



**Sunday, September 10, 2023 ~ Welcome Back Sunday; Church Brunch**

9:30 a.m. Blended 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

**A Moment for Youth**

Dave Fauvell

**Music in Preparation for Worship**

Vikram Joshi, Harpsichord

**From "Partita No. 1"  
Minuet 1; Minuet 2**

J.S. Bach BWV 825

**\*Responsive Call to Worship**

Rev. Spencer

Come, all that are weary, all that are carrying burdens so heavy

**Jesus will give us rest**

Come, take what Jesus has to offer: love, forgiveness, and grace

**Christ will give us peace**

Come, find rest, and learn from Jesus

**For our Savior will give us rest in our souls**

Come, let us worship our God

**Let us follow our Savior, who leads us into life.**

**\*Prayer of Adoration**

**\*Hymn No. 697**

***In Christ There is No East or West***

\*\*\*Seating interlude

## Call to Confession

Elder Becky Castellanos

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## Prayer of Confession (in unison)

Elder Castellanos

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**O Lord, you are faithful and true. You keep your promises and you always speak the truth to us, even when we don't want to listen. In our prayers and songs we say that we want to be Christians, but then we forget our promises. Our actions at home, school or work seldom match what we say here. We are mean to other people; and our tongues are like razors. We have hurt others. We think of ourselves first. Worst of all, we ignore you. Lord God, forgive us and hear our prayer for Jesus' sake. Amen.**

*Silent prayer for personal confession*

## Assurance of Pardon

Elder Castellanos

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While it is true that we have sinned, it is a greater truth that we are forgiven through God's love as displayed through Jesus Christ. To all who humbly seek the mercy of God I tell you that in Jesus Christ your sins are forgiven.

**Thanks be to God. Amen.**

## \*Gloria Patri No. 805

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## Sharing with Young Disciples

Rev. Wes Allen

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## Hymn No. 45

***Come Thou Font of Every Blessing***

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

Rev. Allen

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## Way of the Week #19: Accept and Don't Cast Stones

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**19. ACCEPT AND DON'T CAST STONES.** God's love opens the doors of our church to all people. Just as Jesus did, welcome people as they are. It's not up to us to judge. Love unconditionally, and as Christ has received you, receive others.

**Ideas for Action:** Approach someone you normally avoid at church for whatever reason. Make a point to speak to them this week.

## 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

Joel Krott, Piano

***Don't Be Weary, Traveler***

Spiritual, Arr. Burleigh

Frank Mitchell, Bass

continued

Don't be weary Traveler, Come along home to Jesus.  
My head got wet wid de midnight dew, come along home to Jesus.  
Angels bear me witness too, come along home to Jesus.  
Don't be weary Traveler, Come along home to Jesus.  
Where I go I did not go, come along home to Jesus,  
Ever since He freed my soul, come along home  
Don't be weary Traveler, Come along home to Jesus.

## \*Doxology No. 809

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### Sermon

Rev. Stuart Spencer

#### ***"Angels in Disguise"***

**Scripture:** Hebrews 13: 1-8 (Pew Bible page 227 NT)

**Sermon Series:** *Biblical Hospitality: Inviting Outsiders to be Family*

## \*Hymn No. 798

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### ***Blest Be The Tie That Binds***

### Music in Preparation for Service

Kathy Gunsallus, Organ

#### ***Blest Be The Tie That Binds***

Behnke

### Benediction and Going Forth; [Ways Video](#) (Dave Fauvell)

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Rev. Spencer

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## 9:30 a.m. Worship Ministry

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**Beadle:** Elder Becky Castellanos; **Audio Technician:** Harris Ransom; **Live Stream Technician:** Jonathan Nawrocki; **Flower Arrangers:** Martha Derry and Fran Green; **Ushers:** Leonard Fitts, Gail Sorin, Paul Lewis; **Trustee Greeter:** Paul Lewis; **Check-In Volunteers:** Deacons Owen Dietz and Janet D'Angelo; **Nursery Caregiver:** Amy Coombe; **Hospitality:** Chelsea Margerum (*volunteers needed for this ministry*)

**Worship flowers** are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Evan Michael Welch from his family, friends and all who loved him.

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**TODAY WE KICK OFF** our 2023-24 program year 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'll enjoy a delicious brunch spread, visit in the comfort of Fellowship Hall, and enjoy lively conversation. Be sure and check out the kickball game on the back lawn! **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.

**Thank You Brunch Helpers:** Alice Conley, Chelsea Margerum, Owen Dietz, Helen Dominy, Susan Kenuk, Gail Sorin, Alex Perkowski

**Thank You Kids Craft Helpers:** Vivian Allen, Jacob Allen, Jen Allen, Laurie LaMonica, Avery LaMonica, Addison LaMonica, Brayden LaMonica, Rachel Long, Sam Long, Josephine Long, Holly Ascitutto

## [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, 4-6 pm** (NOTE NEW TIME), 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: The group size is limited.*

**TOMORROW: 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](#).

**[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).

**NEXT WEEK: 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.

**NEXT WEEK: 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 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 in October. [Please sign your child up online](#) if you're interested! Contact Holly Ascitutto.

**Are you interested in learning more about FPC Moorestown** and possibly joining the congregation? The Membership Committee invites you to attend its **[Fall Inquirers Class](#)** beginning **October 18**. The series, designed to work with today's busy schedules, is comprised of three sessions and the traditional meeting with Session to be received into membership. Learn more and [sign up online](#) on our Events page or [website](#).