



## Sunday, January 9, 2022 ~ Third Sunday of Christmas

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

Rev. Stuart Spencer

### Way of the Week #7

- 7. CELEBRATE OUR UNITY, SAVOR OUR DIVERSITY.** Thank God that, like parts of the human body, we're not all the same. Be open to learn from others, regardless of their age, background, experience, or tenure with our church. We make better decisions and grow as people when we consider multiple perspectives.<sup>b</sup> Listen with curiosity to others and consider how to use their ideas.

**Ideas for Action:** Seek out someone from a different background, culture or race and meet three or four times to get to know their lives and stories. Pray with them for racial and social healing.

### Music in Preparation for Worship

#### **Coventry Carol**

Arr. Wissinger

Bell Choir; Kathy Gunsallus, Director

Jim Cole, Barbara Fletcher, Lissa Herman, Meliss McNab, Sawyer McNab, Marion Norcross,  
Peg Pierce, Stacy Schaffer, Vicki Terry

### \*Call to Worship (adapted from Psalm 34: 1-8)

Stuart Spencer

I will bless the Lord at all times; his praise shall continually be in my mouth.

**My should makes its boast in the Lord; let the humble hear and be glad.**

O magnify the Lord with me, and let us exalt his name together.

**I sought the Lord, and he answered me, and he delivered me from all my fears.**  
Look to him, and be radiant; so your faces shall never be ashamed.  
**This poor soul cried, and was heard by the Lord, and was save from every trouble.**  
The angel of the Lord encamps around those who fear him, and delivers them.  
**O taste and see that the Lord is good; happy are those who take refuge in him.**

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## \*Prayer of Adoration

Rev. Wes Allen

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## Hymn No. 174 (verse 1, 5)

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### ***Angels from the Realms of Glory***

Grace Rykaczewski, Soprano; Joel Krott, Organ

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## Call to Confession

Wes Allen

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## Prayer of Confession (offered in unison)

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Lord Jesus Christ, you gave up everything to come down from heaven in order to love and serve us. Unlike you, we find self-sacrifice hard. Most of us look for ways to puff ourselves up, so that we look better in other people's eyes. We fool ourselves into thinking that we can make ourselves look good in your eyes, too. Send us your Spirit, that we would be more humble. We long to be like you, our loving shepherd, and we thank you for hearing our prayers as we continue to confess in silence...

*Time for silent prayers of confession*

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## Assurance of Forgiveness

Wes Allen

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Therefore having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. Hear the good news! Who is in a position to condemn? Only Christ, and Christ died for us, Christ rose for us, Christ reigns in power for us, Christ prays for us. The good news is that Christ calls us to new life and enables us to begin again and again and again and again. Friends, believe the good news of the gospel. **In Jesus Christ we are forgiven! Hallelujah, Amen!**

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

Stuart Spencer

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## Offertory

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*THANK YOU for your faithful giving and for remembering the church as we begin a new year in ministry. Your offerings dramatically impact our abilities, 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 [automatic withdrawal](#). Donate directly from your phone via the Church Center app too.*

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## Offertory Music

### ***In the Bleak Midwinter***

Bell Choir; Kathy Gunsallus, Director

Holst, Arr. Prins

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## Sermon

Rev. Wes Allen

### ***"The Jesus Selfie"***

Scripture Text: Philippians 2: 1-11 (page 197 Pew Bible NT)

Sermon Series: Your Best Friend, Your Worst Enemy

## Hymn #147 (verse 3)

### ***Away in a Manger***

Grace Rykaczewski, Soprano; Joel Krott, Organ

## Music in Preparation for Service

### ***He Is Born***

Bell Choir; Kathy Gunsallus, Director

French; Arr. Wissinger

## 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
Flower Arrangers:	Carol Morgan and Fran Green
Ushers:	Paul Lewis, Barry Leatherman, Leonard Fitts
Trustee Greeter:	Adrienne Barr
Check-In Volunteer:	Deacon Andrew Ehala
Nursery Caregiver:	Amy Coombe

**Today's flowers** are given by Dr. Lucy Rorke-Adams to the glory of God and in loving memory of Harry Knowles

## Work of God's People

- TONIGHT: We conclude the Season of Advent with a special **Epiphany Concert** on Sunday, January 9, 2022 at 7:30 p.m. featuring the Choristers, Chapel Choir, Adult Choir and Bell Choir. The concert will also be live streamed at [www.fpcmoorestown.org/live-stream](http://www.fpcmoorestown.org/live-stream).
- **Donate to tornado relief** through Samaritan's Purse. Make checks payable to First Presbyterian Church and mail to the church, noting "Tornado Relief" in the memo line.
- Offering envelopes for 2022 will be mailed in early January. Please look for them in your mailbox. You may begin online giving at any time. Please contact the church office with any questions: 856.235.1688.
- [Fostering a Spirit of Reconciliation](#) – Rev. Wes Allen and Dr. Leslie Spencer lead a 6-week study on The Confession of Belhar. The study will meet in person at the Spencer's home on **Thursday, January 6<sup>th</sup>** from 7:00-8:30 PM. The remaining classes will be offered via Zoom, with the final session in person. The

Confession of Belhar emerged out of apartheid South Africa in 1986 and was adopted by the Presbyterian Church (USA) as a confession of faith in 2016. Belhar testifies to the unity, reconciliation and justice of Jesus Christ and the church's responsibility in bearing witness to this in the world. It is the hope of Dr. Spencer and Rev. Allen that this study will promote constructive conversations around issues of race, gender, and ability. [SIGN UP via Church Center](#) as space is limited to 8 people.

- **NEW: Submit an online prayer request** to the Prayer Committee. Visit the prayer page on the website at <https://www.fpcmoores town.org/prayer> to share your prayer request with the prayer team.
- **PW Winter Gathering** -- On Sunday, January 31 at 7:00 p.m., Kelly Maxted will be our speaker in Miller Commons and also via live stream ([www.fpcmoores town.org/live-stream](http://www.fpcmoores town.org/live-stream)). The program, "*When God says, 'Go!'*", will tell about her faith journey. Kelly and her husband, Luke are currently Fellows at UrbanPromise Camden. They are preparing to answer God's call to found UrbanPromise London. Luke is also currently working with our middle school youth program.
- COMING: [Winter Inquirer's Class](#) for those interested in learning more about First Presbyterian Church, starting February 23<sup>rd</sup>. [Sign up online](#) or with the church office at (856) 235-1688.
- The church campus will be CLOSED to honor Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. on Monday, January 17, 2022.
- **Save the Date: Congregational Meeting Sunday, February 6 at 12:15 p.m.** The meeting will be held in person in Fellowship Hall (masks required) and also via Zoom hybrid. Watch for the Zoom link. Committee Chairs: Reports for the Annual Report are due to Jan Martin in the church office by **Friday, Jan. 14.**
- **Lenten Prayer Retreat, March 15-18, 2022:** Pastor Spencer leads a four-day, three-night retreat at Holy Cross (NY) Monastery, an Episcopal community of faith. Join members from FPC Moorestown and friends from other churches for a study of the parable of the Prodigal Son and lots of time for rest, reflection and renewal. Save the date and watch for registration information that's coming soon.