



Sunday, December 24, 2023 ~ Christmas Eve Service
6:00 p.m. Contemporary Worship (*Commons*)

Welcome

Rev. Wes Allen

Carol

Worship Team

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

Lighting of the Christ Candle

Rev. Mark, Sharon, Emanuel, Freh Budka

Call to Worship *From Sounding the Seasons, Malcom Guite*

Rev. Allen

We think of Him as safe beneath the steeple,
or cozy in a crib beside the font.
But He is with a million displaced people
on the long road of weariness and want.
For even as we sing our final carol,
His family is up and on that road,
fleeing the wrath of someone else's quarrel,
Glancing behind and shouldering their load.
Whilst Herod rages still from his dark tower,
Christ clings to Mary, fingers tightly curled.
The lambs are slaughtered by the men of power,
and death squads spread their curse around the world.
But every Herod dies and comes alone
to stand before the Lamb upon the throne.

Songs of Praise

Worship Team

***O Come, All Ye Faithful
Joy to the World (Unspeakable Joy)***

Prayer of Confession *(unison)*

Rev. Stuart Spencer

Father in Heaven, we confess that we never knew You had come down. We confess that we were in the dark as to Your light among us. Though the world was created through Your Word, we could not grasp the reality that He had entered into our neighborhood and taken up residence. We could not receive Him Whom we did not see. In all His humility, in His appearance in unexpected places, we were blind. We have only ourselves to blame for not opening our eyes of faith and ears of understanding. May You forgive us; and once again on this nativity of Christ, proclaim the good news of Your comfort and redemption to us, so that all the ends of the earth may see the salvation of our God. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Rev. Spencer

Greeting

Rev. Spencer

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.**

Offertory Song

Worship Team

Go Tell It on the Mountain

Message

Rev. Allen

A Christmas Warning

Sermon Text: [Matthew 2:13-18](#)

Lighting of the Candles

Remembering Jesus is the Light of the world, let us stand and sing.

Silent Night! Holy Night!

Silent night! Holy night! All is calm; all is bright.
'Round yon virgin, mother and Child,
Holy infant, so tender and mild,
sleep in heavenly peace; sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night! Holy night! Wondrous Star, lend thy light.
With the angels, let us sing Alleluia to our King.
Christ the Savior is born; Christ the Savior is born.



Following worship, please deposit your candles in the receptacles at the exit doors.

6:00 pm Christmas Eve Worship Ministry

Audio Technician:	Taylor Adair
Live Video Streaming:	Matt Miller
Visuals:	Jennifer Allen
Musicians:	Wes Allen-Electric Guitar; Andy Cross-Bass; Curtis Blain-Drums; Piano-Rebecca Neindorff; Cheryl Stevens, Vivian Allen, Winnie Jiang-Vocals
Ushers:	Greg Connlain, Steve Connlain, Matt La Grou, JoAnn Reynik
Property Staff:	Steve Margerum, Sam Caraballo
Trustee Greeter:	Paul Lewis
Cover Artwork:	Samantha Long (<i>10 yrs. old</i>)

Monday, December 25: Combined worship in the Sanctuary at 9:30 a.m. There will be no Sunday School nor nursery care.

Church Office will be closed December 26-27 and January 1, 2024.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from the First Presbyterian Church staff!

Moravian Love Feast: Please join us on **Sunday, January 7, 2024** at **7:00 p.m.** for a Moravian Love Feast featuring the Choristers, Chapel and Adult Choirs. Choirs will perform carols, songs, and anthems of the season in context of historical Moravian tradition: corporate sharing of singing, Christmas cookies, and fellowship to celebrate Epiphany.