

## August 3, 2025 ~ 8<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost, Holy Communion

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 a.m.***

### Welcome & Work of God's People

Rev. Wes Allen

### Way of the Week #18: Ask For Help

**18. ASK FOR HELP.** Part of being a real and authentic member of the church is to acknowledge your weaknesses and be willing to ask for God's help and the support of others. None of us can go it alone. Vulnerability is a sign of strength and a gift to others.

### Collect Prayer (unison)

Loving God, you made us for connection, not self-reliance alone. Give us the courage to ask for help, to receive support with grace, and to offer it with compassion and love. In our asking, may we find strength. In our receiving, may we discover your presences. Through Christ, our companion and guide, we pray, Amen.

### Music in Preparation for Worship

Kathy Gunsallus, Organ

#### **Communion**

Guilmant

### \* Call to Worship (Responsive)

Elder Steve Shaffer

Jesus says, "You are the salt of the earth."

**We come as people who flavor the world with justice, kindness and compassion.**

Jesus says, You are the light of the world."

**We gather to shine with love, truth, and hope.**

Let your light shine before others--

**So they may see and give glory to God who dwells among us. Let us worship the One who calls us salt and light!**

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## \* Prayer of Adoration

Elder Shaffer

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## \* Hymn No. 779

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***Great God, Your Love Has Called Us***

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## Prayer of Confession (unison)

Elder Shaffer

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Holy One, You call us salt and light, but we confess we sometimes grow weary. We shrink back from the work of justice, lose our flavor in the face of fear, and hide our light beneath comfort or silence. Forgive us for the ways we fail to live our calling. Renew in us the courage to shine, and the wisdom to preserve what is good and sacred. Remind us that even when we falter, Your grace still glows through the cracks. Amen.

*(Silence for our personal prayers of confession)*

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## Assurance of Pardon (responsive)

Elder Shaffer

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Hear the good news: Even when we forget who we are, God remembers. Even when we dim our light, God rekindles the fire.

**We are forgiven, loved and called again.**

So rise up, salt of the earth! Shine on, light of the world!

**Thanks be to God – who trusts us to bear love into the world. Amen.**

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## \* Gloria Patri

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## Commissioning North Carolina Mission Team

Rev. Allen

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The Mission Committee is sending an eight-person team to Bern, NC August 10-17, 2025 to help those who continue to recover from powerful hurricanes that completely ravaged North Carolina in September 2024.

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

Rev. Allen

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## Offertory

Rev. Allen

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Thank you for blessing FPC Moorestown with your giving as we Grow God's Kingdom. 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.

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## Offertory Music

Kathy Gunsallus, Organ

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***Jesus, The Very Thought of Thee***

Jennifer Wait, Soprano

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## \* Doxology No. 809

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## Sermon

Rev. Wes Allen

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***"Shining Through the Cracks"***

**Scripture:** Matthew 5:13-16 (Pew Bible NT p. 4)

**Sermon Series:** *The Sermon on the Mount*

## The Lord's Supper and Home Communion

Rev. Allen, Elders

**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. 562

*Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies*

### Music in Preparation for Service

Kathy Gunsallus, Organ

*Give to our God Immortal Praise*

Hatton

### \* Benediction

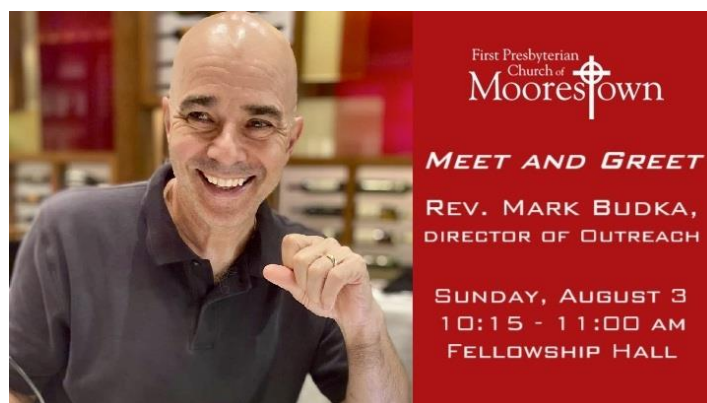
Rev. Allen

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**Worship flowers** are given by Lucy Rorke-Adams in loving memory of her husband Robert R. Rorke.

### 9:00 a.m. Worship Ministry

**Beadle:** Elder Steve Shaffer; **Communion Elders:** Steve Shaffer, Lissa Herman, Jean Kunkel, Jenny Legath; **Audio Technician:** Harris Ransom; **Live Stream Technician:** Dalton Ryan; **Ushers:** Jack Terry, Kira Fauvell, Lorenzo Eagles; **Flower Arrangers:** Rumi Sinunu and Fran Green; **Trustee Greeter:** Tad Woolley; **Sanctuary Greeter:** Stephen Minister Carol Manion; **Deacon Greeters/Welcome Centers:** Deacons Mike Welch and Steve Emerson; **Coffee Hospitality:** Jane Murphy and Debbie Rebuck; **Nursery Care:** Chelsea Margerum



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

- **TODAY:** Welcome our new Director of Outreach [Rev. Mark Budka](#) at a Meet & Greet from 10:15-11:00 a.m. in Fellowship Hall. Did someone say L&M Donuts?

**Beach for a Day** – The Mission Committee is assembling volunteers to help support the Children's Fresh Air Home on **Tuesday, August 12**. We will be helping with a BBQ for youngsters from UrbanPromise. Our responsibilities will be meeting the children, helping with the BBQ, going to the beach (optional), or playing miniature golf. This group will be older children (teenagers). Please see our [Church Center event page](#) to SIGN UP and for full details of the day. Youth are welcome. **As the home is under renovation, we are hosting the day's events at the Hereford Inlet Lighthouse, 111 N. Central Ave. in North Wildwood.** Contact: Jean Kunkel at [jeankunkel215@gmail.com](mailto:jeankunkel215@gmail.com).

**Calling all Youth** -- Rising middle schoolers (grade 7-8) through high school (grades 9-12) are invited to summer activities from 6:30-8:30 p.m. Meet up with your pals and make new friends. We can't wait to see you. **UPCOMING: Wed. August 13:** Lawn Games @ Church; **Wed. August 20:** Movie Night @ Church. Contact: Cheryl Gaskill.

**Women's Morning Prayer Event** -- **Saturday, Aug. 23** (8:00 am-noon) -- Please come for a special time of prayer. Bring your Bible, journal and a snack if you'd like. Coffee, hot tea, and water will be provided. Join other women on their prayer journey. Women of high school age or older and friends are welcome. [RSVP online](#).

**The Mustard Seed Cooperative Garden** welcomes harvesters! Just show up in the evening (Sundays, Wednesdays and/or Fridays) from 7:00 – 8:00 pm-ish to pick the produce and store it in the church kitchen. The produce grows through Sept./Oct. so come on out! Contact: Leslie Spencer.

**Summer Adult Spiritual Formation** - “Drop In and Discuss” (Lounge) – Stop in Sunday mornings this summer to discuss the day's sermon text. We will gather in the Lounge from 10:15-11:00-ish am. Get your coffee and drop in. Who is on the Hot Seat this week?

**NEW: Undie Sunday August 17** -- Presbyterian Women invite you to participate in Undie Sunday on **August 17!** We're collecting new socks, underwear, and pajamas for Camden children ages 6–16 — specifically those with an incarcerated parent. As you shop for Back-to-School supplies, please consider picking up an extra package to help a child in need. Look for the donation box in the Commons Lobby. Let's make a difference — one pair at a time!

**Sabbatical Presentation** -- On **Sunday, August 31**, Stuart Spencer will present a review of his 16-week sabbatical to the congregation. That week is a combined worship Sunday due to the Labor Day weekend, so the presentation will *follow* the **9:30 a.m.** Worship. Stuart returns to the office on **Thursday, Aug. 21**.

**Holiday Schedule** -- The office will be CLOSED **Monday, September 1** in observance of Labor Day.

**Kickoff Sunday** -- Our 2025-2026 programming year officially gets underway on **Sunday, Sept. 7** as we welcome everyone back after busy and eventful summers. Church staff has been active this summer planning another dynamic year sharing the Word.

**NEW: Fall Prayer Retreat October 14-17** ([see event page or website to register](#) by **Sept. 21**; Stuart Spencer leads. Study Book: *World Turned Upside Down: The Psalms and the Spirituality of Pain – Finding a Way Through*; Holy Cross Monastery (West Park, NY).

Would you like to donate **altar flowers** in honor or memory of loved ones? We have several openings this summer and fall. Contact Jan in the church office at (856) 235-1688.