



Sunday, October 1, 2023 ~ World Communion Sunday; Stewardship Emphasis

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

Bread of the World

Cherwien

***Responsive Call to Worship**

Elder Sarah Rotter

Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord, O my soul!

I will praise the Lord as long as I live; I will sing praises to God all my life.

Put your trust in the Lord who created all that is around us.

Put your trust in God who keeps faith forever and ever.

Praise the Lord and put your trust in the One who calls us to worship today.

***Prayer of Adoration**

Elder Rotter

***Hymn No. 784**

We Come as Guests Invited (Tune 203)

***Seating interlude

Call to Confession

Elder Rotter

Prayer of Confession (responsive)

Elder Rotter

God of all Creation, on this day we give thanks that we celebrate the feast of love in communion with Christians around the world, and seeking connection to all who serve your reign of life.

Yet we know that we do not live out the unity we profess. We create division, we emphasize difference, we shrink from those we do not know and do not understand. Forgive us and renew us, O Lord. Give us faith that will open our hearts, revive our souls, move us beyond our walls, and enable us to serve your world.

Silence for personal prayers of confession.

Bread of the world, Wine of the soul, Word of life, Hope of all peoples: look on our broken hearts, our broken world, and feed us with your grace. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Elder Rotter

May God forgive us, Christ renew us, and the Spirit enable us to grow in love.

We will trust God's powerful promises and live now as free and grateful people. Amen.

*Gloria Patri No. 805

Stewardship Moment

Joel Krott

Who are the disciples? Total submission, total mastery, total understanding, total imitation, total duplication

RSVP Cards: Celebration Luncheon Covered Dish Brunch

Please fill out an RSVP card for the Celebration Brunch in the Commons Lobby, Narthex or online

Anthem

Carol Manion, Piano

Wade in the Water

Spiritual, Arr. Exner

Choristers; Jessica Migrala, Flute

Refrain: Wade in the water, children, God's goin' to trouble the water.

See that band all dressed in White! God's goin' to trouble the water.

The leader looks like the Israelite. God's goin' to trouble the water. REFRAIN

See that band all dressed in red! God's goin' to trouble the water.

It must be the band that Moses led. God's goin' to trouble the water. REFRAIN

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

Rev. Wes Allen

Way of the Week #22: Rest and Reflect

22. REST AND REFLECT. Make time in your week to step back from work, school, and stressful demands. Since Christ has freed us, we no longer have to be obsessively driven. Take a walk, play, nap, meet up with friends, share a meal, or just take some time in solitude.

Ideas for Action: Can you make your Sunday more of a Sabbath day of rest for you and your family? Connect with God using worship music. Unplug from the devices for part or all of the day. Seek the joy of the Lord in Creation. Eat a meal together. Be silent with God and pray. Prioritize wholeness and rejuvenation in Christ.

Offertory

Rev. Allen

*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

Ubi Caritas

Mary Lynn Lightfoot

Chapel Choir

*Ubi caritas et amor,
Deus ibi est.
Exsultemus et in ipso jucundemur.
Et ex corde diligamus nos sincere.*

Where there is charity and love,
God is there.
Let us rejoice and be glad in it.
And from a sincere heart, let us love one another.

*Doxology No. 809

Sermon

Rev. Stuart Spencer

“House Rules”

Scripture: Matthew 24: 42-51 (Pew Bible page 28 NT)

Sermon Series: “Our House, God’s House”

The Lord’s Supper and Home Communion

Rev. Spencer, Elders

The Invitation to the Table (*please prepare a home communion serving for yourself and others*)

The Words of Institution

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

We offer you praise, dear God, and hearts lifted high, for in the communion of your love, Jesus comes close to us and we come close to Him. Therefore, with the whole realm of nature around us – with earth, sea, and sky – we sing to you. Together with our loved ones who are separate from us now (and yet in this mystery are close to us), we join in the song of your unending greatness.

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest!

The Prayer of Consecration

The Communion of God’s People

*The Prayer of Thanksgiving

*Hymn No. 565

Lord of Creation (Tune 369)

Music in Preparation for Service

Kathy Gunsallus, Organ

Deck Thyself, My Soul, With Gladness

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Benediction and Going Forth; [Ways Video](#) (Rachel Long)

Rev. Spencer

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9:00 a.m. Worship Ministry

Beadle: Elder Sarah Rotter; **Communion Elders:** Paul Booker, Cheryl Gaskill, Paul Grossmann, Matt Livingston, Frank Manion, Sarah Rotter; **Audio Technician:** Harris Ransom; **Live Stream Technician:** Jonathan Nawrocki; **Flower Arrangers:** JoAnn Reynik and Debbie Heller; **Ushers:** Jack Haag, Jack Terry, Joe Scheideler; **Trustee Greeter:** Wendy Dougherty; **Sanctuary Greeter:** Stephen Minister Jim Clinton; **Check-In Volunteer:** Deacon Jason Rose; **Nursery Caregiver:** Amy Coombe; **Hospitality:** Chelsea Margerum (*volunteers needed for this ministry*)

Worship flowers are given from Gina Teague-Mancillas to the glory of God and in loving memory of her husband Fernando Mancillas.

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

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 at 10:15 am. High school class meets with [Adult Spiritual Formation](#).

TODAY: Acolyte training will be held **TODAY** at 10:15 am (Room 6) as we prepare to resume this ministry. [Please sign your child up online](#) to serve as an acolyte. We're looking for acolytes. Contact: [Holly Ascitutto](#).

NEW: December Mission Trip to Baltimore -- A work team is needed to do quality assurance on the shoeboxes collected for Operation Christmas Child on December 4-7 in Baltimore. If you are interested in joining the team, please contact Linda Jagiela at missions@fpcmoorestown.org.

RETURNING: Thursday Evening Prayer service returns Oct. 12: We're continuing to see the Lord together on Thursday evenings at 7:00 pm with our pre-recorded Evening Prayer service. Our Pastors lead this 15-minute service. Do you have a prayer request, joy or a concern to share? Email or text Stuart Spencer or the church staff by **9:00 am Wednesday**; and the pastoral staff will share it.

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.

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.

Sunday, October 15 is Consecration Sunday! Please plan to join with your church family in worship 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 "home" on Bridgeboro Road. Afterwards we will celebrate with a Covered Dish Brunch, Team Wes vs. Team Stuart kickball and more! [See our event page and your mail for details.](#)



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

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. If you won't be here, donations are requested to the effort or you can donate [Care Packages \(see event page\)](#).

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 for 20 weeks. [REGISTER online](#) please or contact leader Doris Kahley at 609-261-8474 or d.kahley@verizon.net.

NEW: Trunk or Treat -- Join our team at Bridge of Peace Community Church in Camden to celebrate with the kids and provide a safe Halloween experience. We will set up a table or two and hand out treats to the children on **Thursday, October 26th** from 6-7:15 pm. Contact Linda Jagiela at missions@fpcmoorestown.org for information. [Candy donations](#) are needed to hand out to the children. Over 300 ghosts and goblins have participated in this event in the past.