



**Sunday, July 31, 2022 ~ 8<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Pentecost**

9:30 a.m. Blended Worship (Miller Commons) -- Have you **checked in** for worship?

\*please stand as you are able

**Welcome and Work of God's People**

Rev. Stuart Spencer

**Music in Preparation for Worship**

Kathy Gunsallus, Piano

***Brethren, We Have Met to Worship***

Moore

**\*Call to Worship**

Elder Matt Livingston

We have gathered in God's holy presence, the One who etches grace on our hearts.

**This is the place where God will transform us into disciples.**

We glorify our God, who yearns for justice, not just for a favored few, but for the least of our world.

**This is the place where God will write compassion on our souls.**

We give thanks to God for unceasing grace; we remember God's persistence in saving us.

**This is the place where God will breathe the Word into our lives.**

Come, my friends, and let us worship God!

**\*Prayer of Adoration**

Elder Livingston

**Opening Worship Songs**

Worship Team

***\*Hope Has a Name***

Kristian Stanfill, Sean Curran, Jacob Sooter

***The Blood Will Never Lose Its Power***

Andraé Crouch

**Call to Confession**

Rev. Wes Allen

## Prayer of Confession (offering in unison)

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God of Glory, sometimes it seems we cannot decide. We say we will live to serve others, but end up meeting only our own needs. We claim to live to honor Christ, but we do not take Him to our work, school, or home. We believe that the Gospel can transform the lives of others, but we leave little room for transformation in our own lives. Forgive us, merciful God. Instead of grumbling, may we be ambassadors of grace. Instead of giving in to apathy, may we carry compassion to the hurting. Instead of worrying, may we be workers with Jesus Christ to reach out and bring the Kingdom of God to everyone we meet. Amen.

*Silent prayer for personal confession*

## Assurance of Forgiveness

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This is the Good News: there is no ranking in God's Kingdom. God offers the same gifts: mercy, restoration, new life in Jesus to all who cry out for help to him.

**God has kept the covenant. We have been forgiven; we have been made new people.  
Thanks be to God. Amen.**

## Worship Song

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***Holy Water***

Worship Team

Ed Cash, Franni Cash, Martin Cash,  
Scott Cash, Andrew Bergthold

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

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Rev. Allen

## Offertory

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*THANK YOU for your faithfulness and for remembering the church with your summer giving. Our ministry continues year round and your offerings allow us to support church operations and our work in the world. Take advantage of a simple, secure [automatic withdrawal](#) or donate from your phone via the Church Center app. Send offerings by mail to **P.O. Box 868**, Moorestown, NJ 08057. For gifts of stock please call the church office.*

## Offertory Music

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***O Lamb of God***

Gwen Wilkie, Alto

Kathy Gunsallus, Piano

W. A. Mozart

O Lamb of God,  
O Lamb of God who gave Thy life for us,  
And who gladly did endure the cross for all the world to die;  
O may we all remember Thy love with steadfast faith,  
And take us to Thine heaven in peace to dwell with Thee.

## Sharing with our Young Disciples

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Rev. Spencer

## Sermon

Rev. Stuart Spencer

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### **“March 7<sup>th</sup>: The Evil Day”**

Scripture Text: Esther 3: 1-15 (page 446 Pew Bible OT)

*Sermon Series: Esther’s Choice*

## \*Hymn No. 72 (verses 1, 2)

Kathy Gunsallus, Piano

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### **To God Be the Glory**

## Music in Preparation for Service

Kathy Gunsallus, Piano

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### **We, Your People Praise You**

Haydn

## Way of the Week #11

Alecia Connlain

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**11. MAKE OTHERS AT HOME HERE.** Warmly welcome newcomers and visitors. Offer your name with a smile. Reach out and greet the person you don’t know after worship, during Coffee Hour, in Youth Group or Sunday School. Show a genuine interest in others.

**Ideas for Action:** Look for someone you don’t know very well. Invite that person for coffee, a walk or a meal and get to know them. Keep your eyes peeled for the guest or visitor at our church and offer your name and a smile of welcome. Pave the way for new friendships wherever you are.

[Watch the new Way 11 Video from Alecia Connlain.](#)

## Benediction and Going Forth

Rev. Spencer

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*Congregational meeting begins immediately following worship*

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## 9:00 a.m. Worship Ministry

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| <b>Audio Technician:</b>        | Oliver Phillips                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| <b>Live Stream Technicians:</b> | Jonathan Nawrocki and Angel Santiago                                                                                                                                                                    |
| <b>Worship Team:</b>            | Martin Bass-Guitar; Wes Allen-Guitar; Don Stevens-Bass; Charles Bass-Piano; Christine Bass-Keyboards; Curtis Blain-Drums; Jonathan Chen-Violin; Cheryl Stevens-Vocals; Ben Ely-Vocals; Susan Ely-Vocals |
| <b>Pianist:</b>                 | Kathy Gunsallus                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| <b>Visuals:</b>                 | Jeremy Rotter                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| <b>Flower Arrangers:</b>        | Stacy Schaffer and Karen Arsenault                                                                                                                                                                      |
| <b>Ushers:</b>                  | John Miller, Jack Terry and Joe Scheideler                                                                                                                                                              |
| <b>Trustee Greeter:</b>         | John Miller                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| <b>Check-In Volunteers:</b>     | Deacons Sarah Harper and Steve Drzaszcz                                                                                                                                                                 |
| <b>Nursery Caregiver:</b>       | No nursery provided this week                                                                                                                                                                           |
| <b>Hospitality:</b>             | Chelsea Margerum - <b>volunteers needed</b>                                                                                                                                                             |

Worship flowers are given to the glory of God.

## Work of God's People (see *Connections*, eblast and website for details)

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- **Revised Health Protocols** – Effective July 17: masks are optional, congregational singing has resumed and food may be served inside with care to space appropriately.
- **TODAY: 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday July 31: 9:30 a.m. Blended Worship in Miller Commons.** Immediately following worship, there will be a [Special Meeting of the Congregation](#) to elect 1 trustee, 1 elder and 1 deacon. There is no child care for 5<sup>th</sup> Sundays; children are invited to join their families in worship.
- **[TODAY: General Assembly Review](#):** This summer's 225<sup>th</sup> General Assembly broke new ground by meeting in-person in Louisville and later via Zoom. Elder Becca Neindorff served as a commissioner to the three-week hybrid Assembly representing our presbytery. Following today's Fifth Sunday worship and congregational meeting, we'll review the highlights of the Assembly with a report from Becca. The GA Review will be held in Miller Commons about 15 minutes after the close of the special meeting. The meeting will be live streamed. Be sure to review the summary of the Assembly beforehand (see eblast).
- **Looking for Ushers** -- We are in need of several ushers for the 10:30 a.m. Contemporary service. Can you help out every few weeks with this rewarding ministry? Contact Steve Connlain at [sconnlain@gmail.com](mailto:sconnlain@gmail.com).
- **Introducing Fire Pit Fridays** -- Come out for a night of fellowship around the fire pit. All ages from 1 to 101 are welcome! Marshmallows will be provided. We have some seating around the fire pit, but you may wish to bring your favorite lawn chair. This event will take place weekly, weather permitting. No registration is required - just show up! Contact Cheryl Gaskill (856-904-3056).
- **NEW:** Rev. Wes Allen and Dr. Leslie Spencer lead a 5-week discussion on Jonathan Augustine's new book, *Called to Reconciliation: How the Church Can Model Justice, Diversity, and Inclusion*. **Started July 24: groups meet Wednesdays at 7:00 pm or Sundays at 4:00 pm, both via Zoom.** Find the Zoom links online on our event page.
- **[Volunteer for a day at the beach](#) on Wed. August 17<sup>th</sup>** to support our mission partner, the Children's Fresh Air Home. Meet at 9:00 a.m. at the Hereford Lighthouse in N. Wildwood, to welcome guests and have fun! During their busy day, children are treated to miniature golf, ice cream, the beach, and a cookout before heading home. Volunteers 14 and older welcome -- earn service hours! [SIGN UP online](#) or contact Milt McFalls at [love2golf\\_us@yahoo.com](mailto:love2golf_us@yahoo.com) or cell/text 856-996-5238.
- **["Wednesday Evening Prayer on the Porch"](#)** -- Join the Prayer Committee at 7:00 pm for fellowship and prayer in the cool of the evening on 2nd and 4th Wednesdays during the summer. Remaining dates: Aug. 10, Aug. 24; see event page and website or contact Pam Engle at [pam@pamengle.com](mailto:pam@pamengle.com).
- **[New: Couple Series Begins Sept. 21, 7:00-8:30 p.m. \(Zoom Hybrid\)](#)** -- Wes and Jennifer Allen lead an 8-week virtual study on Terrence Real's book, *Us: Getting Past You & Me to Build a More Loving Relationship*. Register online on our event page or website. Order a copy of the book on Amazon or online retailer.
- **Registration is OPEN for the Fall Prayer Retreat** at Holy Cross Monastery October 18-21. Pastor Spencer leads a study of spiritual practices from ["Where God Happens: Discovering Christ in One Another"](#) by [Rowan Williams](#). [Online registration is now available](#); printed forms also available. Cost: \$305 including study book; \$290 if purchasing the book on your own. Registration and fees are due by **Sept. 11**.
- **Summer hours** conclude Sunday, Sept. 4 (Labor Day weekend). Office is CLOSED Monday, Sept. 5.