



## April 26, 2026 ~ Fourth Sunday of Easter, Congregational Meeting

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 9:25 a.m.***

### Welcome & Work of God's People

Rev. Stuart Spencer

### Music in Preparation for Worship

Cherwien

#### **Dearest Jesus At Your Word**

Kathy Gunsallus, Organ

### Introit

#### **We Know Spring Is Here**

Carl Perry

#### **When Jesus Saw the Fishermen**

William Jones

#### **All Things Bright and Beautiful**

adapted by Martin Shaw

Primary Choir; Carol Manion, Director; Karen Molloy, Piano

### \* Call to Worship

Elder Evan Dempster

We gather to worship on this, the Lord's Day.

**What will God accomplish among us in this time?**

We have come together for Sabbath rest and renewal.

**What will God accomplish among us in this place?**

We are here to offer our praise and thanksgiving.

**What will God accomplish among us in our hearts?**

Confident of God's work among us at all times and in all places, let us worship God.

### \*Prayer of Adoration

\* **Hymn No. 260**     *All Authority and Power*

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**Call to Confession and Prayer of Confession (unison)**

Elder Evan Dempster

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**Holy God, hear our prayer. There is pain and there is sorrow, there are broken relationships and broken hearts. Sometimes we are the cause of those things. We have caused pain. We have broken the relationship. Sometimes we are simply a part of them – we are the ones who suffer, we are the ones who are broken. So we ask for your forgiveness, and we ask for your healing. Beyond that, we ask that you would help us turn from our former selves to the persons you have created us to be, full of mercy and grace and love. Through Christ, who is our example, we pray. Amen.**

*Silence for our personal prayers of confession*

**Assurance of Pardon**

Elder Dempster

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Friends, this is the Good News:

**In Christ, God brought us back to our true home, to hope, to love, and to life.**

Know that you are forgiven, and be at peace.

**Thanks be to God.**

\* **Gloria Patri**

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\* **Apostles Creed (inside cover of blue hymnal)**

Elder Dempster

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**Sharing with our Young Disciples**

Cheryl Gaskill

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**Anthem**     *My Heart is Ready*

Junior Choir; Kathy Gunsallus, Director

Leaf

Carol Manion, Piano

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

Rev. Spencer

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

Rev. Spencer

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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.

**The Way of the Week With Help from Gemini ^**

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**Suggested Action Step:** Consider the Greek word for forgiveness *aphiemi*, which means "to let go" or "to send away." Note the "Again" part of this Way. Forgiveness isn't a one-time event; it's a habitual rhythm. When you find that you're feeling the anger again doesn't mean you haven't forgiven; it just means you need to apply the grace **again**.

continued

## 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 or QR code 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      *The Storm is Passing Over*

Chapel Choir; Heather Lockart, Director

Tindley/Baker

Kathy Gunsallus, Piano

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## \* Doxology No. 809

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## Sermon

Rev. Stuart Spencer

### *"Master of Aching Time"*

**Scripture:** John 5: 1-9 (Pew Bible NT page 96)

**Sermon Series:** Signs of Life

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## \* Hymn No. 411      *Heal Us, Immanuel, Hear our Prayer*

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## Music in Preparation for Service

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### *All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name*

Kathy Gunsallus, Organ

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## \* Benediction and Going Forth

Rev. Spencer

## Congregational Meeting begins

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**Worship flowers** are given by Orsula and Cal Knowlton in loving memory of Cal's mother Doris "Mitzy" Knowlton

^ Gemini is a generative artificial intelligence chatbot and virtual assistant developed by Google.

Portions of today's liturgy were adapted from Beth Merrill Neel on her blog, 'Hold Fast to What Is Good'. Used with permission.

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## 9:00 a.m. Worship Ministry

**Beadle:** Elder Evan Dempster; **Audio Technician:** Harris Ransom; **Live Stream Technician:** Jonathan Nawrocki (live stream to keep rolling); **Ushers:** Owen Dietz, Mike Welch, Leonard Fitts; **Flower Arrangers:** Karin Miller and Rumi Sinunu; **Trustee Greeter:** Brett Couvillion; **Sanctuary Greeter:** Stephen Minister Jane Murphy; **Deacon Greeters/Welcome Centers:** Deacons Mike Welch and Steve Emerson; **Bagel Pickup:** Kathy McIlroy or Bob Plant; **Coffee Hospitality:** Kathy McIlroy and Bob Plant, **Nursery Care:** Ava Gandy-Callahan

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

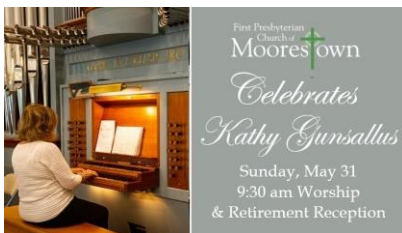
**TODAY:** [Congregational Meeting to Elect Elders, Deacons and Trustees](#) will immediately follow today's worship service. The meeting will be available by Zoom (to view only, not vote). Officer terms will begin June 1, 2026. Bios of the officer candidates are in your worship guide. Your Nominating Committee has been hard at work finding nominees for Elders, Deacons and Trustees to serve our church.

**Concert** -- The Philadelphia Boys Choir & Cantores Minores, Finland's oldest and most successful boys choir, will perform at First Presbyterian Church **Wednesday, April 29** at 7:00 PM. They will sing choir music selections from Mendelssohn, Brahms, Bruckner, and several other composers. Admission is Free.

**Blood Drive** – You can save a life. Maybe more than one. Give at the Red Cross blood drive in Miller Commons **Friday, May 8** from 11:00 am-4:00 pm. Select the time that works best for you. Contact Debbie Heller at 856-273-6838 or [dheller374@comcast.net](mailto:dheller374@comcast.net), or visit [redcrossblood.org/give](http://redcrossblood.org/give) and enter "First Presbyterian Moorestown."

**Save The Date:** [Spring Choirs Concert](#), **Sunday, May 17** at 4:00 p.m., Sanctuary; Primary Choir, Junior Choir, Choristers, Chapel Choir, Adult Choir, and Bell Choir all perform.

**Women's Prayer Event ~ Saturday, May 23, 2026, 8:00 am to 12 noon** -- Bring your Bible, journal and a snack if you'd like. Coffee, hot tea, and water will be provided. If praying is a new or unfamiliar spiritual practice, not a problem. Just do what makes you comfortable. [Sign up online](#) or with Pam Engle. at 609-332-7513.



**Kathy Gunsallus Celebration** -- Kathy Gunsallus has notified the Worship Committee and Session of her retirement. Her last Sunday with us will be **Sunday, May 31**. Session has approved a combined **9:30 a.m.** worship service so that all may celebrate Kathy and her gifted work here with our music ministry, bell choir and choirs. Following worship, the Music Committee will host a reception in Miller Commons. Kathy plans to assist the church this summer with the transition for incoming music director Spencer Domer.

**Vacation Bible School June 29-July 3** -- Calling all explorers entering Kindergarten through 6th grade (Fall 2026). Grab your gear and head deep into the jungle for a week full of excitement, discovery, and faith-filled fun! Kids of all ages will laugh, learn, and make unforgettable memories at *Rainforest Falls: Exploring the Nature of God*. See page 4 of *Connections* or [fpcmoorestown.org/vbs](http://fpcmoorestown.org/vbs).

**Grads: Share your school information** -- We will celebrate our 2026 high school, college, and post-graduate graduates during both worship services on **Sunday, June 14**. Worship guides will feature an insert that highlights their names and schools, as we celebrate these noted achievements. If you're aware of a 2026 graduate from our church, kindly fill out the brief form below with their details by **Sunday, April 26**: <https://fpcmoorestown.churchcenter.com/people/forms/1175946>

**May Food Drive** -- Throughout the month of May, the Deacons are hosting a food drive for the Moorestown Ministerium. Please bring nonperishable foods that include proteins, and leave on the tables in Miller Commons. See our event page and flyer for a helpful list of suggested items.

**Joshua Tickets** – The bus trip to Sight and Sound Theatre has been cancelled.

**Teacher & Leader Appreciation Sunday** and Last day of children's Sunday School is **Sunday, May 17**.