

101 Bridgeboro Road ● P.O. Box 868 ● Moorestown, NJ 08057 856.235.1688 ● *fpcmoorestown.org* 

Rev. Stuart Spencer, Pastor/Head of Staff

Rev. Wes Allen, Associate Pastor



# September 14, 2025 ~ 14th Sunday after Pentecost

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. Stuart Spencer

# Way of the Week #24: Tell Your Story

**24. TELL YOUR STORY.** God has done and is doing something unique in your life. Has God answered a prayer, provided help, or blessed you? Share it. Ask God for opportunities to share your faith in Christ by words and deeds.

# **Collect Prayer (unison)**

O God, we thank you for the unique ways you work in our lives. Open our eyes and hearts to see your constant presence, and give us the courage to share our stories of your grace and faithfulness. May our words and deeds be a testament to your saving power, that others may come to know Christ and the boundless blessings of your love; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Music in P	reparation f	tor W	orshi	p
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Kathy Gunsallus, Organ

Praise to the Lord

Peeters

### Introit

### Bless The Lord

David Lockart

Adult Choir; Linda Lockart, Director

## \* Call to Worship (Responsive)

**Elder Leonard Fitts** 

Attune us, Lord, to your gifts this day:

air in our lungs, a hand to hold onto, bread on our table.

Focus us, Lord, to our work this day:

singing your praise, resting our souls, sharing our bread

continued

### this is the day we have been given; let us rejoice and be glad in it! Let us worship God!

# \* Prayer of Adoration

Elder Fitts

\* Hymn No. 328

## God's Holy Ways are Just and True

# **Prayer of Confession (unison)**

**Elder Fitts** 

O Lord, we confess that we have not honored you or your Sabbath. We resist the rest you offer, filling our lives with work, noise, and constant striving. Forgive us for our pride, for believing our productivity is more valuable than your peace. We have treated your gift of rest as a burden, failing to trust that you can sustain us without our relentless effort. Help us to find rest in you. Amen.

(Silence for our personal prayers of confession)

# **Assurance of Pardon (responsive)**

Elder Fitts

My dear, beloved Church Family, hear and believe this good news. Through the grace and mercy of our Lord Jesus, your sins and mine are forgiven.

We are forgiven, and we are set free to love and serve the Lord forever. Amen.

### \* Gloria Patri

# \*Affirmation of our Faith: The Apostles' Creed

Elder Fitts

Inside Front Cover, Blue Hymnal

# **Teacher/Small Group Leader Commissioning**

Rev. Allen, Holly Asciutto

#### **Anthem**

### If Ye Love Me

Tallis

Adult Choir; Linda Lockart, Director

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

Rev. Spencer

### Offertory



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.

# **Offertory Music**

Kathy Gunsallus, Piano

O Rest in the Lord from 'Elijah'

Mendelssohn

Amanda Schkeeper, Alto

Sermon Rev. Stuart Spencer

# "Enjoy the Rest"

Scripture: Isaiah 58: 9-14 (Pew Bible OT p. 689) Sermon Series: What I Did on my Sabbatical

# \* Hymn No. 542

# Near to the Heart of God

## Music in Preparation for Service Kathy Gunsallus, Organ

Postlude in F Guilmant

\* Benediction Rev. Spencer

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Worship flowers are given to the glory of God.

## 9:00 a.m. Worship Ministry

Beadle: Elder Leonard Fitts; Audio Technician: Harris Ransom; Live Stream Technician: Michael Boone; Ushers: Jack Terry, Kira Fauvell, Lorenzo Eagles; Flower Arrangers: Karin Miller and Rumi Sinunu; Trustee Greeter: Cara Dempster; Sanctuary Greeter: Stephen Minister Jim Cole; Deacon Greeters/Welcome Centers: Deacons Bobbi Vogelsong and Alex Wilkie; Bagel Pickup: Nancy Chumney or Susan Shaffer; Coffee Hospitality: Nancy Chumney and Susan Shaffer; Nursery Care: Chelsea Margerum

#### **Ways Personal Reflections**

September 28, 2025 - March 21, 2026

For the next Ways round, the fifteenth round of our culture statements, Pastors Spencer and Allen invite congregation members to write down how they are thankful for a particular Way. What Way has most impacted your life? Which Way are you most grateful for? Why? Does one speak to you?

Submissions are to be just a couple sentences and will be shared verbally in worship by the pastors and (if space permits) printed in the worship guides. Kids and youth are absolutely encouraged to take part!

Please sign up on the <u>Church Center event page</u> for the personal reflection you wish to provide or contact Jan Martin at <u>imartin@fpcmoorestown.org</u> or 856.235.1688, x133.

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

**TODAY:** Participate in two engaging adult spiritual formation classes this fall: <u>Jonah: The Reluctant Prophet</u> and 2 to1 Couples Class (both begin **Sunday, Sept. 14**). Children's Sunday School begins Sept. 14.

**TODAY:** Crud Wars! This incredibly cruddy set of games is our kick off for middle school and high school youth groups (grades 7-12). Meet in the field by the main parking lot at 1:00 p.m. Remember a towel for the ride home!

> Are you interested in serving on the search team for our new Youth Director? Great! Contact Wes Allen.

Under the seasoned guidance of **Kathy Gunsallus**, **Nicole Snodgrass**, **Linda Lockart** and **Wes Allen**, choir rehearsals began Sept. 8-12. There's room for YOU in our graded choral system, Bell Choir or Praise Band. Choirs are open to the community and the program is free. Visit our <u>Church Center event page</u> for details or contact Alison Mackey in the church office at (856) 235-1688, x113.

On September 12, we celebrate the 137<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our church's founding on September 12, 1888. Watch your mail for a letter from Pastor Stuart and the Stewardship Committee. Birthday gifts to the <u>September 12</u> <u>endowment</u> may be given online, through the Church Center app, in the offering plate or mailed to the church.

Throughout September, the **Grace Boutique** is requesting donations of select items to restock its depleted shelves. Please help if you can. September Donations: baby diapers size 4 or 5, full size toothpaste, deodorant, cleaning liquid, feminine hygiene products. Please drop off in baskets outside Grace Boutique.





K-12 weeknight fellowship groups begin the week of Wed. Sept. 17. Register for Kingdom Kids (K-3<sup>rd</sup>), Crossing Zone (4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup>), Middle School Youth Group (7<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>), and High School Youth Group (9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>) and <u>REGISTER online</u> please. Family Dinner begins Wednesday, Sept. 17; \$8.00 per person for this catered meal. Pre-pay Family Dinner too. See 2025-26 event page.

<u>NEW: Saturday Morning Breakfasts begin in September</u> -- The Prayer Committee invites everyone to come for a delicious breakfast on **Saturday, Sept. 13th** at 9:00 AM. We welcome Pastor Stuart as our kickoff speaker following a delicious hot breakfast! He will speak about the importance of prayer in his life and ministry. These monthly breakfasts on the second Saturday will include guest speakers and teachers. PLEASE mark your calendars and plan to attend. Look for signup sheets in the Narthex, Welcome Desk in Commons Lobby and <u>online</u>.

<u>PW Fall Gathering</u>: **Monday, Sept. 15** at 6:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall; All women of the church and members of Presbyterian Women are welcome (<u>sign up online please</u>).



<u>Inquirers Class</u> for those interested in learning more about our church and possibly becoming members. This four-part class begins **Wed. Sept. 17**; reach out to Wes Allen if you're interested or <u>sign up online</u>.

<u>Couples' Retreat in Cape May, NJ October 17-19</u> -- We will be staying once again at The Dormer House, a quaint Victorian bed and breakfast. Cost of \$450 per couple includes breakfast, two nights, group sessions with Dr. Paul Booker, and dinner on Saturday. See full details on our <u>event page</u>. *Must be paid in full by October 6*.

Concert News: The <u>Howard Gospel Choir</u> returns for a gospel concert **Friday, October 3 (7:00 PM)**. No tickets, free will offering will be received. Open to the community. *Volunteers are needed to help provide a dinner after the concert for the choir.* Please contact Jan Martin in the church office if you can help. Donations welcome.