



## Sunday, August 27, 2023 ~ 13th Sunday after Pentecost

9:00 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

Layla Joshi, Organ

#### ***Gelobet seist du, Jesu Christ***

J.S. Bach BWV 604

"Blessed are you, Jesus Christ."

### \*Responsive Call to Worship

Elder Peg Madorno

With friends and strangers, with family and neighbors, we gather:

**Come among us, Healing God, with that love which never ends.**

With faith reaching out to touch, with hearts straining to trust, we hope:

**Come among us, Friend of the broken, with your compassion which makes us whole.**

With word and wonder, with silence and song, we wait:

**Come among us, Dryer of our tears, to lift us to our feet to follow you.**

With deep confidence in His steadfast love, let us worship God!

### \*Prayer of Adoration

Elder Madorno

### \*Hymn No. 115

Layla Joshi, Organ

#### ***Fairest Lord Jesus***

\*\*\*Seating interlude

### Call to Confession

Rev. Spencer

## Prayer of Confession (in unison)

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Holy God, we come before You in humility, for we do not live as we ought. We do not love You with our whole heart and mind and strength. We do not love our neighbor as ourselves. So we pray, in all humility, that You will change our hearts and minds, that You will show us again how to love others the way You love us, that You will put power and courage in our hearts to do your will. This we pray in Jesus' name and for His sake. Amen.

*Silent prayer for personal confession*

## Assurance of Pardon

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The Lord will have mercy according to God's steadfast love, blotting out all transgressions. Know that we are loved and forgiven by God.

**In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Thanks be to God!**

## \*Gloria Patri No. 805

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### Sharing with Young Disciples

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Rev. Spencer

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

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Rev. Spencer

## Way of the Week #17: Show Who You Really Are

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**17. SHOW WHO YOU REALLY ARE.** Our church is for "real" people. Bring your true self, including your joys, your sorrows, your fears, your strengths, and your weaknesses. God loves you as you are. Don't hide your struggles, failures or problems.

**Ideas for Action:** This week, sit down with or talk to another member by phone and share one area of struggle, failure or a fear you have.

## Offertory

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*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.*

## Offertory Music

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Layla Joshi, Organ

### ***And the Best is Love***

Richard Proulx

Alivia Nawrocki, Soprano

Gracious Spirit, Holy Ghost, taught by Thee, we covet most  
Of Thy gifts at Pentecost, Holy, heavenly love.  
Love is kind and sufferers long; love is meek and thinks no wrong,  
Love than death itself more strong; therefore give us love.  
Faith will vanish into sight; hope be emptied in delight;  
Love in heaven will shine more bright, therefore give us love.  
Faith and hope and love we see, joining hand in hand agree;  
But the greatest of all three and the best is love.

## \*Doxology No. 809

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### Sermon

Rev. Stuart Spencer

#### ***“Once More”***

**Scripture:** Hosea 13: 1- 9 (Pew Bible page 844 OT)

**Sermon Series:** God’s Huge Heart

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

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God holds this world with fierce love. Keeping his promise, he sends Jesus into the world, pours out the Holy Spirit, and announces the good news: sinners who repent and believe in Jesus live anew as members of the family of God—the first fruits of a new creation. We rejoice in the goodness of God, renounce the works of darkness, and dedicate ourselves to holy living. As covenant partners, set free for joyful obedience, we offer our hearts and lives to do God’s work in the world. With tempered impatience, eager to see injustice ended, we expect the Day of the Lord. We are confident that the light which shines in the present darkness will fill the earth when Christ appears. Come, Lord Jesus. Our world belongs to you. Amen.

## \*Hymn No. 224

Layla Joshi

#### ***Ask Ye What Great Things I Know***

### Music in Preparation for Service

Layla Joshi, Organ

#### ***Herr Christ, der ein’ge Gottesohn***

J.S. Bach

“Lord Christ, the only Son of God” BWV 501

## Benediction and Going Forth; [Ways Video](#) (Dr. Richard Herman)

Rev. Spencer

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## 9:00 a.m. Worship Ministry

**Guest Musician:** Layla Joshi, age 14; **Beadle:** Elder Peg Madorno; **Audio Technician:** Joshua Leonard; **Live Stream Technician:** Jonathan Nawrocki; **Flower Arrangers:** Gretchen Birdsall and Sally Bishop; **Ushers:** John Miller, Jack Terry, Joe Scheideler; **Check-In Volunteer:** Deacon Laurie LaMonica; **Nursery Caregiver:** Amy Coombe; **Hospitality:** Sue Piper, Jim Cole, Gail Sorin (*volunteers needed for this ministry*)

**Worship flowers** are given to the glory of God.



WE WILL KICK OFF our 2023-24 program year on **Sunday, September 10** with *Welcome Back Sunday*, a **9:30 a.m.** COMBINED worship in the sanctuary. Reconnect with friends from the summer and look forward to the coming year, as we worship together as one church family.

After worship, we’ll have a Covered Dish Church Picnic Brunch. We can enjoy a delicious brunch spread, visit in the comfort of Fellowship Hall, and enjoy lively conversation and a kids craft. **Please bring to share:** **Last Name A-J:** Casserole or Egg Dish; **Last Name K-P:** Side Dish or Salad; **Last Name Q-S:** Bread or Rolls; **Last Name T-Z:** Dessert. **Can you help set up or clean up? Please contact Jan Martin at 856.235.1688.**

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

- **Disaster Relief** -- Wildfires have ravaged the Hawaiian islands of Maui and Hawaii. Presbyterian Disaster Assistance is there. To donate, visit <https://pda.pcusa.org> (Note: donations will not be reflected on your church financial statement; you will receive a receipt from Presbyterian Disaster Assistance.)
- **Malawi Trekkers Celebration** -- Come hear Stuart Spencer and Jim Dugan share about the 10-day bike trek through Africa by the Malawi Trekkers and sample authentic Malawi desserts. The group cycled over 200 miles through Malawi visiting UrbanPromise mission sites. **Wed. Aug. 30 at 6:30 pm in Fellowship Hall, also available via Zoom.**
- **RETREAT:** Pastor Spencer leads a **Fall Prayer Retreat** on Centering Prayer October 17-20 at Holy Cross Monastery using our study book, *Centering Prayer: Sitting Quietly in God's Presence Can Change Your Life*. Cost: \$305 with study book; \$290 without the book (purchase on your own). [Online registration now OPEN](#) on our event page or website, or pick up a brochure at church to mail in. Spaces are limited; RSVP due by Sunday, Sept. 10.
- **Have you tried ALPHA?** Are you newer to church? Each week's talk looks at a different question around faith and is designed to create conversation. The 11-week series of Wednesday evening sessions begins **Wednesday, Sept. 6.** [Sign up online](#) or right through the Church Center app (Sign Ups).
- **Children's Sunday School begins Sunday, Sept. 17.** **NOTE new time of 10:15-11:15 am.** Meet your new Sunday School teachers. We will Commission our teachers that day, plus third graders will receive their Bibles for **Bible Sunday**. To sign up your third grader to receive their Bible, [see our event page](#), sign up through the Church Center app or contact Holly Ascitutto at [hasciutto@fpcmoorestown.org](mailto:hasciutto@fpcmoorestown.org). Please indicate how you wish their name to appear in their Bible and which service you will be attending.
- **Adult Spiritual Formation Begins with Sermon on the Mount Study (Sept. 17-Nov. 19)** -- For many, the Sermon on the Mount is the centerpiece of Jesus' teachings. In his sermon, as recorded by Matthew in chapters 5-7 of his Gospel, Jesus reveals the principles of what true discipleship looks like. If you desire to enhance your knowledge of scripture and grow closer to the Lord, you are invited to join Lissa Herman and Lorenzo Eagles as they lead this Fall study Sunday mornings in Fellowship Hall (10:15-11:15 am). [Please register to attend via Church Center](#) or by visiting the [church website](#). There are no books required and you are guaranteed to learn a lot, even if you can only attend a few sessions. *No class on Oct. 15 (Consecration Sunday) or Oct. 29 (Church Has Left the Building).*
- **Monday, September 11:** Service of Remembrance to honor the 22<sup>nd</sup> anniversary of the September 11, 2001 attack on our country. Cemetery Cross, 6:30 pm, Wes Allen leads. Please bring a chair if you wish.
- **Happy Birthday!** On September 12<sup>th</sup> we will celebrate the 135th anniversary of First Presbyterian Church of Moorestown, founded in 1888. Watch your mail for ways to contribute to the [September 12 Fund](#).
- **Crud Wars Sept. 17**, the oh-so-goopy kick off for Middle School Youth Group (grades 7, 8) and High School Youth Group (grades 9-12). Join us for an incredibly cruddy and messy set of games! We will meet in the field next to the main parking lot. Wear clothes you don't care about. [Sign up online.](#)
- **Save The Date: PW Fall Gathering** ~ Monday, Sept. 18 at 7:00 pm; [see event page to sign up](#)