor glowing; O Comforter, draw near, within my heart appear, and kindle it, your holy flame bestowing. O let it freely burn till earthly passions turn to dust and ashes in its heat consuming; and let your glorious light shine ever on my sight, and make my pathway clear, by your illuming. And so the yearning strong with which the soul will long shall far surpass the power of human telling; For none can guess its grace till we become the place in which the Holy Spirit makes his dwelling.

Sermon

"Active Waiting"

Scripture Text: Luke 12: 35-40 (NRSV) Sermon Series: What Are You Waiting For?

The Lord's Supper

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

Hymn No. 133 (verse 5)

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

Gwen Wilkie, soloist; Kathy Gunsallus, Organ

Music in Preparation for Service

Love Came Down at Christmas Kathy Gunsallus, Organ

Jordan

Stuart Spencer

Rev. Spencer

8:30 a.m. Worship Ministry

Audio Technician:	Harris E. Ransom
Live Video Streaming:	Harris A. Ransom
Flower Arranger:	Debbie Heller
Ushers:	Dave Rebuck, Brett Couvillion, James Clinton
Trustee Greeter:	Adrienne Barr
Check-In Volunteers:	needed
Interim Nursery Caregiver:	Amy Coombe
Advent Candle Lighters:	Richard and Melissa Corbin

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.

LAST WEEK our traditional Thanksgiving postcards were in the worship guides. Pick up one or two to send to those special people who have touched your life. Return in the offering plate for the church to mail (must include the address) or mail on your own.

Poinsettia Sales 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.

<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

The Deacons have organized a convenient online gift drive 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 <u>amazon.com</u>. 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.

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 an invitation letter.

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.