

Several of our Stephen Ministers are present this evening to pray with anyone who would value a personal ministry of prayer. Stephen Ministers are specially trained lay persons whose ministry is to come alongside those who are going through a season of life when they especially need a confidential companion who will listen, encourage, pray for, and support them. Stephen Ministers are here for you.

At the conclusion of tonight's Service, all are invited to greet one another and share stories with each other—stories of the loved one remembered, stories of your own grief journey with a fellow traveler, and stories of the hope you find in Christ.

Sound Technician: Harris Ransom

Live stream Technician: Dan Carson

Please join us for our **Christmas Eve Services** which will be held at the following times: 4:00-Family; 6:00-Family; 8:30-Communion; 10:45-Lessons & Carols. All are candlelight services.

There is also a **Christmas Day Service** at 9:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary.

Epiphany Service: On Sunday, January 8, 2023 at 8:30 a.m., the Adult and Chapel Choirs as well as the Choristers will sing carols, songs, and anthems of the season.

First Presbyterian Church of Moorestown

Sunday, December 4, 2022

Longest Night Service



Light Pierces Through by Lisle Gwynn Garrity © A Sanctioned Art

ORDER OF WORSHIP

7:00 pm Sanctuary

MUSIC IN PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

Carol Manion, Piano

Jesu, Joy of Man’s Desiring
Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

WELCOME AND CALL TO WORSHIP *(from Isaiah 43)*

Rev. Wes Allen

Listen to God’s promises for your life: “Do not be afraid, for I have redeemed you.
I have called you by name; you are Mine.
When you go through deep waters, I will be with you.
When you go through rivers of difficulty, you will not drown.
When you walk through the fire of oppression, you will not be burned.
The flames will not consume you.
For I am the Lord, your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior.”

HYMN No. 135*

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

Carol Manion

CALL TO CONFESSION

Rev. Allen

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of compassion, we confess that we need Your mercy for many reasons. We are weary, hurting and full of questions tonight. We bring ourselves to You, knowing others are weary and hurting because of our actions, words, and attitudes. Help us now to give all these moments to You. Help us to find renewed life, purpose and hope in Your eternal life. O God, let Your mercy and grace reign in our lives. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

SPECIAL MUSIC

Jesus Loves Me
Evelyn Santiago-Schulz, Soloist

PSALM READING

Psalm 88:1-18 (pg. 545 OT, Pew Bible)

SERMON

Honestly...I’ve Hit Bottom

Rev. Stuart Spencer

SOLO

He’s Got the Whole World in His Hand

Evelyn Santiago-Schulz

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD’S SUPPER

Rev. Spencer

Invitation to the Lord’s Table
Prayer of Great Thanksgiving
The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**
Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**
You are holy, O God of majesty, and blessed is Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord. You sent Him into this world to satisfy the longings of your people for a Savior, to bring freedom to the captives of sin and hopelessness, and to establish justice for the oppressed. He came among us as one of us, taking the lot of the poor, sharing human suffering. We rejoice that in His death and rising again, yet set before us the sure promise of new life, the certain hope of a heavenly home where we will sit at the table with Christ, our Lord. Therefore, we join our voices with all the saints and angels and the whole creation to proclaim the glory of Your name:
Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of Your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is He Who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest!
The Words of Institution ~ Prayer of Blessing
The Bread and the Cup
Prayer of Thanksgiving*

HYMN No. 138* (vs. 1,3-4)

Savior of the Nations, Come

Carol Manion

MUSIC IN PREPARATION FOR SERVICE

Like a Shepherd Lead Us

Carol Manion

BENEDICTION AND PASSING OF THE PEACE*

Prayer for Healing

At the close of worship, you are invited to receive prayer from friends who are positioned in the front of the Sanctuary.

*Those who are able are invited to stand.