

SUNDAY

Worship Service

May 18, 2025

THOUGHTS FOR MEDITATION:

Owning our story can be hard but not nearly as difficult as spending our lives running from it. Embracing our vulnerabilities is risky but not nearly as dangerous as giving up on love and belonging and joy - the experiences that make us the most vulnerable. Only when we are brave enough to explore the darkness will we discover the infinite power of our light. - Brene Brown

Peace be with you. It is the peace of the risen Christ. A peace that is unarmed and disarming, humble and persevering. A peace that comes from God, the God who loves us all, unconditionally. - Pope Leo XIV

GATHERING MUSIC

Howard Raudenbush

WORDS of GREETING and GRACE

Rev. Linda Pepe

***HYMN of PRAISE**

Glory, Glory – God Is Able

Congregation

- 1. Glory, Glory, Hallelujah! Since I laid my burdens down.
Glory, Glory, Hallelujah! Since I laid my burdens down.**
- 2. Glory, glory, I've been singing - since I laid my burdens down.
Glory, glory, I've been singing - since I laid my burdens down.**

Chorus

**I'm singing Hallelujah! God is able, Hallelujah!
God is faithful, Hallelujah! Lord, I'm gonna sing!**

- 3. I feel better, so much better - since I laid my burdens down.
I feel better, so much better - since I laid my burdens down.**

Bridge

**As long as I'm alive there's gonna be praising
As long as I'm alive there's gonna be some shouting
One thing that I know, deep down in my soul
As long as I'm alive I'm gonna sing!**

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CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Stacey Williams

MINISTRY OF MUSIC

**Mfurahini Halehuya
(Christ Is Risen, Alleluia)**

Traditional Tanzanian Hymn - arranged by Cathy Moglebust

FBC Bell Choir

HAPPENINGS & OFFERINGS

Adam Buck

PRAYERS of the COMMUNITY

Rev. Jennifer Bradley

SCRIPTURE

Luke 24: 36-49

MINISTRY OF MUSIC

In This Place
by Ken Medema

FBC Choir
Sara Bennett, clarinet

SERMON

Follow Me: The Peace

Pastor Linda

***CLOSING HYMN** **They'll Know We Are Christians**

Congregation

- 1. We are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord
We are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord
And we pray that all unity may one day be restored**

Refrain

**And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love;
Yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.**

- 2. We will walk with each other, we will walk hand in hand;
We will walk with each other, we will walk hand in hand.
And together we'll spread the news that God is in our land.**
- 3. We will work with each other, we will work side by side;
We will work with each other, we will work side by side.
And we'll guard each one's dignity and save each one's pride.**
- 4. All praise to our Creator, from whom all things come;
And all praise to Christ Jesus, God's only Son;
And all praise to the Spirit who makes us one.**

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***BENEDICTION**

Pastor Linda

POSTLUDE

Howard

**Please stand if you are able.*

TODAY and THE COMING WEEK at FBC MOORESTOWN

TODAY, May 18	10:00 am	Morning Worship Service (Sanctuary/Balcony & Facebook Live)
	11:15 am	Coffee Hour (Fellowship Hall)
		New Member Informational Session (Rm 6, Street Level)
TUESDAY, May 20	11:30 to 1:30	Food Pantry Hours
	5:30 to 7:00 pm	Food Pantry Hours (Rooms 7, 8, 9 & 10, FH, Lower Level)
THURSDAY, May 22	11:30 to 1:30	Food Pantry Hours (Rooms 7, 8, 9 & 10, FH, Lower Level)
	6:00 pm	Bell Choir Practice (Rooms 4, 5 & 6)
	6:45 pm	Choir Practice (Sanctuary)

PRAYER CONCERNS - May 18, 2025

Please pray for:

**Margot Schreiber with health concerns, and
Denise Benson, who is recovering from a badly sprained ankle.**

**Michelle Foley is currently at Total Rehab (212 Marter Avenue, Moorestown),
with a broken foot, recovering from surgery with 90 days of rehab. She
would enjoy visitors along with prayers.**

Please pray for these church family members:

Lorene Moore and Ruth Reigens

***If you have prayer requests or you would like to be removed from this list,
please contact the church office at fbcmoores town@gmail.com.**

CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Linda A. Pepe, Senior Pastor	Lindapepepastor@gmail.com
Rev. Jennifer Bradley, Associate Pastor	jbradley12@gmail.com
Tammy Werron, Pastor of Visitation	Twerron@gmail.com
Howard Raudenbush, Minister of Music	huddan6137@gmail.com
Stacey Williams, Children's Ministry	stacielynn3243@gmail.com
Adam Buck, Leadership Team Co-chair	arbuck@comcast.net
Tom Tamburello, Leadership Team Co-chair	tsquared2@att.net
Carol Murray, Church Office Administrator	fbcmoores town@gmail.com

**Church Office Hours: MON. to FRI. – 8:00 am to Noon // (856) 235-1180
& <https://www.facebook.com/groups/firstbaptistmoorestown/>**

May 18, 2025

Welcome

We extend a warm welcome to all who have joined us for worship today. Please visit with us during coffee and refreshments which will be served in Fellowship Hall (basement level) following worship.

Thank You

Today's ***Greeters*** were ***Dana Seidman, Samuel Gibson and Matt McNulty.***
Next week's ***Greeters*** are ***Myrna Rodriguez and Trish Walker.***

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

To: Paul Forte on Monday, May 19th and Chase Gearhart on Friday, May 23rd.
If we do not have your birthday, or you would like to add a family member's birthday, please contact the church office at **856-235-1180** or at fbcmoorestown@gmail.com.

GIVING TO FBC

Please help support the ministries of First Baptist Church. There are several ways you can give:

- There are donation collection boxes at the top of the stairs on both sides of the sanctuary as you exit. Donation envelopes are available for your use in the pews. (We do not pass a collection plate during the worship service)
- Checks may be mailed to the Church Office.
- You can securely donate to the church online. You can click on the **"Give to FBC"** button at the top of the FBC website homepage (www.fbcmoorestown.org); or you can use your smartphone camera to scan this QR Code.



FOOD PANTRY NEWS

Please remember the Food Pantry this week.

Financial donations are always welcome. A check or cash can be put into a giving envelope and then into the offering boxes. Non-perishable food items may be brought to church on Sundays and placed in the Food Pantry Cart or they may be left in the black bin next to the side ramp door or beside the pantry room door on the lower level any day of the week.

This week we fed 237 people, including 61 children and 51 seniors.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

TODAY

TODAY – A NEW MEMBERS INFORMATIONAL SESSION – Have you been attending FBCM for a while and want to know more about becoming a member? **An informational session will be held TODAY in Classroom 6 (first floor, last room on the left) directly following worship.** Please let Pastor Linda know if you are interested in attending.

SAVE THE DATE - NEXT WEEK

MAY 25th – QMUNITY MINISTRY CIRCLE MEETING - Qmunity (LGBTQIA+ and Allies Ministry Circle) will have our next meeting on Sunday, May 25th, from 11:30 am to 2:00 pm at Pastor Jen and Sandy's home - 118 Union Street in Moorestown. If you are able, please bring a shareable side dish or dessert. If not, no worries, as we always have plenty of food. We will hopefully have a Memorial Weekend BBQ on the back deck - weather cooperating. On our meeting agenda is our upcoming concert on June 7th. If you have any questions, please email Sandy at FBCMqcommunity@gmail.com. We hope to see you on the 25th!

MAY 31st – NYC TRIP WITH STEVE ESON - FBC's resident NYC guru Steve Eson will lead another group to the Big Apple on Saturday, May 31st. This year's destination: Brooklyn & Bushwick. We will leave Manhattan entirely. In addition to historic churches, we'll mix it up with a stop at the single best waterfront view in the city and a visit to the Bushwick Collective Street Art Fair and Block Party. More details to come. Contact Steve at esonsf@gmail.com or 856-316-6577 for further information.

SAVE THE DATE - JUNE

JUNE 7th – A VERY SPECIAL CONCERT – Qmunity invites you to a VERY special concert, **“Lord Write My Name. From Slavery to Freedom: The Gospel and African American Experience in Spirituals”**. Nationally recognized Baritone Vocalist, Keith Spencer (backup vocalist for Roberta Flack, Rosemary Clooney, Sandi Patty), and award-winning composer, pianist and arranger, Peter Hilliard have teamed up to create this unique musical tapestry of African American Spirituals. A musical blend of African American Spirituals is interspersed with narratives, poetry, and letters penned by freed slaves and iconic Black figures throughout history. It explores the plight of those enslaved mourning in servitude, the redemptive story of the Gospel, and ultimately, their claimed identity as a freed people. Well known spirituals performed will include: “Deep River,” “My Good Lord’s Done Been Here,” “Nobody knows the Trouble I Seen,” “Steal Away,” and several others brilliantly arranged and played by Hilliard. **The concert is on Saturday, June 7th, from 6:00 PM to 7:30 PM in our sanctuary, with light refreshments to follow in Fellowship Hall. The concert is sponsored by Qmunity, and is FREE. At-will donations to benefit FBCM's Restorative Communities Ministry will be collected the night of the event. Thank you!**

SAVE THE DATE - SUMMER

SUMMER SMALL GROUP STUDY COMING - Stay tuned! Summertime Wednesday night Zoom small group is happening! Info coming soon. Interested? Check in with Pastor Jen at jbradley12@gmail.com.

FINANCIAL NEWS FROM THE TREASURER

Monthly Giving Report

	<u>April</u>	<u>Year to Date</u>
Donations & Other Revenue	\$ 21,399	\$ 111,581
Less Expenses	\$ 23,887	\$ 110,552
Net	\$- 2,488	\$ + 1,029

Includes April gifts to the Food Pantry (\$1,078), Congregational Care (\$271), and Qmunity (\$140)

Thank You!

PHILANTHROPIC and VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

COFFEE HOUR HOSTS – We still need volunteers to provide refreshments for **Sunday Coffee Hour**. Our Coffee Hour Hosts provide light refreshments, juice and/or water, and handle clean-up. **Nothing elaborate is needed and store-bought goodies are totally fine. Coffee and tea are provided by FBC. There are many Sundays available during May, June and July of 2025.** If you would like to participate, please sign up at the Coffee Hour volunteer board in Fellowship Hall.

QMUNITY NEWS

Qmunity (LGBTQIA+ & Allies Ministry Circle) will have First Baptist Moorestown Happy Pride Lawn signs for sale again this year in celebration of June Pride Month. They are 18" x 24", double-sided, with stakes included, and are \$20.00. They will be available to pick up at church on May 25th and June 1st in the lounge, outside the Church Office. After you've paid, help yourself to a sign. You can put your cash or check in the offering collection boxes outside the sanctuary; please make sure to write "Qmunity" on your check or offering envelope. Place them in your yard on June 1st, and if willing, take a pic of you and/or your loved ones by your sign and email it to Sandy at slehr12@gmail.com. Qmunity thanks you for your support!

Also, **Qmunity is handing out FREE oval FBCM (in Progressive Pride rainbow colors) car magnets.** The magnets are 6"x 4" and will stick on any magnetic surface. They will be on a table in the lounge on May 25th and June 1st- help yourself! Qmunity is very grateful for our FBCM family and wish you all a HAPPY PRIDE!

