First Presbyterian Church of OWN

101 Bridgeboro Road • *Mailing Address:* P. O. Box 868 Moorestown, NJ 08057 • 856.235.1688 • *fpcmoorestown.org* Rev. Stuart Spencer, Pastor/Head of Staff Rev. Wesley Allen, Associate Pastor



Sunday, December 4, 2022 ~ Second Sunday of Advent 11:00 a.m. Contemporary Worship (*Miller Commons*)

Welcome and Work of God's People	Rev. Stuart Spencer
Lighting the Advent Wreath	Winnie Jiang & Ken Chen
Song of Praise	Worship Team
Go Tell It on the Mountain	
Call to Confession & Prayer of Confession	Rev. Wes Allen
Holy God, we aspire to love and trust You,	
But so often we get in the way of ourselves.	
We see only the deep sadness of the world,	
and do not notice Your people at work amid the sorrow.	
We assume that things will never get better,	
and do not see all that is good right now.	
We close our eyes and complain about the darkness	
rather than see the light that shines all around us.	
Help us, Holy One. Help us to grow in love and trust, in compassion and hope, so that as the Christ	
Child comes to us once again,	
we will see Him, and know Him, and rejoice. Amen.	

Silence for personal prayer

Assurance of Forgiveness

Friends, hear this Good News: in Jesus Christ, you are forgiven and freed to love and serve. Let the people of God agree and say with deep joy:

Glory to God in the highest. Alleluia! Amen.

Sharing with Young Disciples	Rev. Allen
Wow Moments	Rev. Spencer

Way of the Week Video - Mindy Holman

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.

Offertory

THANK YOU for your faithfulness in remembering the church with your 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 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.

Song of Praise

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

Sermon

Now Arriving: The Kingdom Scripture Text: Luke 12:22-34 Sermon Series: Visitations

Closing Song

How Great is Our God

Benediction and Going Forth

11:00 a.m. Worship Ministry

Worship Team:	Martin Bass-Guitar; Don Stevens-Bass; Barry Overton-Drums; Rebecca Neindorff-Piano; Christine Bass-Keys; Harp-Wes Allen; Violin-Jonathan Chen; Winnie Jiang-Vocals
Flower Arrangers:	Stacy Schaffer and Karen Arsenault
Usher:	Greg Connlain or Steve Connlain
Trustee Greeter:	Bill Conner
Check-in:	Jeff Mason
Hospitality:	Chelsea Margerum
Nursery Caregiver:	Amy Coombe

Worship Team

Rev. Spencer

Worship Team

Rev. Allen

Rev. Spencer

Today's pulpit flowers are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Evan Welch by his family and all who loved him.

<u>Check-ins</u>: Check-in is <u>self-check in only</u> on your smart phone. A volunteer is available to assist. *Please* remember to check in from home when watching the live stream.

Nursery care is provided for children ages 0-5 years old in Room 12.

We are looking for additional **Ushers** for the Contemporary Service. Men and women welcome. Contact coordinator Steve Connlain at <u>sconnlain@gmail.com</u> or the church office.

We are offering <u>3 Advent Devotionals</u> to enrich your spiritual journey through this important season on the Christian calendar: 1) Kindling the Flame of Love: A Celtic Advent Devotional – This 40-day devotional starts on November 15 and goes through Christmas Day. You can download this free resource: <u>https://www.fpcmoorestown.org/hp_wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2022/11/Advent-Devo-</u>2022.pdf.

2) Advent in Narnia: Reflections for the Season (\$14) – This book offers 28 daily devotionals and reflections corresponding with C. S. Lewis' book <u>The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe</u>.

3) *Prophets & Promises* (\$4) – This short devotional offers daily Scripture readings combined with short quotes to ponder, reflections, and guided prayers.

These devotionals are available to purchase in the Commons Lobby.

<u>Alternative Gift Market</u> will be available after Services on **Dec. 4, 11 & 18** as well as through the church's website <u>fpcmoorestown.org</u>. Alternate Gifts allow donations to worthy causes in the name of the recipient. The Alternative Gift Market Catalog is available online on the Church Center Events page.

Family Advent event "Narnia Night". If you missed this event on Friday night, you can still peek at our Narnia in Fellowship Hall today.

Longest Night: On Dec. 4 at 7:00 p.m., we will present our Longest Night Service. Invite anyone you think may benefit from this Service. Communion will be served.

Advent Small Groups: Two Groups are meeting to discuss the Advent in Narnia Devotional – 1) for Adult Spiritual Formation Sundays at 9:45 a.m. led by Wes Allen and 2) Wednesdays from 7:00-8:30 p.m. in Room 3-4 led by Jim Cole & Gayle Payne.

<u>Manger Sunday</u>: Members are invited to bring **unwrapped** gifts to Services on December 11 for Manger Sunday. Please place the gifts in the manger where they will be blessed by the Pastors. Gifts will be taken to <u>Oaks Integrated Care</u> for their clients 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 Events page for a <u>suggested</u> <u>Wish List</u>.

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

FPC MOORESTOWN WEEKLY PRAYER OPPORTUNITIES (See Prayer page on website for links)

- Mondays 9-10 AM Jim Cole leading Prayer Chapel. Anyone needing or wanting to pray for others is welcome to join Jim.
- Tuesdays 9-10 AM Jim Cole leading (Zoom)
- **Thursdays 7:30-8:30 AM** (Zoom) Pray for our church, nation, and the world. For link, please contact Sue Piper (<u>storybooksue@comcast.net</u>).
- Thursdays 12:30-1:00 PM (Zoom) Pray for discipleship and disciple-making at FPCM.
- **Thursdays 7:00 PM** Live stream Prayer Service (*praying for our church and discipleship*)
- **Sundays 10:00 AM** After Traditional Worship, Beadles available to pray with or for you (David Room). Jim Cole also available in the Prayer Chapel in Commons Lobby for prayer.
- Submit confidential online prayer requests visit <u>https://www.fpcmoorestown.org/prayer</u>
- Fall & Spring Prayer Retreats to unplug and savor time away in meditation.
- **Prayer Vigils** sponsored by the Prayer Committee for stewardship, National/World Day of Prayer, etc.