



**Sunday, September 3, 2023** ~ Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time  
10:30 a.m. Contemporary Worship (*Miller Commons*)

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### Welcome

Rev. Stuart Spencer

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### Songs of Praise

Worship Team

***He is Exalted***

***Great Are You, Lord***

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### Call to and Prayer of Confession (*unison*)

Elder Cheryl Gaskill

Lord Jesus, I bow before You in humility and ask You to examine my heart today. Show me anything that is not pleasing to You. Reveal any secret pride, any unconfessed sin, any rebellion or unforgiveness that may be hindering my relationship with You. I know that I am Your beloved child, having received You into my heart and life and having accepted Your death as penalty for my sinfulness. The price You paid covered me for all time; and my desire is to live for You. Each time I take communion, Lord, I want to recommit my life, my heart, my thoughts, my everything to You. Fill me today with Your powerful Spirit. As I leave this place, help me to hold this fresh remembrance and the story that never grows old close to my heart. Help me to share its message faithfully as You give opportunity. Amen.

*Silence for personal confession*

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### Assurance of Forgiveness

Even when our cups run dry, God's grace overflows. Even when our plates are empty, God's generosity overflows. Even when our hearts feel barren, God's love overflows.

**We have been called and claimed by the God of all things; and by the abundance of God's grace and by the power of God's love, our sins have been forgiven. Amen.**

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### Greeting

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### Sharing with Young Disciples

Rev. Spencer

## Wow Moments

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### Way of the Week Video – Jenny Legath

Rev. Spencer

**18. ASK FOR HELP.** Part of being a real and authentic member of the church is to acknowledge your weaknesses and be willing to ask for God’s help and the support of others. None of us can go it alone. Vulnerability is a sign of strength and a gift to others.

**Ideas for Action:** First think about what you need help with right now. Then share that need with someone else from our congregation this week.

### Offering Ourselves and Song of Praise

Worship Team

#### *The Anthem*

### Sermon

Rev. Spencer

#### *The Lights Are On*

Scripture Text: [Hosea 14:1-9](#)

Sermon Series: God’s Huge Heart

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

Standing in our place, Jesus suffered during His years on earth, especially in the tortures of the cross. He carried God's judgment on our sin—His sacrifice removed our guilt. God raised Him from the dead. He walked out of the grave, conqueror of sin and death—Lord of Life! We are set right with God, given new life, and called to walk with Him in freedom from sin's dominion. Being both divine and human, Jesus is the only mediator. He alone paid the debt of our sin; there is no other Savior. We are chosen in Christ to become like Him in every way. God’s electing love sustains our hope. God’s grace is free to save sinners who offer nothing but their need for mercy. Amen.

### Communion Song

Worship Team

#### *Jesus, We Love You*

### Communion and Home Communion

Rev. Spencer

Invitation to the Table

Words of Institution & the Lord’s Prayer

The Bread and the Cup (*Please prepare a communion serving for yourself and any who are worshipping with you.*)

\*Prayer of Thanksgiving

### Work of God’s People and Benediction

Rev. Spencer

### 10:30 a.m. Worship Ministry

<b>Worship Team:</b>	Martin Bass-Guitar; Don Stevens-Bass; Barry Overton-Drums; Rebecca Neindorff-Piano; Christine Bass-Keys; Cheryl Stevens, Michelle Davis-Vocals
<b>Audio Technician:</b>	Steve Drzaszcz
<b>Live Stream Technician:</b>	Matthew Miller

<b>Visuals:</b>	Alice Conley
<b>Flower Arrangers:</b>	Stacy Shaffer, Carol Morgan and Carol Benner
<b>Usher:</b>	Matt La Grou or Jeff Legath
<b>Trustee Greeter:</b>	Matt Moxhay
<b>Check-in:</b>	Gail Sorin
<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 Faith G. Mayewski, friend of Lucille and Fran Zitelli.

**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.*

**Presbyterian Disaster Assistance:** If you want to donate to help in Maui, visit <https://pda.pcusa.org>.

**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).

Join the Prayer Committee for [Prayer on the Porch](#) at **7:00 p.m.** (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.)*

**Welcome Back Sunday! – Sept. 10:** We will kick off our new fall schedule with one Worship Service at 9:30 a.m. There will also be a Potluck Brunch afterwards in Fellowship Hall. If your last name begins with, please bring *A-F: casserole or egg dish; G-N: side dish; O-S: salad; T-Z: dessert.*

**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 book "Centering Prayer: Sitting Quietly in God's Presence Can Change Your Life" by Brian D. Russell. Retreat cost is \$305 with the study book and \$290 if purchasing the book on your own. *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.

**Sermon on the Mount** – *Fellowship Hall A*: Starting on September 17, we will begin a new Adult Education class on 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. Please **Register** online for this class.

**The Chosen**: This 8-week Small Group will gather **beginning Sunday, September 17**, 6-8 pm, at the home of Dick and Lissa Herman to watch and discuss each episode in light of the Gospel accounts. You must Register online to participate in this Group.

**PW Fall Gathering** - **September 18 at 7:00 PM**: In the Commons (and live stream), Arlita Winston will introduce the new study, "Sacred Encounters: The Power and Presence of Jesus in Luke-Acts".

**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.