

101 Bridgeboro Road ● P.O. Box 868 ● Moorestown, NJ 08057 856.235.1688 ● fpcmoorestown.org
Rev. Stuart Spencer, Pastor/Head of Staff
Rev. Wes Allen, Associate Pastor



Sunday, December 19, 2021 ~ Fourth Week in Advent

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

Welcome and Work of God's People

Stuart Spencer

Music in Preparation for Worship

Puer Natus Est

Joel Krott, Organ

Titcomb

Lighting the Advent Wreath

Joe and Karen Molloy

Way of the Week #4

4. ALWAYS ENCOURAGE AND CELEBRATE. Show gratitude and appreciation by regularly acknowledging the good works you see everywhere. Look for signs of spiritual growth and maturity among our members and staff. When you see it, point it out and rejoice. Pass on good reports that you hear about others.

Ideas for Action: Write a text or a note to someone close to you who just did something wonderful or important. With many details, tell them why you're grateful or delighted by them.

Introit

Love Came Down at Christmas

Malcolm Archer

Adult Choir

Love came down at Christmas, love all lovely, love divine; Love was born at Christmas, stars and angels gave the sign.

^{*}please stand as you are able

Worship we the Godhead, love incarnate, love divine; Worship we our Jesus – but wherewith for sacred sign? Love shall be our token, love be yours and love be mine, Love to God and all men, love for plea and gift and sign.

*Call to Worship Stuart Spencer

May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God the Father, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

Our help is in the name of the Lord.

God made Heaven and Earth.

In the days to come the mountain of the Lord's house shall be established as the highest of the mountains and shall be raised above the hills, and all nations shall stream to it. Many people shall come and say,

"Come, let us go up to the house of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob, that God may teach us His ways and that we may walk in the paths of the Lord."

Come, God's people, let us seek, adore and love the Lord! Let us worship God!

Hymn No. 173 (verse 1)

<i>O Come, All Ye Faithful</i> Joel Krott, Organ	Gwen Wilkie, soloist
Prayer of Adoration	Stuart Spencer
Response	
Away in a Manger Bell Choir; Kathy Gunsallus, Director	Murray/Haan
Call to Confession	Wes Allen

Prayer of Confession (offered in unison)

Holy God, we know that in so many ways

We have run from you,

We have ignored your call,

We have closed our eyes to your presence,

We have disbelieved your mercy,

We have disregarded your words,

We have belittled ourselves,

We have forsaken others.

So we ask, once again, for your forgiveness. We ask you to stay with us as we turn away from what is wrong and hurtful to what is bright and life-giving. And hear now our silent prayers.

Time for silent prayers of confession

Assurance of Forgiveness

Friends, this is the Good News:

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

And we are not only forgiven, we are also freed.

Let us greet with world as people made new in Christ.

Anthem

In Silence We Wait

Lloyd Larson

Chapel Choir; Kathy Gunsallus, Piano

In silence we wait for the day of God's mercy, in silence we wait for Emmanuel to come. In silence we wait for the gift of God's promise. I silence we wait and pray.

Refrain: Lord, hear our prayer: "Deliver Your people. Send us a Savior to show us the way!

Guide us in mercy, shepherd us in love". In silence we wait and pray.

In darkness we wait for the light of the Christ-child. In darkness we wait for the Daystar to shine.

In darkness we wait for the glory of morning. In darkness we wait and pray.

Refrain:

In silence we wait. In silence we pray. Lord, send your Christ Today. Amen.

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

Wes Allen

Offertory Wes Allen

THANK YOU for your faithful giving and for remembering the church in your year-end giving. Your offerings dramatically impact our ministry, and allow us to support church operations and our work in the world. 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. **Throughout December, donations for our Christmas offering may be submitted online, by check or by using the special Christmas Green envelopes.**

Offertory Music

Child Jesus Came to Earth This Day

Gade

Adult Choir

Child Jesus came to earth this day, to save us sinners dying:

And cradled in the straw and hay, the Holy One is lying.

The stars shone down the Child to greet, the lowing oxen kiss the feet,

Hallelujah, hallelujah, Child Jesus.

Take courage, soul so weak and worn, thy sorrows have departed:

A Child in David's town is born, to heal the brokenhearted.

Then let us haste this Child to find, and children be in heart and mind,

Hallelujah, hallelujah, Child Jesus.

Sermon Rev. Stuart Spencer

"Waiting to be Satisfied"

Scripture Text: Isaiah 55: 1-13 (page 685 Pew Bible)

Hymn #145 (verses 1, 4)

Of the Father's Love Begotten

Mike Martin, Tenor

Music in Preparation for Service

Patapan Burgundian Carol/Thompson

Bell Choir; Kathy Gunsallus, Director

Benediction and Going Forth Stuart Spencer

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8:30 a.m. Worship Ministry

Audio Technician: Harris E. Ransom Live Video Streaming: Harris A. Ransom

Bell Choir: Jim Cole, Barbara Fletcher, Lissa Herman, Melissa McNab, Sawyer McNab,

Marion Norcross, Peg Pierce, Stacy Schaffer, Vicki Terry

Flower Arrangers: Carol Morgan and Fran Green

Ushers: Michael Welch, Jack Terry, Barry Leatherman

Trustee Greeter: Rich Corbin
Check-In Volunteers: needed
Interim Nursery Caregiver: Amy Coombe

Advent Wreath Lighting: Joe and Karen Molloy

Today's flowers are given by Peg Madorno to the glory of God and in loving memory of her granddaughter Kelsey Lorence.

Work of God's People

<u>The Alternative Gift Market Catalog</u> is available ONLINE and at church through December 19th. 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>Please remember the church in your year-end donations</u>. Process stock gifts expediently by contacting your broker or <u>Norman Vandergrift</u> at 856-235-1688, Ext. 112. Throughout December, Christmas offering donations may be submitted online, by check or by using the special Christmas Green envelopes.

NEW: Submit an online prayer request to the Prayer Committee. Visit the prayer page on the website at https://www.fpcmoorestown.org/prayer to share your prayer request with the prayer team.

Christmas Worship Schedule – Bring family and friends to celebrate Christ's birth with us December 23-24:

- **Thursday, Dec. 23:** Christmas Eve Eve Outdoor Worship in the sanctuary courtyard; a beautiful service with candelight at 3:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.
- Friday, December 24: Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship in the sanctuary at 4:00 p.m. Family Service (masks required); 6:00 p.m. Family Service (masks required); 8:30 p.m. Communion Service (masks required); and 11:00 p.m. Lessons and Carols (masks optional).