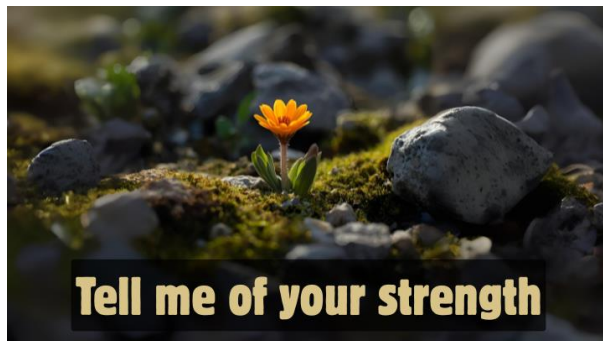




October 26, 2025 ~ 20th Sunday after Pentecost

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. Wes Allen

Way of the Week #5: Assume Positive Intent

5. ASSUME POSITIVE INTENT. Decide to trust that other members are being fair, honest, and concerned for the well-being of our church. Set aside your own judgments and preconceived notions. Surrender the urge to criticize and judge – it doesn't help. Graciously give people the benefit of the doubt.

Ways Reflection

From Elder Lissa Herman

One phrase has remained with me from having memorized Luther's *Small Catechism*: 'Put the best construction on everything.' **Choose** to evaluate everyone's words and deeds in as positive a light as possible. After all, how often could our own words or actions be misinterpreted? Thomas à Kempis wrote, 'In judging others...we are often mistaken and easily sin.' This needs to be a conscious choice, as is any act of love. In a world in which angry accusations are the norm, be the light of Christ, and treat other people exactly as you would like to be treated by them. (Matt. 7:12) - Lissa Herman

Music in Preparation for Worship

Kathy Gunsallus, Organ

Jesus Christ, The Only Son of God

BWV601 J.S. Bach

* Call to Worship (Responsive)

Elder Jenny Legath

Give thanks to God, and call upon his name!

For God is great, and God is here!

Spread the news of what God has done throughout the world.

For God is great, and God is here!

Sing praise, and shout for joy:

For God is great, and God is here!

Let's worship God together!

* Prayer of Adoration

Elder Legath

* Hymn No. 90

Christ is the World's Light

Prayer of Confession (unison)

Elder Legath

Righteous God, you have crowned Jesus Christ as Lord of all. We confess that we have not bowed before him and are slow to acknowledge his rule. We give allegiance to the powers of this world and fail to be governed by justice and love. In your mercy, forgive us. Raise us to name Jesus as ruler of all, that we may be humble and loyal ambassadors, obeying the commands of our Lord Jesus Christ, in whose strong name we pray. Amen.

(Silence for our personal prayers of confession)

Assurance of Pardon (responsive)

Elder Legath

Do not weep! See, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, has triumphed. With his blood he has purchased people for God from every tribe and language and people and nation. Jesus, our Lord, has made them to be a kingdom and priests to serve our God, and they will reign on earth, for his glory.

We believe and trust this good news. Thanks be to God!

* Gloria Patri

Sharing with our Young Disciples

Rev. Allen

Anthem

Rachel Ferguson, Piano

A New Heart

Melissa Dunphy

Chapel Choir; Nicole Snodgrass, Director

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

Rev. Stuart 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

Have Thine Own Way (Hymn #584)

arr. Smith

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

* Doxology No. 809

Sermon

Rev. Stuart Spencer

"Christmas Everyday"

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived of the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary

Scripture: Luke 1: 26-38 (Pew Bible NT p. 56)

Sermon Series: *Tell Me of Your Strength*

* The Apostles' Creed

Hymnal Inside Front Cover

* Hymn No. 659

A Charge to Keep I Have

Music in Preparation for Service

Kathy Gunsallus, Organ

Lord Jesus Christ, My Life, My Light

J. S. Bach

* Benediction

Rev. Spencer

*Benediction Response

Kathy Gunsallus, Piano

May God Bless and Keep Us

Katie Houts

Junior Choir featuring Bell Choir Tonechimes (Jim Cole, Elaine Miller, Peg Pierce); Nicole Snodgrass, Director

~ ~ ~

Worship flowers are given in loving memory of Frank Worthing from his daughter Susan Masiko.

9:00 a.m. Worship Ministry

Beadle: Elder Jenny Legath; **Audio Technician:** Harris Ransom; **Live Stream Technician:** Jonathan Nawrocki; **Ushers:** Jack Terry, Kira Fauvell, Lorenzo Eagles; **Flower Arrangers:** JoAnn Reynik and Fran Green; **Trustee Greeter:** Pete Honeyford; **Sanctuary Greeter:** Stephen Minister Nancy and Jim Dodimead; **Deacon Greeters/Welcome Centers:** Deacons Laurie LaMonica and Rachel Long; **Bagel Pickup:** Freh Budka or Kelly Eagles; **Coffee Hospitality:** Freh Budka and Kelly Eagles; **Nursery Care:** Chelsea Margerum and Ava Callahan



PW Holiday Bazaar Saturday, Nov. 15 – drop off gently loved treasures in the red boxes in the Commons Lobby – household goods, sports equipment, seasonal décor, kitchen and holiday pieces, jewelry and accessories.

Event proceeds benefit women and children in acute need. Look for sign up sheets to volunteer in the Commons Lobby.

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

TODAY: Pastor & Staff Appreciation Sunday is Sunday, October 26 - you're invited to bring in a card or note for our program staff or fill out a blank card in the Commons Lobby telling them how much you appreciate their work.

It's back! Dress Swap for Dance Assembly: Wed. Nov. 12 (5-8 pm) in Commons Lobby and **Saturday, Nov. 15** from 10 am – 1:00 pm in Fellowship Hall. Donate gently used dresses for high school students to swap and share. Contact Jen Allen at (609) 922-1277.

Shoe boxes for Operation Christmas Child will be available **Sunday, Oct. 26** in the Commons Lobby. Fill a box for a child and return to the church by Sunday, Nov. 16. See our Event Page for instructions. Kindly include \$10 for shipping. Questions contact Mark Budka at missions@fpcmoorestown.org.



Consecration Sunday was October 12 – *Step Up to the Plate*. **If you were unable to be with us that day or haven't yet submitted your Estimates, please complete your 2026 cards online, mail to the office or drop in the offering.** Please note we must receive your Estimates of Giving before our 2026 Budget is finalized in the next 2 weeks to allow us to include what you plan to give in the funding available to allocate to our programs for 2026 (including our Missions, Deacons, Youth and Music programs).

- ✓ NEW: **Music Focus Groups** – All are encouraged to help shape the future of our music ministry by participating in a focus group to share your voice, insights, and experiences in a small group setting. Remaining groups: **Sunday, Oct 26** at 10:15 a.m.; and **Sunday, Oct 26** at 12:15 p.m. [SIGN UP ONLINE](#) or with Wes Allen or just stop by. Discussions are held in Room 2.
- ✓ Please complete a [brief online survey](#) on the Church Center event page regarding our music program.

NEW: Fall Adult Study Underway: On Wednesday nights this fall, Jim Cole leads a discussion study of 12-15 scriptures of the 16 Chapters that make up the *Didache*. These are scriptures that Jesus spoke and used before the Bible to instruct the apostles. [Sign up online](#). Enjoy Family Dinner first at 5:45 p.m. (\$8.00/person).

Benefit Concert -- On **Sunday, Nov. 2** at 1:00 p.m. in Miller Commons, OCAN-RF will hold a fundraising concert, featuring recording artist George Kilby Jr. Proceeds support the Opioid Crisis Action Network Recovery Fund. There will be no tickets sold for the concert — a free will offering will be requested.

NEW "Hot Topics": This fall you're invited to a 9-week Wednesday evening series engaging some of today's most pressing and polarizing issues — abortion, gender & sexuality, immigration, and gun violence. Each topic will receive two weeks of focus, allowing us to explore both varied perspectives. Class is led by Wes Allen. [Sign up online](#) or right through the Church Center app.

Family Service Project: Wednesday, Nov. 12 during Family Dinner, 5:45-7:00 PM. Spend family time assembling sandwiches (nut-free) for donation to Cathedral Kitchen. [Please register](#) by **Monday, Nov. 10th** so we can determine participation and amount of supplies needed for this project. See page 4 of *Connections*.

Church Directory -- If you didn't have an opportunity to stop in the week of photo shoots for the membership directory, you can submit a digital photo to webmaster Barbara Duffy at bduffy@fpcmoorestown.org or schedule a make-up to be taken by the staff, if needed. Contact the church office at (856) 235-1688.

November 8th Prayer Breakfast – welcome Dr. Curtis Miyamoto; Room 3-4, 9:00 AM