



Sunday, December 3, 2023 ~ First Sunday of Advent
11:00 a.m. Contemporary Worship (*Miller Commons*)

Welcome

Rev. Wes Allen

Way of the Week Video – Stuart Spencer

Rev. Allen

- 6. FORGIVE...AGAIN.** Just as God forgives us, heal relationships by extending forgiveness with grace and generosity. Forgive everyone everything. Start by praying for those you resent or hate. Ask for every blessing you would want for the one you're struggling to forgive.

Ideas for Action: Work on dropping the anger you have. Don't let it come between you and someone else. Stop bringing up the hurt in public or with friends. Stop nursing the memory of how you've been wronged.

Songs of Praise

Worship Team

Hope Has Come
Advent Hymn

Wow Moments

Rev. Allen

Lighting the Advent Wreath

Steve, Alecia, Sean & Natalie Connlain

Call to Worship

We come from a world of darkness
into Christ's world of light.

We come from a world of weariness
into God's strength and hope.

We come from a slumbering world.

Strengthened by the Holy Spirit, we come to awaken our souls and watch for the coming of Christ.

Sisters and brothers in Christ, let us worship God!

Song of Praise

Worship Team

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

Prayer of Confession

Rev. Stuart Spencer

We are captive and lost, O God, because we have, each in our own way, chosen our own path, away from You. We are hungry for wisdom and knowledge because we have too often substituted our judgment for Yours. We are in the dark, in need of Your light.

Silent prayer, concluded with:

Come, Lord Jesus; forgive us and restore us.

Come, Lord Jesus; guide us and deliver us.

Come, Lord Jesus; teach us and renew us.

Come, Lord Jesus.

Assurance of Forgiveness *(responsive)*

God, our kind and loving Savior God, has stepped in and saved us.

God gave us a good bath; and we came out of it new people, washed inside and out by the Holy Spirit.

Our Savior Jesus poured out new life so generously.

God's gift has restored our relationship with God and given us back our lives.

And there's more life to come—an eternity of life!

Greeting

Commissioning for Operation Christmas Child

Rev. Spencer

The following individuals will travel to Baltimore, MD (Dec. 5-8) to assist with packing for Operation Christmas Child: Linda Jagiela, Carol Clarke, Susan Kenuk, Debby Gerhardt, & Luwani Ghambi.

Offering Ourselves to God

Rev. Spencer



*Thank you for your faithfulness in remembering FPC Moorestown with your giving. Take advantage of secure [automatic withdrawal](#), or donate easily 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. **Throughout December, Christmas Green envelopes are in the pews for your holiday offering to First Presbyterian Church.***

Song of Praise

Worship Team

Rest on Us

Sermon

Rev. Spencer

Christmas in 23 Words

Scripture Text: [1 Timothy 3:14-16](#)

Sermon Series: *Moving into the Neighborhood: When the Word Became Flesh*

Communion and Home Communion

Rev. Spencer

Invitation to the Table

Words of Institution & the Lord's Prayer

The Bread and the Cup (*Please prepare a communion serving for yourself and any who are worshipping with you.*)

*Prayer of Thanksgiving

Communion Song

Worship Team

Come Thou Long-Expected Jesus

Work of God's People and Benediction

Rev. Spencer

11:00 a.m. Worship Ministry

Worship Team:	Wes Allen-Guitar; Don Stevens-Bass; Barry Overton-Drums; Piano-Rebecca Neindorff; Michelle Davis, Cheryl Stevens, Steve Drzaszcz-Vocals
Audio Technician:	Taylor Adair
Live Stream Technician:	Matthew Miller
Visuals:	Alice Conley
Flower Arrangers:	JoAnn Reynik and Karen Arsenault
Usher:	Matt La Grou or Jeff Legath
Trustee Greeter:	Rich Corbin
Check-in:	Dave Barr
Hospitality:	Chelsea Margerum
Nursery Caregiver:	Amy Coombe

Today's worship flowers are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Evan Welch by his family.

Nursery care is provided for children ages 0-5 years old in Room 12.

Check-ins: Check-in is self-check in only on your smart phone. A volunteer is available to assist.

Adult Spiritual Formation (10:15-11:15 a.m.): On Dec. 3, 10 and 17, Lissa Herman leads an Advent study, "A Clear View of the Birth of Jesus." [See Church Center Event page to SIGN UP online.](#)

Advent Experience Box: 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.*

Manger Sunday will be **December 10**. At both Services, we will collect unwrapped gifts for Oaks Integrated Care. See our Church Center Events page for a list of items for boys and girls.

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 seen in others. It will be held on **Sunday, December 10** at **7:00 p.m.** and include communion.

WJCMS Christmas Concert – **Sunday, December 17 at 7:30 p.m.:** Joyous selections from composers new and old, including Mark Shepperd's *A Carol Fantasy*, sung by the West Jersey Chamber Chorale and highlighted by the Timberdale Brass. Tickets are \$28 (\$20 for Seniors or students over 18). Children 18 and under are Free. Tickets can be purchased in advance online at <https://wicms.org/concerts/>.

FPC MOORESTOWN WEEKLY PRAYER OPPORTUNITIES (See *Prayer page on website for links*)

- **Mondays 9-10 AM** – Jim Cole leading - Prayer Chapel. Anyone needing or wanting to pray for others is welcome to join Jim.
- **Tuesdays 9-10 AM** – Jim Cole leading (Zoom)
- **Thursdays 7:00 PM** – Live stream Prayer Service (*praying for our church and discipleship*)
- **Thursdays 7:00 PM** – Prayer on the Porch – Join our Prayer Team for a time of prayer on the Van Camp Porch (*1st & 3rd Thursdays June-Sept.*)
- **Sundays 10:00 AM** – After Traditional Worship, Beadles available to pray with or for you (David Room). Jim Cole also available in the Prayer Chapel in Commons Lobby for prayer.
- Submit confidential **online prayer requests** – visit <https://www.fpcmoorestown.org/prayer>
- **Fall & Spring Prayer Retreats** to unplug and savor time away in meditation.
- **Prayer Vigils** - sponsored by the Prayer Committee for stewardship, National/World Day of Prayer, etc.