



**Sunday, August 13, 2023** ~ Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time  
10:30 a.m. Contemporary Worship (*Miller Commons*)

**Song of Praise**

Worship Team

***You Are Good***

**Welcome and Work of God's People**

Rev. Wes Allen

**Song of Praise**

Worship Team

***Oceans (Where Feet May Fail)***

**Prayer of Adoration**

**Prayer of Confession** (*unison*)

Gracious Father, hear our humble plea. In the shadow of Hosea's story, we confess to You from the bottom of our wayward hearts and distressed souls. In the wilderness, You called us Your own, yet we strayed from Your steadfast love. Instead we sought comfort in earthly desires, ignoring Your voice, stoking worldly fires.

Forgive us, Lord, for wandering far, for failing to heed Your guiding star. In pursuit of selfish gain, we strayed, neglecting Your will and betraying Your Word. Nevertheless, Your love is a river that never runs dry, flowing endlessly through the scorched earth we have created. Today we turn back to You with contrite hearts. Shower us with Your grace and mercy and lead us by Your Spirit. In the name of Jesus, our Savior and King, we offer this prayer. Hear us now as we offer our personal confession to You in silence...

*Silence for personal confession*

**Assurance of Forgiveness**

God's grace knows no bounds. His love endures forever. Believe and receive the precious gift of God's redeeming love in Jesus Christ.

For in Christ's sacrifice, we find our hope. In His resurrection, we experience a brand new day. Our hearts rejoice and our spirits soar as we embrace life restored. In His love, we stand forgiven - redemption secured. Hallelujah, Amen!

## Greeting

---

## Wow Moments

Rev. Allen

---

## Way of the Week [Video](#) – Rev. Jonathan Leath

Rev. Allen

---

**15. WELCOME CHANGE.** Be curious about new ideas, perspectives, and approaches. Get excited by the possibilities that change can bring. What worked in the past won't always work in the future, for God is doing new things.

**Ideas for Action:** This is a simple one to try. Sit in a different pew in the Sanctuary or seat in the Commons next Sunday. See what happens.

## Prayers of the People & the Lord's Prayer

Rev. Allen

---

## Song of Praise

Worship Team

---

### *Rest on Us*

## Sermon

Rev. Allen

---

### *God Won't Give Up*

Scripture Text: [Hosea 11:1-11](#)

Sermon Series: God's Huge Heart

## Affirmation of Faith (from "Our World Belongs to God")

---

**We obey God first; we respect the authorities that rule, for they are established by God: we pray for our rulers, and we work to influence governments—resisting them only when Christ and conscience demand. We are thankful for the freedoms enjoyed by citizens of many lands; we grieve with those who live under oppression; and we seek for them the liberty to live without fear.**

**We call on all governments to do public justice and to protect the rights and freedoms of all individuals, groups, and institutions so that each may do their tasks. We urge governments and pledge ourselves to safeguard children and the elderly from abuse and exploitation; to bring justice to the poor and oppressed; and to promote the freedom to speak, work, worship, and associate. That governments are called to justice generally and that how a government treats the poor and the weak is a key indicator of a society's commitment to justice is taught in all the prophets and throughout the psalms.**

## Closing Song

Worship Team

---

### *Revelation Song*

## Benediction and Going Forth

Rev. Allen

---

## 10:30 a.m. Worship Ministry

---

<b>Worship Team:</b>	Wes Allen-Electric Guitar; Don Stevens-Bass; Curtis Blain-Drums; Rebecca Neindorff-Piano; Cheryl Stevens, Michelle Davis, Vivian Allen-Vocals
<b>Live stream Technician:</b>	Matthew Miller
<b>Flower Arrangers:</b>	Fran Green and Carol Benner
<b>Usher:</b>	JoAnn Reynik
<b>Trustee Greeter:</b>	Rich Corbin
<b>Check-in:</b>	Karen Hynoski
<b>Hospitality:</b>	Chelsea Margerum
<b>Nursery Caregiver:</b>	Amy Coombe

**Today's pulpit flowers** are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of her parents, Aram & Karzouhy Balain by Lucy Rorke-Adams.

**Nursery care** is provided for children ages 0-5 years old in Room 12.

**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. While not having confessional status, it is meant to give a hymn-like expression of our faith within the heritage of the Reformed confessions, especially addressing issues that confront the Church today: <https://www.crcna.org/welcome/beliefs/contemporary-testimony/our-world-belongs-god>.

**Sermon Series:** Use this link to our website to access [additional resources](#) for our new Sermon Series on the Book of Hosea.

**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.*

**Adult Spiritual Formation: Drop in & Discuss** - Join us each Sunday morning this summer, beginning June 4, to discuss the day's sermon text. We will gather from 10:00-10:45 a.m. Get your coffee and drop in for 10 minutes or for 40. – *Lounge*

**Youth Summer Book Study - Wednesday evenings**, led by Cheryl Gaskill and Dave Fauvell. SIGN UP on our [Event page](#)! We're looking at "More Than A Carpenter" by Josh McDowell, a skeptic turned believer, and his son, Sean.

Come help at the [Children's Fresh Air Home](#) on **Thursday, Aug. 17** from 8 am-5 pm in North Wildwood. The campers are from UrbanPromise. We will be serving them lunch and helping with their special day at the beach. To carpool from the church, contact [Linda Jagiela](#) or if you can help (267-275-7582 cell/text).

During July and August, we are suspending the Thursday Evening Prayer Service. You are encouraged to join the Prayer Committee for [Prayer on the Porch](#) at **7:00 p.m.** (*Aug. 17, Sept. 7, 21*) for a time of prayer & fellowship on the Van Camp Porch. (*In the case of inclement weather, it will be held in the Lounge.*)

**Pastor Spencer** is away on vacation from Aug. 9-22. In his absence, Pastor Allen is available for pastoral care.

**Malawi Trekkers Mission Presentation:** Pastor Stuart Spencer and 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 (*also via Zoom*).

**ALPHA** is an 11-week course that creates a space where people are excited for a conversation about faith, life and God. Each week's talk looks at a different question around faith. A new series of Wednesday evening sessions begins **Sept. 6.** [Sign up online](#) or through the Church Center app (Sign Ups).

**Fall Prayer Retreat - October 17-20:** Pastor Spencer leads a study of prayer and meditative practices at Holy Cross Monastery (West Park, NY) using the study book "Centering Prayer: Sitting Quietly in God's Presence Can Change Your Life" by Brian D. Russell. [Online registration](#) is available now! Retreat cost is \$305 with the study book and \$290 if purchasing the book on your own. *Limited spaces are available, and firm registration deadline is September 10.*

**New Worship Times:** Beginning September 17, our Sunday morning schedule will change. As recommended by the Worship Committee and approved by Session, the Traditional Service will begin at 9:00 a.m. Sunday School will be held from 10:15-11:00 a.m. The Contemporary Service will still be held at 11:00 a.m.

**PW:** A copy of the changed By-laws will be posted on the PW bulletin board in the hall by the kitchen. We will vote on the changes at our Fall Gathering, **September 18 at 7:00 PM.**

**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** – Prayer on the Porch – Join our Prayer Team for a time of prayer on the Van Camp Porch (*1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursdays June-Sept.*)
- **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.fpcmoorestown.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.