



## March 10, 2024 ~ Fourth Sunday of Lent; Sacrament of Holy Baptism

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

Rev. Stuart Spencer

### The Ten Commandments

Rev. Spencer

### Way of the Week #20: Find Strength in Belonging

**20. FIND STRENGTH IN BELONGING.** At FPC Moorestown, you're loved and valued. Claim us as your family. Rather than withdrawing, allow struggles and disappointments to deepen your sense of belonging. Pray for chances to bring healing to relationships. Please be patient! God isn't yet finished with us or with you.

**Ideas for Action:** Is there a disappointment you've been carrying about the church? In prayer, offer it to the Lord and ask for His help in releasing it. If you've been sitting on the sidelines at home, get back in the game by returning to worship and joining a small group, a class or a committee. We need you, and you need us.

### Music in Preparation for Worship

Joel Krott, Organ

#### *Here's One*

Spiritual, Arr. Reinhart

### Introit

#### *Here's One*

Spiritual

Jennifer Wait, Soprano

### \*Call to Worship

Elder Ginny Weber

Let us worship and love God, for God has done great things.

**We rejoice in our God, who made a way through the desert of this world.**

Let us worship and love God, who has caused streams of mercy to flow in the wasteland.

**We are the people who belong to God through our Lord Jesus Christ; we worship him, and we rejoice!**

Let us worship and love God in spirit and in truth.

## \*Prayer of Adoration

Elder Weber

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## \*Hymn No. 218

### **Were You There?**

Verses: Soloists; Refrains, Choir and Congregation

\*\*\*Seating interlude

## Call to Confession & Prayer of Confession (unison)

Rev. Spencer

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**Most merciful Father, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have not done. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy upon us and forgive us, that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

*Time of silent and personal prayer as the Kyrie is sung.*

## Kyrie

Joel Krott, Organ

### **Kyrie**

Merbecke

Amanda Schkeeper, Alto

## Assurance of Pardon

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## \*Affirmation of Faith – The Apostles' Creed (found on the inside cover of the hymnal)

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## Sacrament of Holy Baptism

Rev. Spencer, Elder Weber

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### **Baptism of Virginia Mae Schoenhaus, Child of God**

Parents: Virginia and Tim Schoenhaus

**RESPONSE:** *Jesus Loves Me, This I Know* (Hymn No. 470, v. 1, 2)

Congregation Sings

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

Rev. Wes Allen

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## Offertory

Rev. Allen

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*Thank you for your faithfulness and for blessing FPC Moorestown with your giving. Your offerings and donations allow us to sustain our church programs. Take advantage of secure [automatic withdrawal](#) or donate easily from your phone via the Church Center app for your tithes, offerings and fund contributions. If you're watching via live stream, you can give online right now as well! To mail offerings, send to P.O. Box 868, Moorestown, NJ 08057.*

## Offertory Music

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### **My Soul is a Witness**

Althouse

Adult Choir

*continued*

Refrain: Witness, witness, my soul is a witness for my Lord.  
Samson! He was the strongest man. You read it in the Bible and you understand.  
And way back yonder in ancient times, old Samson fought those Philistines.

Refrain: Noah! He was a righteous man. You read it in the Bible and you understand.  
The Lord appeared to him in the dark and commanded Noah to build the ark.

Refrain: Who will be a witness for my Lord?

## \*Doxology No. 809

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### Sermon

Rev. Stuart Spencer

#### ***“Lame Excuses”***

**Scripture:** Luke 14: 15-24 (Pew Bible page 77 NT)

**Sermon Series:** *Meeting Jesus at the Table*

## \*Hymn No. 576x

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### ***I Have Decided to Follow Jesus***

### Music in Preparation for Service

Joel Krott, Organ

#### ***Fanfare-Improvisation***

Callahan

## Benediction and Going Forth; [Ways Video](#) (Paul Booker)

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Rev. Spencer

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## 9:00 a.m. Worship Ministry

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**Acolytes:** Sofia and Nico de la Cruz; **Beadle:** Elder Ginny Weber; **Audio Technician:** Harris Ransom; **Live Stream Technician:** DFX Operator; **Ushers:** Steve Shaffer, Gail Sorin, Bill Pettit; **Flower Arrangers:** Carol Morgan and Fran Green; **Trustee Greeter:** Matt Moxhay; Sanctuary **Greeter:** Stephen Minister Jane Murphy; **Deacon Greeter:** Deacon JoAnn Reynik; **Nursery Caregiver:** Chelsea Margerum; **Coffee Hospitality:** Volunteers\*/Property Staff

**Worship flowers** are given by Joyce Peacock to the glory of God and in loving memory of Ken Peacock from Diana and Joyce. Soli Deo Gloria!

The flowers on the altar commemorate the Baptism of Virginia Mae Schoenhaus.

*\*Volunteers are now needed to support our coffee hospitality on Sunday mornings and set up and clean up the coffee service area. Our property staff is quite busy on Sundays and may be in other areas of the building. Please contact Jan Martin if you can periodically assist with this ministry.*

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**[Maundy Thursday Drama & Communion](#)** – looking for actors and participants to read prepared monologues for “At The Table,” a Maundy Thursday drama. Contact Wes Allen or director Alex Wilkie. Come give it a try, we have a spot for you! Service is **Thursday, March 28** at 7:00 pm in Miller Commons

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



Invite a friend to worship. **New Holy Week/Easter postcards** are available throughout the church on **Sunday, March 10** so you can pick one up and invite someone to Holy Week or Easter events March 28-March 31. There are address lines if you would like to mail it as well. The worship guides for **Sunday, March 17** will have the postcards inserted for your convenience (both services).

**DUE TODAY:** During the Easter season, remember loved ones by purchasing assorted spring flowers (\$15) to be placed in our two worship spaces on Easter March 31. Order forms and payment are due by **March 10**.

**PW Winter Gathering rescheduled for Monday, March 11 (10:00 am)** -- We will enjoy breakfast treats and a guest speaker. Bring white socks for Christian Caring Center. [Sign up online](#) – see you then! All women of the church are invited and welcome.

**EXTENDED** -- YES, we can still take donations of candy and small toys for the [Children's Easter Celebration](#) (Saturday, March 23, 10:30 am). Donate candies that are fun size, nut-free and individually wrapped, small toys, stickers or tattoos that will fit in a standard size plastic egg. **Drop off candy and toys at the church office by Friday, March 15<sup>th</sup> (deadline extended).**

Copies of the [Lent and Easter Activity Guide](#) are available and highlight the many worship, education, activities, offerings and more offered for Lent, Holy Week and Easter at FPC Moorestown. Download a copy or pick one up at church and in the church office.



**NEW: Centering Prayer series;** Wednesdays in Lent **Feb. 21-March 20** (6:30-7:00 pm); Join Pastor Stuart for an introduction to this contemplative prayer known as centering prayer. Stuart shares the biblical foundation for this prayer of surrender with direction on how to begin. Classes are 30 minutes and follow Wednesday's Family Dinner. Meets in the **Pastor's Study (note new location)** or via Zoom; See the [Lent and Easter Activity Guide](#) and Church Center event page for Zoom link.

**See the church calendar for our Easter break schedule  
for activities for fellowship groups and choir rehearsals March 26-April 7.**

**Thank you for your generous kickoff to our Capital Fund/Capital Sunday** – we're well on our way. The Trustees' list of needed capital projects totals \$170,000, of which \$82,000 are High Priority. Because of budgetary restraints no capital funds were budgeted for 2024. Contribute online, by check or with Capital Fund envelopes.

**Adult Spiritual Formation: 1 Corinthians study** (10:15-11:15 am, Fellowship Hall) led by Lissa Herman, Lorenzo Eagles and Paul Gordon. Indicate interest online and stop by on Sunday mornings. Runs through May 19.

**Children & Families:** Pick up fish banks for **One Great Hour of Sharing** offering and **Lent-in-a-Box** kits at Sunday School. See *Connections* for more information. One Great Hour of Sharing supports efforts to relieve hunger through the Presbyterian Hunger Program, promote development through the Presbyterian Committee on the Self-Development of People, and assists in areas of disaster through Presbyterian Disaster Assistance.

**Good Friday Tenebrae Worship** – **Friday, March 29** (7:30 pm), a Holy Week service of light and darkness, characterized by a gradual extinguishing of candles and a "strepitus" or "loud noise" taking place in total darkness near the end of the service.

**Celebrate the Risen Lord on Easter Sunday** with three distinct worship services: 6:30 am Sunrise Worship (at the Cemetery Cross); 9:00 am Traditional (Sanctuary) and 11:00 am Contemporary (Miller Commons). Invite someone to join you. He is risen. He is risen indeed!