



**Sunday, December 11, 2022 ~ Third 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

Stuart & Leslie Spencer

### Call to Worship

"The people walking in darkness have seen a great light.

**On those living in a land of deep darkness, a light has dawned.**

The Light that is the Word of God, God incarnate."

**Let us worship as we wait for the newborn King.**

### Songs of Praise

Worship Team

***Hark, the Herald Angels Sing***

***Angels We Have Heard on High***

### Call to Confession

Rev. Spencer

### Prayer of Confession (*unison*)

Rev. Spencer

**Almighty God, You have surprised us with Your presence in unexpected ways. In the expectations of our routine, we have missed the treasure that You place before us. We come to worship You in community, often expecting nothing more than the usual. We begin our days, our weeks, assuming all will run as it always has. We do not look for the unexpected, for Your active presence in our daily lives; and for that, we confess our sorrow. Forgive us for not allowing our eyes to catch the unexpected, to catch a glimpse of Your glory in the ordinary. This season, may we see the presence of Your Son by the power of Your Spirit in new and transformative ways. Amen.**

## Assurance of Forgiveness

Rev. Spencer

“But when the time had fully come, God sent forth His Son, born of woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons and daughters. And because you are sons and daughters, God has sent the Spirit of His Son into our hearts, crying ‘Abba, Father!’ So through God, you are no longer a slave, but a son and daughter, and if a son or daughter than an heir.”

Hear the Good News: In Christ, you are forgiven!

**Through grace, we are adopted into God’s family and heirs to the kingdom. Hallelujah! Amen.**

## Greeting

Rev. Spencer

## Sharing with Young Disciples

Holly Asciutto

## Wow Moments

Rev. Wes Allen

## Way of the Week [Video](#) - Mike Baker

- 5. ASSUME POSITIVE INTENT.** Decide to trust that other members are being fair, honest, and concerned for the well-being of our church. Set aside your own judgments and preconceived notions. Surrender the urge to criticize and judge – it doesn’t help. Graciously give people the benefit of the doubt.

Ideas for Action: Take a “criticism inventory.” Just how critical are you, really? Ask someone you love and trust to tell you how you’re doing in this area. Try a 24-hour fast from all forms of criticism. No complaining or criticism for an entire day.

## Offertory

Rev. Allen

*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

Worship Team

***The First Noël***

## Sermon

Rev. Allen

***What Are You Waiting For?***

Scripture Text: [Luke 17:20-37](#)

Sermon Series: Visitations

## Closing Song

Worship Team

***Oh Come, All Ye Faithful***

## Benediction and Going Forth

Rev. Allen

## 11:00 a.m. Worship Ministry

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<b>Worship Team:</b>	Martin Bass-Guitar; Don Stevens-Bass; Dennis James-Drums; Rebecca Neindorff-Piano; Christine Bass-Keys; Cheryl Stevens-Vocals
<b>Usher:</b>	Matt La Grou or Jeff Legath
<b>Trustee Greeter:</b>	Jeff Legath
<b>Check-in:</b>	Karen Hynoski
<b>Hospitality:</b>	Chelsea Margerum
<b>Nursery Caregiver:</b>	Amy Coombe

**Today's flowers:** See the insert for the poinsettia memorials.

**Check-ins:** Check-in is self-check in only 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 [sconnlain@gmail.com](mailto:sconnlain@gmail.com) or the church office.

We are offering **3 Advent Devotionals** 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: [https://www.fpcmoorestown.org/hp\\_wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2022/11/Advent-Devo-2022.pdf](https://www.fpcmoorestown.org/hp_wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2022/11/Advent-Devo-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 The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe.

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 church office or through an online retailer.

**Alternative Gift Market** will be available after Services on **Dec. 11 & 18** as well as through the church's website [fpcmoorestown.org](http://fpcmoorestown.org). 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.

**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.

**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.

**Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship Schedule:** Our holiday worship includes **December 23** Outdoor Worship at 3:00 pm & 7:00 pm; **December 24** Christmas Eve Worship at 4:00 pm Family Service, 6:00 pm Family Service, 8:30 pm Communion Service, and 10:45 pm Chapel Choir Concert/11:00 pm Lessons and Carols. On Christmas Day, there will be ONE Service at **9:30 am**. There will be no nursery care.

**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 ([storybooksue@comcast.net](mailto:storybooksue@comcast.net)).
- **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 <https://www.fpcmoores town.org/prayer>
- **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.