



Sunday, November 19, 2023 ~ Thanksgiving Postcards

9:00 a.m. Traditional Worship (Sanctuary) -- Have you **checked in** for worship today?

*please stand as you are able

Welcome & Work of God's People; Thanksgiving Postcards

Rev. Stuart Spencer

Way of the Week #4: Always Encourage and Celebrate

4. ALWAYS ENCOURAGE AND CELEBRATE. Show gratitude and appreciation by regularly acknowledging the good works you see everywhere. Look for signs of spiritual growth and maturity among our members and staff. When you see it, point it out and rejoice. Pass on good reports that you hear about others.

Ideas for Action: Write a text or a note to someone close to you who just did something wonderful or important. With many details, tell them why you're grateful or delighted by them.

Music in Preparation for Worship

Joel Krott, Organ

Fanfare on 'Now Thank We All Our God'

Callahan

Introit

Kathy Gunsallus, Piano

All Good Gifts

Middleton

Thanksgiving Day

Marshall

Primary Choir

*Call to Worship

Elder Melody Ransom

Let us worship God: In the words of children: For our moms and dads, grandma and grandad,
and all our friends

we give you thanks, O God.

For warm houses in cold weather, for hospitals that take care of sick people, for good schools where
teachers make learning fun,

we give you thanks, O God.

For friends to play with, fun fairs, pictures, and a country that has so much I can even go door to door and
ask for candy,

continued

we give you thanks, O God.

For theater, talents, songs I make up, books to read, and television,

we give you thanks, O God.

For the freedom of religion and the people who make our church a place of worship,

we give you thanks, O God.

For all the magic kingdoms you've created,

we give you thanks, O God.

And because we can be here together

we give you thanks, O God. Amen.

*Prayer of Adoration

Elder Ransom

*Hymn No. 374

Now Thank We All Our God

****Seating interlude*

Call to Confession

Pastor Spencer

Prayer of Confession (in unison)

Patient Lord, we are rushing headlong into the holiday season, forgetting that the word "holiday" is actually comprised of two words: "holy and day." Forgive us when we treat the "holiday" as a task and a burden, when we load ourselves down with tasks that do not enhance this day. Help us move past the busyness of the day into a lifestyle of gratitude we should display for all the many wonders and blessings you have poured on us. Forgive us when we grumble and gripe about the work and do not relish the delight in having family and friends together. Remind us that there are those for whom this day holds little delight and hope. Help us reach out to them with love, listening to their hearts and trying to meet their needs. Cause us to be people of passion about the love you have given to us and about the joy of serving you by helping others. In Jesus' Name, we pray. Amen.

Silent prayer for personal confession

Assurance of Pardon

Though many frightening hosts encamp around you, uttering messages of fear and dread, place your trust and hope in God who lavishly provides for you and who calls you beloved. Rejoice, for God is with you.

We will trust and believe the Gospel: through the rich mercy of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Amen!

*Gloria Patri No. 805

Sharing with our Young Disciples

Rev. Wes Allen

Anthem

Rebecca Neindorff, Piano

Praise the Lord in His Temple

Jerome

Junior Choir; Carol Manion, Flute

Praise the Lord in His temple, praise Him for His mighty deeds.

Praise Him with the trumpet's sound and with timbrel,

Praise Him with the flute and strings and with cymbal, clashing cymbal.

continued

Everything that breathes, praise the Lord!
Clap your hands, all you people, shout to God with loud songs of joy.
For the Lord, He is king of the earth, sing His praises with a psalm and with trumpet,
Sing His praises, sound a trumpet
Shout to God with loud songs of joy!

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

Rev. Spencer

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

Carol Manion, Piano

Good Things

Choristers

Marshall

*Doxology No. 809

Sermon

Rev. Stuart Spencer

"Consumers or Producers"

Scripture: Galatians 5: 13-26 (Pew Bible page 190 NT)

Sermon Series: "Hearts On Fire"

*Hymn No. 377

We Praise You, O God, Our Redeemer

Music in Preparation for Service

O Sing to the Lord (Cantad al Señor)

Brazilian Folk Song

Bell Choir: Jim Cole, Barbara Fletcher, Melissa McNab, Sawyer McNab, Marion Norcross, Peg Pierce, Vicki Terry; Kathy Gunsallus, Director

Benediction and Going Forth; [Ways Video](#) (Mindy Holman)

Rev. Spencer

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9:00 a.m. Worship Ministry

Acolyte: Isaac Gordon; **Beadle:** Elder Melody Ransom; **Audio Technician:** Harris Ransom; **Live Stream Technician:** Jonathan Nawrocki; **Flower Arrangers:** Stacy Schaffer and Martha Derry; **3rd Sunday Deacon Flower Arranger:** JoAnn Reynik; **3rd Sunday Deacon Flower Deliverers:** Kourtney de la Cruz & Tamara Trzeciak; **Ushers:** Dave Rebuck, Brett Couvillion, James Clinton; **Trustee Greeter:** Rich Corbin; **Sanctuary Greeter:** Stephen Minister Barbara Lewis; **Check-In Volunteer:** Deacon Susan Winner; **Nursery Caregiver:** Amy Coombe; **Hospitality:** Chelsea Margerum

Worship flowers are given by Jim Cole to the glory of God and in loving memory of his wife Loudel Cole. Special thanks to Stacy Shaffer for today's Thanksgiving Harvest tablescape.

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

Adult Spiritual Formation (10:15-11:15 am) – On **Nov. 26** all are invited to a [Grow The Kingdom Town Hall Meeting](#) summarizing this summer's *Grow The Kingdom* strategy meetings. Read a letter from Pastor Stuart on the event page/eblast. On **Dec. 3, 10 and 17**, Lissa Herman leads a new Advent study, "A Clear View of the Birth of Jesus." [See Church Center event page to SIGN UP online.](#)

Holiday Schedule – The church office will be closed from 1:00 pm Nov. 22-26. There are no children's/youth groups or Family Dinner Nov. 22 or Nov. 26. Thanksgiving blessings from your church staff.

[Christmas Poinsettia Orders Due Nov. 19.](#) Look for order forms in worship guides and online in our Friday eblast and event pages. Plants are \$15. **Orders and payment are due by Sunday, Nov. 19.** Plants will be available for pick up on Sunday, Dec. 17. For questions contact [Frances Chavarria](#) in the church office.

Beginning Sunday, Nov. 26, pick up a copy of the **2023 Advent Activity Guide** detailing event and activities of the Advent and Christmas season. Download a copy of the Advent Guide from our website and events page.

[Martin Bass Retirement](#) -- It is with both gratitude and sadness that we announce the upcoming retirement of our contemporary Worship Leader, Martin Bass. Martin will be concluding his six-year tenure as the Worship Leader on **Sunday, November 26th**. You are invited to join us on Martin's final Sunday to express your appreciation and well wishes. We encourage congregants to bring in cards and notes of appreciation for Martin and his wife, Christine Bass, who too has been an integral part of our Praise Band. A love gift will be collected and we encourage any checks or financial gifts be made directly to Martin. [See our event page for a letter from Pastor Wes Allen.](#)

[Advent Experience Boxes](#) -- See our event page for information on this family activity, available beginning **Wednesday, Nov. 29**. The Advent Experience Box includes everything families need to make the countdown to Christmas meaningful and enjoyable — Scripture readings, activities, discussion questions, prayers, crafts and more all in one box! *One box per family please.*

NEW: ["The Miracle of Jesus: A Christmas Event for Families"](#) -- Have you ever wondered what it was like when Jesus was born? Be transported back in time to the town of Bethlehem to celebrate the birth of Jesus. Stroll through exciting shoppes and sites, meeting friends of Jesus who share amazing details about his birth and life. Families of all ages will be amazed at the authentic, multisensory experiences they'll find in this village. The event is free but please REGISTER on our event page to attend. **Saturday, Dec. 2 from 2:00-3:30 pm**

Would your family like to light one of the Advent wreaths during Advent? The Worship Committee is looking for individuals for both 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. services for Advent **December 3, 10, 17 and 24**, as well as four Christmas Eve services. Contact Paul Booker at pbooker31@gmail.com or (856) 816-5121.

COMING: Manger Sunday will be Sunday, December 10. At both worship services, we will collect **unwrapped** gifts for the Oaks Integrated Care community in our manger, as we process singing carols of the season.

[Longest Night Service](#) -- This unique service provides peace to those dealing with grief, illness, anxiety or depression this holiday season who may not feel the joy or celebration seen in others. This service will be held on **Sunday, December 10 at 7:00 p.m. and include** communion. *If you know someone you would like us to invite to this service, please provide their name and address to Alison Mackey in the church office so we may send them an invitation letter. Contact Alison at amackey@fpcmoorestown.org or (856) 235-1688, Ext. 113.*

NEW: We are forming a Kitchen Committee to ensure that the church's kitchen and supplies are kept neat and organized and foods left in the kitchen are either used or disposed of properly. Contact Linda Jagiela.