



Sunday, December 18, 2022 ~ Fourth 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

Trzeciak Family

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.

Lesson: Jesus is the New Adam

Rev. Wes Allen

Confession and Assurance

Scripture: Genesis 2:4-9, Colossians 1:15-20

Carol: ***Joy to the World***

Call to Confession

Rev. Allen

Prayer of Confession (*unison*)

Rev. Allen

Holy God, our hearts are breaking, and we don't know whether to shout in rage or keep silent in fear. We take our rage and fear and regret and grief out on others; and we know that is wrong. We act selfishly; we consume and hoard and haggle; and we know that is not what You ask of us in this sacred time. Help us. Mend our hearts. Hear our voices. Comfort us in our grief; and open our hands so that we will share in our sorrow and joy, in our hope and despair. Come to us again, we pray, and make us ready to receive You. Amen.

Silence for personal prayer

Assurance of Forgiveness

Sharing with Young Disciples

Rev. Allen

Lesson: Jesus is the New Noah

Leslie Spencer

Remembrance of Baptism

Scripture: Genesis 7:1-5, I Peter 3:18-21

Remembrance of Baptism

Lesson: Jesus is the Son of David

Steve Drzaszcz

Thanksgiving for God's Covenants

Scripture: II Samuel 7:10-14, Luke 1:30-33, 2:4-7

Carol: ***What Child is This?***

Way of the Week [Video](#)

Rev. Spencer

6. FORGIVE ... AGAIN. Just as God forgives us, heal relationships by extending forgiveness with grace and generosity. Forgive everyone everything. Start by praying for those you resent or hate. Ask for every blessing you would want for the one you're struggling to forgive.

Ideas for Action: Work on "dropping" the anger you have. Don't let it come between you and someone else. Stop bringing up the hurt in public or with friends. Stop nursing the memory of how you've been wronged.

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

Worship Team

Lo! How a Rose E'er Blooming

Lesson: Jesus is the Good Shepherd

Rev. Spencer

Scripture: Psalm 23, John 10:11-17

Wow Moments

Rev. Spencer

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer ("debts")

Rev. Spencer

Closing Song

Worship Team

Silent Night (Stille Nacht)

Benediction and Going Forth

Rev. Spencer

11:00 a.m. Worship Ministry

Worship Team:	Martin Bass-Guitar; Bass; Dennis James-Drums; Rebecca Neindorff-Piano; Christine Bass-Keys; Jonathan Chen-Violin; Winnie Jiang-Vocals
Flower Arrangers:	Debbie Heller and Carol Morgan
Usher:	Greg Connlain or Steve Connlain
Trustee Greeter:	Rich Corbin
Check-in:	Michael Hock
Hospitality:	Chelsea Margerum
Nursery Caregiver:	Amy Coombe

Today's flowers: 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 or the church office.

Alternative Gift Market will be available after Services on **Dec. 18** as well as through the church's website 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.

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.

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.

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: **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** with a Brunch to follow. 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).
- **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.