



Sunday, September 3, 2023 ~ The Lord's Supper

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

Kathy Gunsallus, Organ

Let Us Break Bread Together

Spiritual, Arr. Lasky

*Responsive Call to Worship

Elder Kristen Perkowski

You, and you alone, are Lord. Please protect me, O God, for I take refuge in you.

I have said to the Lord, "You are my Lord, my good above all others."

All my delight can be found in you and among your people, Lord.

When we chase after other gods, we find only confusion, misery, and emptiness.

You, and you alone, are Lord. So come, my friends, and let us worship God!

*Prayer of Adoration

*Hymn No. 442

O Come to Me, the Master Said

***Seating interlude

Call to Confession

Elder Kristen Perkowski

Prayer of Confession (in unison)

Elder Perkowski

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.

Silent prayer for personal confession

Assurance of Pardon

Elder Perkowski

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.

*Gloria Patri No. 805

Sharing with Young Disciples

Rev. Spencer

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

Rev. Spencer

Way of the Week #18: Ask For Help

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.

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.*

Offertory Music

Kathy Gunsallus, Piano

Let Us Break Bread Together

Spiritual, Arr. Hogan

Janet Wilkie, Soprano

*Doxology No. 809

Sermon

Rev. Stuart Spencer

"The Lights Are On"

Scripture: Hosea 14: 1-9 (Pew Bible page 844 OT)

Sermon Series: God's Huge Heart

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

Rev. Spencer

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.

The Lord's Supper and Home Communion

Rev. Spencer

Elders Perkowski and Ransom

The Invitation to the Table
The Words of Institution
The Prayer of Consecration
*The Prayer of Thanksgiving

*Hymn No. 383

For Beauty of Meadows

Music in Preparation for Service

Kathy Gunsallus, Organ

Gracious God, You Send Great Blessings

Arr. Weber

Benediction and Going Forth; [Ways Video](#) (Dr. Jenny Legath)

Rev. Spencer

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9:00 a.m. Worship Ministry

Beadle: Elder Kristen Perkowski; **Communion Elder:** Elder Melody Ransom; **Audio Technician:** Harris Ransom; **Live Stream Technician:** DFX SoundVision; **Flower Arrangers:** Debbie Heller, Carol Morgan, Carol Benner; **Ushers:** John Miller, Brett Couvillion, Leonard Fitts; **Trustee Greeter:** Rich Corbin; **Check-In Volunteer:** Deacon Tamara Trzeciak; **Nursery Caregiver:** Amy Coombe; **Hospitality:** Chelsea Margerum (*volunteers needed for this ministry*)

Worship flowers are given to the glory of God by Lucille Zitelli in loving memory of Faith Greenfield Mayewski, dear friend of Lucille and Phil Zitelli.

WE KICK OFF our 2023-24 program year on **Sunday, September 10** with *Welcome Back Sunday*, a **9:30 a.m.** COMBINED blended 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 the service, we'll have a Covered Dish Church Picnic Brunch. We can enjoy a delicious 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 us with set up or clean up? Please contact Jan Martin at 856.235.1688, x133 to help.

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

NEW: [The Chosen](#) ~ An 8-Week Small Group Study of the Life of Christ *and* Those Who Follow Him. This video series about the life of Jesus depicts His life through the eyes of those who knew Him and takes us deeper into the gospel stories. Meets weekly **beginning Sunday, Sept. 17**, 6-8 pm, at the home of Dick & Lissa Herman. The Bible study guide, *What Does It Mean to Be Chosen?* Is recommended. Purchase through [Amazon](#) or [Christianbook.com](#). **[Register online](#) for the Group.** *Note: Group size is limited.*

Monday, September 11: Service of Remembrance to honor the 22nd 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 12th 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](#).

[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. 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, 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](#). No books are 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).*

[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](#). Friends welcome.

NEW: PW Fall Gathering ~ Monday, Sept. 18 at 7:00 pm; [see event page to sign up](#). ALL women are invited - and encouraged to bring a friend or neighbor. Coffee, tea and desserts will be shared. Arlita Winston will introduce the engaging new Horizon Bible Study "*Sacred Encounters: The Power and Presence of Jesus Christ in Luke-Acts.*" Event will be live streamed from Miller Commons.

NEW: Interested in Acolyting? We will be resuming our Acolyte Ministry on October 1st. [Please sign your child up online](#) if you're interested! Contact Holly Ascitutto.

Hawaii 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.)