



May 11, 2025 ~ 4th Sunday of Easter; Sacrament of Holy Baptism

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. **NOTE: Worship announcements begin at 8:55 am.***

Welcome & Work of God's People

Rev. Stuart Spencer

Way of the Week #6: Forgive ... Again

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.

Collect

***Prayer:** Giver of abundant mercy, who asks me to forgive seven times seventy, my heart is angry, wounded, and broken. Hold me in this turmoil, and strengthen me so I can extend the forgiveness that has been offered me. Mountain-mover, may your tremendous power work to mend my relationship with _____. Bring me to a peace that allows me to desire their good (or at least not want bad to come to them). Protect my heart and me as I walk forward in faith and learn how to give my suffering to you. Amen.*

Music in Preparation for Worship

St. Anthony Chorale (Hymn #37)

Haydn, arr. McChesney

Bell Choir (Jim Cole, Lissa Herman, Melissa McNab, Sawyer McNab, Elaine Miller, Marion Norcross, Peg Pierce, and Vicki Terry); Kathy Gunsallus, Director

* Call to Worship (Responsive)

Elder Kevin Fauvell

We've come to worship God, who loved us before we were yet born, who knows us even better than we know ourselves, whose presence never leaves us, and whose love for us never ceases. This is our God.

Let's worship God together!

* Prayer of Adoration

Elder Fauvell

* Hymn No. 101

My Jesus, I Love Thee

Call to Confession (unison)

Elder Fauvell

God of mercy, forgive the fear that keeps us from exploring your kingdom. Forgive the selfishness that holds us back from generous living. Forgive the pride that prevents our being good neighbors. Forgive the doubt that limits our delight in your goodness. Speak the word, and we will be new creatures. Say the word of grace, and we will live to your glory. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

(Silence for our personal prayers of confession)

Assurance of Pardon (responsive)

Elder Fauvell

Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation. The old life is past and gone; behold, the new life has come. Take to heart the good news of the gospel. Believe it! Through the grace and mercy of the Lord Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

Amen. Thanks and praise to our gracious God.

* Gloria Patri

* Apostles Creed (front cover of the Hymnal)

Rev. Wes Allen

Pastor: With joy and hope, we confess our faith with believers across continents and centuries: I believe ...

* Anthem

Rachel Ferguson, Piano

Still

Craig Curry

Chapel Choir; Lilly Rykaczewski, Alto

Sacrament of Holy Baptism

Rev. Spencer, Elder Fauvell

Wyatt Gary Barnum

Parents: Kimberly Andreola and Matthew Barnum

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

Congregation Sings

Jesus loves me, this I know, for the Bible tells me so!

Little ones to him belong: they are weak, but he is strong.

Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.

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

Rev. Allen

Offertory

Rev. Allen



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Offertory Music

High on the Rock

Chapel Choir

Rachel Ferguson, Piano

Mengel

* Doxology No. 809

Sermon

Rev. Stuart Spencer

Don't Poke the Bear

Scripture: 2 Kings 2: 23-25 (Pew Bible page 333 OT)

Sermon Series: They Don't Teach THIS in Sunday School

* Hymn No. 835

Savior, Again to Your Dear Name

Music in Preparation for Service

My Jesus, I Love Thee

Bell Choir; Kathy Gunsallus, Director

Arr. Burroughs

* Sending Prayer for Stuart's Sabbatical

Elder Rebecca Neindorff

Pastor Spencer will be on sabbatical May 12-August 20 and we wish him a restful, rejuvenating time away.

See event page for details of his 16-week leave.

* Benediction

Rev. Spencer

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Worship flowers are given by Rumi Sinunu in loving memory of her husband, Jack.

9:00 a.m. Worship Ministry

Beadle: Elder Kevin Fauvell; **Audio Technician:** Harris Ransom; **Live Stream Technician:** Michael Boone; **Ushers:** Jack Terry, Kira Fauvell, Lorenzo Eagles; **Flower Arrangers:** Karin Miller and Lynn Demmerly; **Trustee Greeter:** Joe Molloy; **Sanctuary Greeter:** Stephen Minister Jim Cole; **Deacon Greeters/Welcome Centers:** Deacons Andrew Ehala and Karen Hynoski; **Bagel Pickup:** Kelly Eagles or Carol Wiggans; **Coffee Hospitality:** Kelly Eagles and Carol Wiggans; **Nursery Care:** Chelsea Margerum



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

TONIGHT: No High School youth group on May 11, Mother's Day.

NEW: Celebrate the 66th Strawberry Festival in style with a vintage-inspired Strawberry Festival T-shirt! Fundraiser supports the General Operating Fund. See link to our [First Presbyterian Church Web Store](#) on our [event page](#), website and Friday eblast. **Sale ends May 18.** Online orders only.



NEW: The Prayer and Discipleship team encourages you to pick up **Strawberry Festival Reminder Cards** to share with neighbors and friends to "save the date." **These are NOT tickets** and state that a donation is appreciated. It's a perfect way to make a "soft discipling" contact with those near to you! We can all help in this small way to Grow the Kingdom. Please find the cards displayed around the church and take as many as you'd like.



66th Strawberry Festival is Friday, June 6 from 6-9 p.m. Sign up sheets are now available in the narthex and Commons Lobby – please see when you can help! Visit fpcmoorestown.org/strawberry.

Dine and Donate May 19 – Enjoy a break this busy May and come to Iron Hill Brewery on **Monday, May 19** to support this missions fundraiser. Dine in, take out or online; hours 11 am - 11 pm. Be sure to mention First Presbyterian Church; we receive 20% of proceeds. Invite friends! [Download flyer](#) from event page.

Membership Ice Cream Social Sunday, May 25; combined 9:30 am worship; we will honor this year's Inquirers Classes, CREDO Confirmants and 50+ Year Members; all please [RSVP online](#) so we can estimate our dessert needs.

Women's Morning Prayer Event -- Save The Date: **Saturday, May 31** (8:00 a.m.-Noon); sign up online. Come pray with your sisters in Christ. Beverages provided, bring your Bible, journal and a snack if you like.

VBS June 23-27, 2025 – Registration is OPEN! Get ready for an exciting adventure at *True North: Trusting Jesus in a Wild World!* Join us as we guide kids on the ultimate Alaskan journey. We will point kids to Jesus, our faithful friend whom we can always trust—He's our *True North!* Adult and teen volunteers needed. [Visit fpcmoorestown.org/vbs](#).



DATES TO KNOW (see *Connections* for details):

- ✓ **Sunday, May 18:** Last day of children's Sunday School; Teacher & Leader Appreciation. Last day of High School Youth Group (6:30-8:30 pm).
- ✓ **Wed. May 21:** Last regular meeting Middle School Youth Group (6:30-8:00 pm).
- ✓ **Sunday, May 25** (Memorial Day weekend) – Blended Worship **9:30 a.m.** Sanctuary; Ice Cream Social
- ✓ **Sunday, June 1:** [Youth Groups End of Year Picnic](#) (Grades 7-12), 6:00 pm, church grounds.
- ✓ **Sunday, June 2** (10:15 am): **NEW:** [Legacy Giving Roundtable](#), no adult spiritual formation. Learn how to include the church in your estate planning.
- ✓ **ALPHA**, an 11-week Wednesday evening discussion series, is underway. [Sign up online](#) or with Jim Cole.

PW Spring Gathering & Baby Shower -- Presbyterian Women invite all women of the church to a Spring Gathering **Monday, June 16 at 6:30 p.m.** in Miller Commons. Sample sweet treats from the dessert bar and connect with your fellow sisters. Speakers: Women from [Good Counsel](#) with their children share their stories. See our website (PW page) or [Church Center page](#) for items to drop off for a Baby Shower for our guests. Box in Commons Lobby.