



Sunday, November 27, 2022 ~ First Sunday in Advent; The Lord's Supper
8:30 a.m. Traditional Worship (Sanctuary) -- Have you **checked in** for worship today?

*please stand as you are able

Welcome and Work of God's People

Rev. Wes Allen

Music in Preparation for Worship

Kathy Gunsallus, Organ

Of The Father's Love Begotten

Held

Introit

Kathy Gunsallus, Organ

How Shall I Meet My Savior?

Thresher

Adult Choir; Greg Nappa, Director

How shall I meet my Savior? How shall I welcome Thee?
What manner of behavior is now required of me?
I wait for Thy salvation; grant me Thy Spirit's light;
Thus will my preparation be pleasing in Thy sight.

Lighting the Advent Wreath

Al & Joyce Wenzke, Quinn & Kenzie Wenzke-Lundgren

*Call to Worship

Elder Wenzke

We come from a world of darkness
Into Christ's world of light.
We come from a world of weariness
Into God's strength and hope.
We come from a slumbering world.
Strengthened by the Holy Spirit, we come to awaken our souls and watch for the coming of Christ.
Sisters and brothers in Christ, let us worship God!

*Prayer of Adoration

Rev. Allen

*Hymn No. 135

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

***Seating interlude

Call to Confession

Elder Leonard Fitts

Prayer of Confession (offered in unison)

Elder Fitts

We confess, Gracious God, that we have not always turned to you for guidance. At times, we have allowed the world's time to dominate your time. Forgive us for our sins of hurriedness and impatience. Forgive us when we have slumbered instead of remaining alert, waiting and watching for you. Forgive us for allowing the world's fears to become our fears. Shine upon us this Advent season so that we may be restored unto you. Guide us into your time. As we call upon your name, hear our prayers and give us life. In the name of Jesus Christ, we pray. Amen.

Silent prayer for personal confession

Assurance of Pardon (from 1 Thessalonians 3: 12 – 13)

Elder Fitts

May our God make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all. Jesus promises to strengthen our hearts in holiness that we may be blameless before our God and creator at the coming of the Lord.

In the name of Jesus Christ, we are all forgiven. Alleluia! Amen.

*Gloria Patri No. 805

Anthem

Adam Lay Ybounden

Boris Ord

Adult Choir; Greg Nappa, Director

*Adam lay ybounden, bounden in a bond;
Four thousand winter though he not too long.
And all was for an apple, and apply that he took,
As clerkes finden written in a book.*

*Ne had the apple taken been, the apple taken been,
Ne had nevber our Jesu a savior been.
Blesses be that time the apple taken was,
Therefore we moun singen, Deo gracias!*

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

Rev. Stuart Spencer

Way of the Week #3: Listen Generously

LISTEN GENEROUSLY. Be quick to listen and do so with your undivided attention. Minimize the distractions and let go of the need to agree or disagree. Suspend your judgment and be curious to know more rather than jumping to conclusions. Above all, listen to understand.

Ideas for Action (try to do this by 12 noon Tuesday): Put aside phones and laptops. Turn off the TV or computer and face someone you love. Focus on what the other is saying; not on what you want to say. Be careful that you're not interrupting because you're not listening to them.

Offertory

THANK YOU for your faithfulness and for remembering FPC Moorestown with your giving. Your offerings allow us to sustain our church programs. Take advantage of 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.

Offertory Music

Kathy Gunsallus, Organ

O Lord, Thou Hast Searched Me Out, and Known Me

Bennett

Amanda Schkeeper, Alto

O Lord, Thou hast searched me out, and known me.
Thou knowest my downsitting and my uprising.
Thou understandest my thoughts long before.
For lo, there is not a word in my tongue but Thou knowest it altogether.

*Doxology No. 809

Sermon

Rev. Stuart Spencer

"The Visited Planet"

New Sermon Series: Visitations. **Scripture Text:** Luke 1: 26-38 (page 56 Pew Bible NT)

The Lord's Supper

Elders Madorno & Fitts

The Invitation to the Table (*Please prepare a communion serving for yourself and any who are worshipping with you.*)

The Words of Institution

The Prayer of Consecration

*The Prayer of Thanksgiving

*Hymn No. 167

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence

*Music in Preparation for Service

Kathy Gunsallus, Organ

O Lord, How Shall I Meet Thee

Manz

Benediction and Going Forth; Ways Video

Rev. Spencer

8:30 a.m. Worship Ministry

Beadle: Elder Leonard Fitts; **Communion Elder:** Peg Madorno; **Audio Technician:** Harris E. Ransom; **Live Stream Technician:** Jonathan Nawrocki; **Flower Arrangers:** Debbie Heller and Karen Arsenault; **Ushers:** Dave Rebeck, Brett Couvillion, James Clinton; **Trustee Greeter:** Paul Lewis; **Check-In Volunteer:** Deacon Andrew Ehala; **Nursery Caregiver:** Amy Coombe; **Hospitality:** Chelsea Margerum (volunteers needed)

Worship flowers are given today to the glory of God and to celebrate the beginning of the Season of Advent.

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

Longest Night -- On **Sunday, Dec. 4** we will present our Longest Night worship service. Share this event with those you have experienced a loss or who might need a quiet place in the rush of December. *If you know someone you would like invited to this service, please provide their name and address to Alison Mackey so we may send them an invitation letter.* Contact Alison at amackey@fpcmoorestown.org or (856) 235-1688, x 113.

Online Gift Drive for Christian Caring Center Nov. 4-28 – The Deacons have again organized an online gift drive to provide much needed items to local families this holiday season. Please visit yougivegoods.com/fpcm2022 to go to our personalized page where you can shop and select which items to give. Contact Deacon Caroline Joyce at dmcljoyce@comcast.net for questions.

Advent and Narnia Devotionals– See our event page and website for Advent devotionals we will be using as we prepare for the coming of Christ. Copies are available in the Commons Lobby beginning Sunday, Nov. 20 or some to download. Contact [Wes Allen](#) for questions. Downloadable resource begins Nov. 15.

Advent Small Groups -- *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe*. Two groups will be meeting to discuss the Advent in Narnia Devotional: Sundays at 9:45 am (**Nov. 27-Dec. 18**) for Adult Spiritual Formation led by Wes Allen, and Wednesdays (**Nov. 30-Dec. 21**) from 7:00-8:30 pm in Room 3-4, led by Jim Cole & Gayle Payne. Come to the first session having read chapters 1-2 of the *Lion the Witch and the Wardrobe*. Advent in Narnia Devotional: \$14.

Emerson Toy Drive -- Steve and Mary Emerson will be continuing a tradition started 30 years ago by Skip and Annette Emerson, which is the annual Christmas Toy Drive for underprivileged children. Look for a box in the Commons Lobby for your **unwrapped** toys.

Essence of Harmony Choral Society Concert – **Saturday, Dec. 3rd** at 4:00 pm, Miller Commons. Visit <https://www.essenceofharmonycs.org/> for information on this local gospel choir and tickets, also sold at the door.

Manger Sunday is December 11th; drop off in worship-- Members are invited to bring **unwrapped** gifts to services on Sunday, December 11th for Manger Sunday. Please place the gifts in the manger where they will be blessed by the pastors. Gifts will be taken to [Oaks Integrated Care](#) for their clients and families to use as gifts for their own families. Those NOT attending services may drop gifts off from 10:30-11:30 am at the Blessing Box. See our event page for a [suggested Wish List](#).

Our annual Gingerbread challenge will be virtual again this year. Come to the church and pick up a kit for your family to decorate together. **The challenge starts Nov. 23 and ends Dec. 2 at midnight.** Kits are train-themed and traditional houses. It is a basic kit, YOU personalize it. You do not have to use the kits from the church. Make it colorful, interesting, unique!! HAVE FUN! See events page and website or [Holly Asciutto](#) for details.

Poinsettia Orders -- Remember or honor loved ones by purchasing a poinsettia to be placed in our two worship spaces on **Manger Sunday Dec. 11**. Poinsettias are \$15. Plants being taken home will be available after worship on Dec. 11. [Order online](#), or with the order form in *Connections*. Orders due with payment **BY Sunday, Nov. 27**.

HELP NEEDED: NEW: First Presbyterian Church is hosting a [brunch](#) following our 9:30 am blended Christmas Day worship. All are welcome to share in fellowship and celebrate the miracle of Jesus' birth. Please contact Jan Martin or SIGN UP on the sheets if you can set up, clean up, or provide a breakfast casserole or baked goods.

Year End Giving -- Please remember the church in your year end giving. Options for donations are listed on our [website](#) and event page.

Kids: Looking for artists for the front of our 4 pm Christmas Eve worship guide. See event page or contact Holly!