



Sunday, December 1, 2024 ~ First Sunday in Advent; Lord's Supper

9:00 a.m. Traditional Worship (Sanctuary) -- *please stand as you are able

*Have you checked in for worship today on the Church Center app? Please remember to also **sign** the Friendship pads in the pews and greet those seated near you.*

Welcome & Work of God's People

Rev. Wes Allen

Music in Preparation for Worship

Joel Krott, Organ

Come, Redeemer of Our Race
Magnificat

J.S. Bach BWV 599

Dandrieu

Introit

When Adam Fell

J.S. Bach

Adult Choir

When Adam fell the human race was doomed to condemnation;
Bereft were we of innocence, sin's poison wrought destruction,
But thanks to God Who spares the rod, from death we have been taken.
The serpent Eve didst once deceive beholds his power shaken.

Lighting of the Advent Candle

Week 1: Hope (purple)

Lighters: Kevin and Kira Fauvell, Sheri, Josh and Dave Fauvell; Sami and Jane Fauvell

***Call to Worship**

The Fauvell Family

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!

***Hymn No. 167**

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence

***Seating interlude

Call to Confession & Prayer of Confession (unison)

Elder Livingston

God of our light and our salvation, the bright Morning Star of our souls, we confess that we have grown accustomed to darkness. In your holy light, we can see your challenges to our comfort and our ways of thinking. We look at ourselves and into our own hearts, we don't like what you show us. Have mercy upon us all. Forgive our many sins. In this season of Advent and beyond, teach us to walk in your light, in the power of your Holy Spirit as disciples of Jesus Christ, our Savior and our Lord. Amen.

(Silence for our personal prayers of confession and surrender.)

Assurance of Pardon

Elder Livingston

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! May it be so! Amen.

*Gloria Patri

Anthem

What Adam's Disobedience Cost

Clarke

Adult Choir

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

Rev. Stuart Spencer

Way of the Week #8: Jump In

Speaker: Steve Shaffer

8. JUMP IN. Life is full of unexpected problems and needs, large and small. Pay attention to moments when God calls you to action, no matter how ordinary or extraordinary the situation may be. See "disruptions" as invitations to share Christ's love. Write a note. Visit the sick or the grieving. Share a meal.

Offertory

Rev. Spencer



Thank you for your faithfulness and for blessing FPC Moorestown with your giving, especially in this important stewardship season. Your offerings and donations allow us to sustain our church programs year-round. Donate easily from your device via the Church Center app for your tithes, offerings and other 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

Once He Came in Blessing

Wolle

Quartet

*Doxology No. 809

Sermon

Rev. Stuart Spencer

"Come Lord"

Scripture: Malachi 4: 1-2 (Pew Bible page 890 NT); Luke 1: 78-79 (Pew Bible page 58 NT)

Sermon Series: O Come Emmanuel!

*Hymn No. 332

Blest Be the God of Israel (verse 1)

The Lord's Supper and Home Communion

Rev. Spencer, Elders

The Invitation to the Table

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.**

It is truly right and our greatest joy to give you thanks and praise, eternal God. In love, you made us to know and to serve you. However, we turned from you and bent our knees to the gods of our making and of our understanding. We long for you to overcome the pride, stubbornness, and weakness of our lives by the grace of our Lord, Jesus Christ. Therefore, with angels, archangels, and the whole company of heaven, we worship and adore your glorious name, praising you and singing:

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

The Words of Institution

The Prayer of Consecration

*The Prayer of Thanksgiving

GROW THE KINGDOM! As we commit to growing God's Kingdom, every member and friend of FPC Moorestown is invited into a covenant with four commitments: **I will pray. I will invite. I will serve. I will give.** Every member and friend is asked to commit to doing all four. For additional information including commitment forms: <https://www.fpcmoorestown.org/grow-the-kingdom/>.

*Hymn No. 332

Blest Be the God of Israel (verses 2-3)

Music in Preparation for Service

Joel Krott, Organ

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence

Nixon

*Benediction and Going Forth

Rev. Spencer

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Worship flowers are given to the glory of God as we begin this prayerful Season of Advent.

Thank you to our November acolytes Sofia de la Cruz, Avery Gordon, Isaac Gordon and Noah Olsen.

9:00 a.m. Worship Ministry

Beadle: Elder Matt Livingston; **Communion Elders:** Melody Ransom, Kristen Perkowski, Debbie Heller, Jean Kunkel, Matt Livingston, Cheryl Gaskill; **Audio Technician:** Harris Ransom; **Live Stream Technician:** Jonathan Nawrocki; **Ushers:** Mike Welch, Paul Grossmann, Sherrell Fitts; **Flower Arrangers:** Fran Green and Kristin Zorn; **Trustee Greeter:** Tim Powell; **Sanctuary Greeter:** Stephen Minister Liz Drzaszcz; **Deacon Greeters/Welcome Centers:** Deacons Mike McNeil and Laurie LaMonica; **Bagel Pickup:** Carol Wiggans; **Coffee Hospitality:** Carol Wiggans and Susan Shaffer; **Nursery Care:** Chelsea Margerum.

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

NEXT WEEK: Longest Night Worship (I Will Pray, Invite) will be **Wednesday, Dec. 4** at 7:00 pm in the Sanctuary. This unique service provides peace to those who may be dealing with grief, illness, anxiety, or depression this holiday season. Invite family, friends and those who have experienced a loss. Pastor Spencer leads.

NEW: Young Artists: Artwork for Christmas Eve Bulletins -- Once again, we would like to showcase the artistic talents of our youth on our four Christmas Eve worship guides. *This year, we are asking for artwork that pictures Mary riding a donkey and Joseph.* If your child would like to create a picture in this theme for our bulletin covers, we would love to share it with our church family. Make the colors bold, and when pictures are colored in, please make sure no white paper shows through. Be creative! We cannot wait to see the creative talents of our youth. **Digital submissions are due by Dec. 15 to Holly Ascitutto at hascitutto@fpcmoorestown.org.**

"2024 Advent Activity Guide" and "Advent Devotional" Available (I Will Serve) – Pick up a copy of these two Advent publications. The *Advent Activity Guide* details all the activities of the Advent season leading us to Epiphany. Download from our website, events page and Friday eblast. The *"Advent Devotional"* offers daily reflections through Dec. 24, many from our young people. Contact the church office to have a copy mailed to you.

Men's Winter Retreat (I Will Pray)--- Men: start 2025 with a weekend away in the mountains. Dr. Stephen Henziel-Nelson is our guest speaker. Bring your sons, grandsons, sons-in-law (high school age or older). One of the two cabins will be a youth cabin. Led by Stuart Spencer. Online registration due by **Dec. 1**. \$150/person.

Advent Candle Lighters (I Will Serve)-- During Sundays in Advent, members of our church family will serve as candle lighters for the Advent wreath. The Worship Team is looking for individuals for both worship services for **Dec. 1, 8, 15 and 22**, as well as four Christmas Eve services on **Dec. 24** at 4:00 pm, 6:00 pm, 8:30 pm and 11:00 pm. Contact Worship Chair Kevin Fauvell at (609) 220-0177 or kevindfauvell@gmail.com to take part in this Advent worship experience.

Family Advent Kit (I Will Pray) - Families are encouraged to pick up an *Advent Kit* in the Commons Lobby, as we prepare ourselves for Christmas. Boxes will be available beginning **Sunday, Dec. 1**. Everything you will need is included for you. See *Connections* for information.

See our event page or the Advent Activity Guide for a complete list of Christmas worship times

Alternative Gift Fair (I Will Give) is now available **Nov. 24-Dec. 24**. See tables at church to purchase your gifts. Gifts begin at \$5.00 and a broad range of gifts is available to assist our ministries. Cash or checks. Fulfillment volunteers are needed to staff the Alternative Gift Fair on Sundays in December. Please contact Donna Leatherman at mailto:donna.leatherman@comcast.net or (856) 304-8001 if you can help.

"Miracle of Jesus" Family Christmas Event (I Will Invite) -- **Friday, Dec. 6** (6:00-7:30 pm) -- Have you ever wondered what it was like when Jesus was born? Be transported back in time to Bethlehem and celebrate the birth of Jesus. Families can stroll through the exciting shops and sites in any order. All ages will be amazed at the authentic, multisensory experiences. Event is FREE but please [REGISTER online to attend](#). See *Advent Guide* for details.

Manger Sunday Dec. 15 (I Will Give) - Members are invited to bring unwrapped gifts on **Dec. 15** for Manger Sunday to both services to place in the manger. Gifts will be given to Oaks Integrated Care clients to use as gifts for their own families. For those NOT attending, gifts may be dropped off before or after services outside on the steps by the Sanctuary Courtyard (off the Lobby, Blessing Box side) by **12 noon**. For questions, contact Deacons Susan Shaffer and Mike McNeil. [See our event page](#) for a list of Wish List gift items.