



Sunday, July 30, 2023 ~ 9th Sunday after Pentecost

9:30 a.m. Blended Worship (*Miller Commons*) -- *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

Holy, Holy, Holy

Kathy Gunsallus, Piano

Dykes/Kelsey

***Responsive Call to Worship**

Elder Melody Ransom

When I think of God's presence in the world, I am grateful:

grateful for the presence of hope; grateful for the gift of life.

And when I think of God's presence in my life, I am humbled:

humbled by the gift of grace; humbled by the invitation to begin again.

And when I think of God's presence in this church, I am glad:

glad to be surrounded by holy people, worshipping our Holy God.

Thank You, God; thank you, my friends. Let us worship God!

***Prayer of Adoration**

Elder Ransom

***Songs of Praise**

Worship Team

You Are Good

Jesus is the Answer

Worship Team: Charles Bass-Piano; Don Stevens-Bass; Barry Overton-Drums; Cheryl Stevens, Michelle Davis-Vocals

Call to Confession

Rev. Spencer

Prayer of Confession *(unison)*

God of everlasting love, we confess we have been unfaithful to our covenant with You and with one another. We have worshiped many other gods, like money, greed, influence, and happiness. We have sought fulfillment in things that can never satisfy. We have served our own self-interest instead of serving only You and Your kingdom. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. Forgive us, gracious God. Bring us back into the fullness of our relationship with You and restore within us the joy of Your salvation. Through Christ our Lord, we pray. Amen.

Silent prayer for personal confession

Assurance of Pardon

Our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ gave Himself for us to redeem us from all wickedness and to purify for Himself a people that are His very own, eager to do what is good.
"Thanks be to God for His inexpressible gift!" Amen.

*Gloria Patri No. 805

Sharing with Our Young Disciples

Holly Ascitutto

Wow Moments

Rev. Spencer

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

Rev. Spencer

Way of the Week #13: Open Doors for Others to Lead

13. OPEN DOORS FOR OTHERS TO LEAD. Encourage others to step into leadership by sharing responsibilities and mentoring. Let go of the jobs you've always done and allow new leaders to emerge. Remember that our youth and young adults are not solely the future of our church but are vitally important for our *present*.

Ideas for Action: As you consider whatever it is that you do regularly here, keep a look out for a younger person or a new member to invite to join you in the task. If the job requires training or coaching, offer it. Look to let go and hand off.

Offertory

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 right now as well! When mailing your offerings, please send to **P.O. Box 868**, Moorestown, NJ 08057.

<small>Where your treasure is, there will your heart be also. -Matt. 6:21</small>	My Offering	
	Name: _____	Address: _____
	Amount: _____	

Offertory Music

How Can I Keep From Singing

Gwen Wilkie, Alto

Kathy Gunsallus, Piano

American Folksong

*My life flows on in endless song above earth's lamentation.
I hear the real, though far off, hymn that hails a new creation.
No storm can shake my inmost calm while to that rock I'm clinging.
It sounds an echo in my soul. How can I keep from singing?*

*What though the tempest 'round me rears, I know the truth, It liveth.
What though the darkness 'round me close, songs in the night it giveth.
No storm can shake my inmost calm while to that rock I'm clinging.
Since love is Lord of Heav'n and earth, how can I keep from singing?*

*When tyrants tremble, sick with fear and hear their death knells ringing;
When friends rejoice both far and near, How can I keep from singing?
In prison cell and dungeon vile, our thought to them are winging.
When friends by shame are undefiled, how can I keep from singing?*

*No storm can shake my inmost calm while to that rock I'm clinging.
It sounds an echo in my soul. How can I keep from singing?*

*Doxology No. 809

Sermon

Rev. Spencer

"The Great Reversal"

Scripture: [Hosea 9:1-9](#)

Sermon Series: God's Huge Heart

*Affirmation of Faith (from *Our World Belongs to God*)

Rev. Spencer

All spheres of life—family and friendship, work and worship, school and state, play and art—bear the wounds of our rebellion. Sin is present everywhere—in pride of race, arrogance of nations, abuse of the weak and helpless, disregard for water, air, and soil, destruction of living creatures, slavery, murder, terror, and war, worship of false gods, the mistreatment of our bodies, and our frantic efforts to escape reality. We become victims of our own sin. In all our striving to excuse or save ourselves, we stand condemned before the God of truth. But our world, broken and scarred, still belongs to God, Who holds it together and gives us hope. Amen.

*Song of Praise

Worship Team

More Than Anything

Benediction and Going Forth; [Ways Video](#) (Karin & Jonathan Miller)

Rev. Spencer

Special Congregational Meeting

Rev. Spencer

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9:30 a.m. Worship Ministry

Beadle: Elder Melody Ransom; **Audio Technician:** Taylor Adair; **Live Stream Technician:** Jonathan Nawrocki; **Flower Arrangers:** Karin Miller and Rumi Sinunu; **Ushers:** Dave Rebeck, Brett Couvillion, James Clinton; **Trustee Greeter:** Joe Molloy; **Check-in Volunteer:** Deacon Dave Barr; **Nursery Caregiver:** Amy Coombe; **Hospitality:** Chelsea Margerum (*Volunteers needed for this ministry!*)

Worship flowers are given to the glory of God and in celebration of our recent new members.

NEW: Our World Belongs to God: In our summer sermon series on the book of Hosea, each Sunday we'll read a portion of a Statement of Faith called, "Our World Belongs to God," from the Christian Reformed Church. Visit <https://www.crcna.org/welcome/beliefs/contemporary-testimony/our-world-belongs-god>.

Men's Bible Study with Pastor Spencer: *Discipleship Essentials* - Every Wednesday morning, from 6:30-7:30 a.m., Pastor Stuart Spencer leads a study for men. This coming Wednesday the group begins a study of the book *Discipleship Essentials* by Greg Ogden. The group gathers in a hybrid fashion, some in Fellowship Hall and others via Zoom. Contact Stuart if you'd like to join: spencer@fpcmoorestown.org.

Malawi Trekkers Mission Presentation: Pastor Stuart Spencer and FPCM member Jim Dugan recently returned from a mission trip to Malawi, Africa. Join Jim and Stuart to hear more about their trip and see their pictures and videos. The presentation is Wednesday, **August 30 at 6:30 p.m.** in Fellowship Hall.

Work of God's People (See *Connections*, e-blast, website, and our app for details.)

- **TODAY: [Congregational Meeting](#)** -- Following worship today, there will be a brief Congregational Meeting to elect three (3) Deacons and one (1) Trustee. **See insert for bios of officer candidates.**
- **TODAY: [Recent Member Reception & Ice Cream Social - Sunday, July 30](#).** After the Special Congregational Meeting, head to Fellowship Hall for our Ice Cream Social to honor the past four New Members' Classes, coordinated by the Membership Committee and Deacons. Meet these friends (some who joined during the pandemic) (SEE INSERT). Tell them what you love about our church and how they can get involved.
- **[Youth Summer Book Study](#):** Wednesday evenings, led by Cheryl Gaskill and our new Youth Director Dave Fauvell. SIGN UP on our [event page](#). We'll be looking at "More Than a Carpenter" by Josh McDowell, a skeptic turned believer, and his son, Sean.
- **[Summer Reminders](#):** Summer Worship is 9:00 a.m. Traditional and 10:30 a.m. Contemporary. Adult Spiritual Formation offers a drop-in series **10:00-10:45 am** in the Lounge. Children's Sunday School is on summer break – *See you in the fall!* During summer months, *Connections* prints every two weeks.
- **Please submit 2023-24 event dates**, room requests, and meeting schedules to Jan or Alison in the church office by [August 1](#) for the church calendar and staff planning.
- For July and August, our Thursday Prayer Service is on hiatus. All are encouraged to participate in [Thursday Evening Prayer on the Porch](#). Come pray with the Prayer Committee on the first and third Thursdays at 7:00 pm: **Aug. 3 & 17**.
- **Whitewater Rafting** (Aug. 5)! Check out our [events page online](#) or through *Signups* on the Church Center app about this exciting family adventure. Sign up and pay online at <https://fpcmoorestown.churchcenter.com/registrations/events>.
- Come help at the [Children's Fresh Air Home on Thursday, August 17](#) from 8 am-5 pm in North Wildwood. The campers are from UrbanPromise. We will be serving them lunch and helping with their day at the beach. To carpool from the church, contact [Linda Jagiela](#) or if you can help: 267-275-7582 cell/text.