



Sunday, September 24, 2023 ~ 17th 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. Wes Allen

Music in Preparation for Worship

Joel Krott, Organ

Dawn Hymn

Hovhanness Op. 138

Introit

O For a Closer Walk With God

American Folk Hymn

Adult Choir; Tyler Kim, Director

O for a closer walk with God, a calm and heavenly frame,
A light to shine upon the road that leads me to the Lamb
So shall me walk be close to God, calm and serene my frame,
So purer light shall mark the road that leads me to the Lamb.

*Responsive Call to Worship

Elder Becky Castellanos

God rejoices at our presence here today
and welcomes us home with a celebration.
We come from different places bringing different needs
and God's love accepts and provides for us all.
God, help us extend your extravagant welcome
and share the gift of true biblical hospitality.

*Prayer of Adoration

Elder Castellanos

*Hymn No. 426

Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service (Tune 558)

***Seating interlude

Call to Confession

Elder Castellanos

Prayer of Confession (in unison)

Elder Castellanos

For the times we neglect to care for our brothers and sisters in Christ, please forgive us, Lord. For the times we fail to welcome new people who look or act different from ourselves, please forgive us, Lord. For the times we fail to pursue you through prayer and Scripture reading, please forgive us, Lord. For the times we are unwilling to try new things in order to reach people, please forgive us, Lord.

Silent prayer for personal confession

Assurance of Pardon

Elder Castellanos

Psalm 103 reminds us that God forgives all our sins and separates us from our sin as far as the East is from the West. As high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is God's love for us. Friends, believe the good news. In Jesus Christ, your sins have been forgiven.

Thanks be to God! Amen.

*Gloria Patri No. 805

Stewardship Moment

Ginny Weber, Paul Grossmann

Anthem

Kathy Gunsallus, Organ

Come, You People, Rise and Sing

Kenneth Dake

Adult Choir

Come your people, rise and sing praise the God Who made you,
And to heaven's eternal King bring the prayers God bade you.
Bring your praise for mercies past, all God's love confessing,
And in life, while life shall last, ask your Maker's blessing.

Praise we God the only Son who in mercy sought us;
Born to save a world undone, out of death He brought us;
Here, a-while He showed His love, suffered uncomplaining;
Now He pleads for us above, risen, ascended, reigning!

Creator, Son and Holy Ghost, help us to adore You,
Till with all the angel host low we bow before You,
Till throughout our earthly days, guided, loved, forgiven,
We can blend our song of praise with the song of heaven.

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

Rev. Stuart Spencer

Way of the Week #21: You're Sent, Now Go

21. YOU'RE SENT, NOW GO. We're blessed to be a blessing. God intends to use you to bless, heal, restore, and liberate a dark and hurting world. We're here for others: in our families and our community and in the world. Go to the need. Live missionally.

Ideas for Action: Check out the Missions tab on our website. Look at our local mission partners' websites for information and ideas for service. Contact Linda Jagiela, Director of Outreach, for additional suggestions. Make plans to go and serve ASAP.

Offertory

Rev. Spencer

*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

Come, Ye Blessed (from Matthew 25: 34-38)
Jennifer Wait, Soprano

Scott

*Doxology No. 809

Sermon

Rev. Wes Allen

"Welcoming the Divine"

Scripture: Matthew 25: 31-46 (Pew Bible page 29 NT)

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

*Hymn No. 429

Let Your Heart Be Broken

Music in Preparation for Service

Kathy Gunsallus, Organ

Psalm 133

Willan

Benediction and Going Forth; [Ways Video](#) (Luke Maxted)

Rev. Allen

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9:00 a.m. Worship Ministry

Beadle: Elder Becky Castellanos; **Audio Technician:** Harris Ransom; **Live Stream Technician:** Jonathan Nawrocki; **Flower Arrangers:** Gretchen Birdsall and Sally Bishop; **Ushers:** John Miller, Barry Leatherman, Leonard Fitts; **Trustee Greeter:** Bill Mueller; **Check-In Volunteer:** Deacon Dave Barr; **Nursery Caregiver:** Amy Coombe; **Hospitality:** Chelsea Margerum (*volunteers needed for this ministry*)

Worship flowers are given from Thomas Hinkelman to the glory of God and in loving memory of his wife Charlyne Hinkelman.

WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY IS OCTOBER 1st

On October 1st, our church will join other churches around the world to celebrate World Communion Sunday. This will also be the day that our church returns to celebrating the Lord's Supper in the traditional way, as we did before the pandemic. In the Sanctuary, elders will serve the congregation seated in the pews. The Contemporary service will have Communion by Intinction. There will be a gluten-free option at both services. Please let the serving elder know that you need gluten-free bread and they will bring it to you. All juice served at both services will also be gluten-free.

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

TODAY: Children's Sunday School NOTE new time of **10:15-11:15 am**. We are in need of Sunday School teachers and would love your help. **NEW:** All Middle School students (grades 7 & 8) are invited and encouraged to attend Sunday School on the third floor each week from 10:15-11:15 am.

NEW: Interested in Acolyting? We will be resuming our Acolyte Ministry in October. [Please sign your child up online](#) if you're interested. A training will be held **Sunday, Oct. 1** at 10:15 am (Room 6). Contact [Holly Ascitutto](#).

HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS and ADULTS: [Sermon on the Mount Study](#) meets in Fellowship Hall (**10:15-11:15 am**). For many, the Sermon on the Mount is the centerpiece of Jesus' teachings. [Please register to attend via Church Center](#) or visit the [church website](#). No books are required. **Meets Sept. 17-Nov. 19**. High school students: Dave & Sami will be there too. *No class on Oct. 15 (Consecration Sunday) or Oct. 29 (Church Has Left the Building).*

Road Trip! We will be carpooling from FPCM at 8 am on **Thursday, Oct. 5th** to America's Keswick for a Hymn Sing. Tickets are only \$13 and include a continental breakfast and lunch. [Sign up online](#) or contact Linda Jagiela at missions@fpcmoorestown.org if you would like to join us.

TONIGHT: [The Chosen](#) ~ An 8-Week Small Group Study of the Life of Christ and Those Who Follow Him. Meets weekly **Sept. 17-Nov. 5**, 4-6 pm, at the home of Dick & Lissa Herman. The Bible study guide, *What Does It Mean to Be Chosen?* is recommended. [Register online](#) for the group. *Group size is limited.*

NEW: ADULTS: If you are interested in pitching in with youth ministry, please [sign up online](#) or contact youth director Dave Fauvell at dfauvell52@gmail.com or 609-980-7885 call/text. Be a part of youth ministry. ☺

The Prayer Committee will be sponsoring a **12-hour prayer vigil** (30-minute time slots) on **Saturday, October 14th**, to pray for our Consecration Sunday emphasis AND for Church Has Left the Building. [See our event page](#) and watch for sign ups soon. The vigil will be held from 5:00 am to 5:00 pm. There will also be opportunities to pray for the [Church Has Left The Building](#) events on Oct. 28-29.

Save The Date: Sunday, October 15 is [Consecration Sunday!](#) Please plan to join with your church family in worship that Sunday for a **COMBINED 9:30 a.m.** service (sanctuary). Our theme is *Our House, God's House* as we celebrate the 100th anniversary of our "house" on Bridgeboro Road. We will gather for a Celebration Covered Dish Brunch afterwards with Team Wes vs. Team Stuart kickball and more! [See our event page and your mail for details.](#)



Save The Date: [Church Has Left The Building](#) October 28-29 – sign up online for various projects. This year we will be tending to a few items at "our house" at FPC Moorestown. On Sunday, we begin with a combined worship at **9:30 a.m.** (5th Sunday) and then split up for the various Sunday projects. Luke Maxted is guest preacher.

Would you like to learn more about FPC Moorestown and possibly join the congregation? The Membership Committee invites you to its [Fall Inquirers Class](#) beginning **October 18**. The series is three meetings including a traditional meeting with Session to be received into membership. Learn more and [sign up online](#) on our Events page or [website](#).

NEW: [Stephen Minister Training Class](#) -- We are starting a new class for those who would like to train to be a Stephen Minister, beginning on **Monday, October 9**. We will meet in Room 2 at the church for 20 weeks. [REGISTER online](#) please or contact leader Doris Kahley at 609-261-8474 or d.kahley@verizon.net.