



Sunday, January 8, 2023 ~ Epiphany Sunday; Sacrament of Holy Baptism
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. Stuart Spencer

Music in Preparation for Worship

Joel Krott, Organ

In Dulci Jubilo

Dupre Op/28 No. 41

***Call to Worship**

Rev. Wes Allen

We believe God still creates—

We want to see more clearly.

We believe God still speaks—

We want to listen more carefully.

We believe God still guides —

We want to walk more faithfully.

We believe God still breathes life into the world —

We want to inhale more deeply.

May this be a time of seeing, hearing, walking, breathing.

May this be a time of true worship. Amen.

***Prayer of Adoration**

***Hymn No. 181**

As With Gladness Men of Old

***Seating interlude

Prayer of Confession (offered in unison)

O God, help me to live today in this New Year. I have had my yesterdays and some were not so good. What happened yesterday and last year cannot be changed, but I can be changed. Breathe upon me, O God, and grant me the courage to sincerely strive to be the person I know I should be in Christ, that in so being, I might gain the peace I seek. Help me to live today the way You would have me live, in Your will and to Your praise and glory. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Silent prayer for personal confession

Assurance of Pardon

Our assurance of pardon declares to us something that is already true. That is, all who believe and belong to Jesus and cling to Him as their only hope are forgiven of their sins. That is why it is an assurance. Hear and receive this good news:

Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. – We are forgiven today! Praise God!

*Gloria Patri No. 805

The Sacrament of Holy Baptism

Rev. Spencer, Elder Gaskill

- **Baptism of Jay Clayton Mitchell, Jr., Child of God** Parents: Megan Nutter and Jay Mitchell
- **Baptism of Hannah Ellen Joyce, Child of God** Parents: Katherine and Eric Joyce

Response Hymn No. 70 (verse 1)

Jesus Loves Me, This I Know

Epiphany Concert

In the spirit of worship, kindly refrain from applause

<i>Hydom, Hydom</i>	Tom Mitchell	Junior Choir
<i>Good Christian Friends, Rejoice</i>	Arr. Trevor Mannor	Choristers
<i>Hark! The Angels Sing</i>	Arr. Taylor Davis	Chapel Choir

Accompanists: Rebecca Neindorff (Junior Choir); Carol Manion (Choristers); Kathy Gunsallus (Chapel Choir)

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

Rev. Wes Allen

Way of the Week #9: Pray First and Pray Again

9. PRAY FIRST AND PRAY AGAIN. Ask *first* for God's guidance and blessing in everything you do. Through prayer, ask for wisdom and for God's will to be done. Pray for others as well, that God's love and blessing would be revealed to them in good times and in bad.

Ideas for Action (try to do this by 12 noon Tuesday): On your next walk, run, or in your quiet time, intentionally pray for neighbors, other churches, schools, EMTs, police and fire personnel, and local officials. If you're stalled in your prayer life, reach out to one of the pastors or a member of the Prayer Team for a suggestion.

Offertory

*Happy New Year! 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 easily from your phone via the Church Center app. If you're watching via live stream, you can take part and give online now as well. When mailing your offerings, please send to **P.O. Box 868**, Moorestown, NJ 08057.*

Offertory Music

Hush, My Dear, Lie Still

Adult Choir

Malcom Archer

*Doxology No. 809

Sermon

Rev. Stuart Spencer

"Paradise Has Limits"

Sermon Series: "Let's Eat!"

Scripture Text: Genesis 2: 4b- 9; 14 – 17 (page 2 Pew Bible OT)

*Hymn No. 185

We Three Kings

Music in Preparation for Service

Kathy Gunsallus, Organ

Eastern Monarchs

Combined Choirs; Evelyn Santiago Schulz, Soprano

Austin Lovelace

Benediction and Going Forth; Ways Video

Rev. Spencer

~ ~

8:30 a.m. Worship Ministry

Beadle: Elder Cheryl Gaskill; **Audio Technician:** Harris Ransom; **Live Stream Technician:** Jonathan Nawrocki; **Flower Arrangers:** Fran Green and Carol Benner; **Ushers:** Steve Shaffer, Gail Sorin, John Miller; **Trustee Greeter:** Matt Moxhay; **Check-In Volunteer:** Deacon Vicki Terry; **Nursery Caregiver:** Amy Coombe; **Hospitality:** Chelsea Margerum (volunteers needed)

Worship flowers today are given by Dr. Lucy Rorke-Adams in loving memory of C. Harry Knowles.

The single white rose on the altar today is in honor of the baptism of Jay Clayton Mitchell, Jr. The single pink rose on the altar today is in honor of the baptism of Hannah Ellen Joyce.

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

TODAY we welcome the Junior Choir (gr. 2-4), Choristers (gr. 5-8), Chapel Choir (gr. 9-12) and Adult Choir to the worship service for an Epiphany Concert, under the direction of Joel Krott.

- [Early registration for Step by Step Christian Preschool](#) for church members and current enrollees will be January 3-14, 2023 for the 2023-24 school year. Open registration for all others begins on January 17, 2023. PARENTS: Check out our school at the [Open House Thursday, Jan. 19](#) from 6:00-7:30 pm (adults only please)
- **Sunday School:** Children's Sunday School returns on **Sunday, January 8** (9:45-10:45 am). There *will* be Sunday School on January 29 at 9:30 am for the 5th Sunday, held during the worship service.
- **Adult Spiritual Formation:** In January, we offer the adult series: *Reflecting on the Word*. Join Elder Lorenzo Eagles in Fellowship Hall A for a discussion on the sermon text: January 8 (Genesis 2:4b-17); January 15 (Deuteronomy 8:1-18); January 22 (1 Kings 19:1-9). There is no adult spiritual formation on January 29.
- **PW Winter Gathering** -- Presbyterian Women invite women of the church to its Winter Gathering **Monday, Jan. 23 at 9:30 am**. Guest speaker is Sister Meaghan Patterson, executive director from Dawn's Place, one of the missions PW supports. Since 2009, Dawn's Place has been a pioneer in offering a safe and caring residential setting for survivors of commercial sexual exploitation (CSE) or sex trafficking. Their vision is to provide a new beginning for survivors through their residential program. Dawn's Place offers an opportunity for women to pursue healing and a purpose in life. [RSVP online on our event page](#)
- The Moorestown Ministerium, an ecumenical leadership of area congregations, invites you to a [Celebration and Worship Service](#) on **Sunday, January 15 at 3:00 p.m.** honoring the legacy and ministry of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King. First United Methodist Church is located at 446 E. Camden Avenue in Moorestown.
- **Holiday Hours:** The FPC Moorestown campus will be CLOSED on Monday, January 16 in observance of the national holiday and MLK Day of Service.
- Reports for the Annual Report are due to Jan Martin by **Friday, January 13**. The Annual Report will be prepared in advance of the February 5th [Annual Meeting of the Congregation](#).
- January meetings for the [CREDO confirmation class](#) will be **January 22** and **January 29** from 12:15-2:00 pm in the Hayes Room, led by Rev. Wes Allen.
- **Winter Break Schedules** -- Wednesday groups are enjoying their Winter Break. Middle School Youth Group (grades 7-8) returns **Wed. Jan. 18**. Kingdom Kids (K-3rd), Crossing Zone (grades 4-6), and Family Dinner (All) return **Wed. Feb. 1**.
- **January 29 (5th Sunday, 9:30 am)** is [Blanket Sunday](#), an offering sponsored by our Deacons. Your contributions to Church World Service enables CWS to help families around the world recover from disasters and displacement, while helping to rebuild viable, sustainable lives and communities. Just \$50 can provide five warm blankets for a family left homeless. *Look for special pew envelopes that day or give online and use the Blanket Sunday drop down.*
- **Leadership Retreat Saturday, January 28** -- Church leaders from Session (Elders), Deacons, Trustees and staff will gather for a Leadership Retreat on **Saturday, January 28** from 8:30-11:00 am in Fellowship Hall. Watch your email for information from Wes Allen, and [RSVP ONLINE on our Events Page](#).