

SUNDAY

Worship Service

May 4, 2025

THOUGHTS FOR MEDITATION:

There are a whole lotta portrayals of God in the Bible who are not my God."

- Rev. Dr. Wil Gafney

(Shug) "Listen, God love everything you love - and a mess of stuff you don't. But more than anything else, God love admiration."

(Celie) "You saying God vain?" I ast.

(Shug) "Naw", she say. "Not vain, just wanting to share a good thing. I think it pisses God off if you walk by the color purple in a field somewhere and don't notice it."

- From *The Color Purple* by Alice Walker

GATHERING MUSIC

Howard Raudenbush

WORDS of GREETING and GRACE

Rev. Jennifer Bradley

***HYMN of PRAISE** **Come, O Fount of Every Blessing** Congregation

**1. Come, O fount of every blessing, tune my heart to sing Your grace;
streams of mercy, never ceasing, call for songs of endless praise.
Teach me some melodious sonnet, sung by flaming tongues above.
Praise the mount; I'm fixed upon it, mount of God's unfailing love**

**2. Here I pause in my sojourning, giving thanks for having come,
come to trust, at every turning, God will guide me safely home.
Jesus sought me when a stranger, wandering from the fold of God.
Came to rescue me from danger, blessed body, precious blood.**

**3. O to grace how great a debtor daily I am drawn anew!
Let your grace now, like a fetter, bind my wandering heart to You.
Prone to wander, how I feel it, wander from the God I love;
Here's my heart, O take and seal it, seal it for Your courts above.**

Bridge

(Above) all else I adore Your name

Above all else tune my heart to sing Your praise

Above all else I adore Your name

Above all else tune my heart to sing Your praise

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Moet and Stacey Williams

HAPPENINGS & OFFERINGS

Tom Tamburello

PRAYERS of the COMMUNITY

Elizabeth Endres

MINISTRY OF MUSIC

Let The People of God
by Ken Medema

FBC Choir

SCRIPTURE **A selection of verses about encounters with God**

Pastor Jen

SERMON

I Met God . . .
Insights and opportunities from the Alliance of Baptists Gathering

Pastor Jen

COMMUNION

A grape and bread are shared

Pastor Jen

***CLOSING HYMN**

God of Wonders

Congregation

- 1. Lord of all creation - of water earth and sky**
The heavens are Your tabernacle - glory to the Lord on high

Chorus 1 & 2

God of wonders beyond what I can see - You are holy, holy
The universe declares Your majesty, You are holy, holy
Lord of heaven and earth, Lord of heaven and earth

- 2. Early in the morning - I will celebrate the light**
When I stumble in the darkness - I will call Your name by night

Bridge

Hallelujah to the Lord of heaven and earth
Hallelujah to the Lord of heaven and earth
Hallelujah to the Lord of heaven and earth

Chorus 3

God of wonders beyond what I can see - You are holy, holy
Precious Lord reveal your heart to me - Come and hold me, hold me
The universe declares Your majesty - You are holy, holy

CCLI Song # 3118757 Marc Byrd | Steve Hindalong © 2000 Never Say Never Songs; New Spring; Meaux Mercy; Storm Boy Music
CCLI License # 11537482

***BENEDICTION**

Pastor Jen

POSTLUDE

Howard

**Please stand if you are able.*

TODAY and THE COMING WEEK at FBC MOORESTOWN

TODAY, May 4	10:00 am	Morning Worship Service (Sanctuary/Balcony & Facebook Live)
	11:15 am	Coffee Hour (Fellowship Hall)
	11:30 to 1:30 pm	Qmunity Ministry Circle Meeting (Home of Sandy and Jen)
TUESDAY, May 6	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)
WEDNESDAY, May 7	6:45 to 8:00 pm	Group Study with Pastor Jen (Zoom)
THURSDAY, May 8	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 4, 2025

Please pray for:

Denise Benson, who is recovering from a badly sprained ankle, and Joanne Conway with health concerns.

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 fbcmoorestown@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	fbcmoorestown@gmail.com

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

May 4, 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 **Coffee Hour Refreshments** were provided by **Matt McNulty**.

Today's **Greeters** were **Eufemio Pagan and Tom Tamburello**.

Next week's **Greeters** are **Dana Seidman, Samuel Gibson and Matt McNulty**.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

To: Kathy Forte, Today, Alana Hydro, Monday, May 5th, Harold "Skip" Wells on Wednesday, May 7th, and John Ferrante on Saturday, May 10th.

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 259 people, including 72 children and 56 seniors.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

TODAY

TODAY – COMMUNITY GARDEN MEETING – The Community Garden Ministry Circle is holding a meeting today after church, at 11:15, in a room to be announced.

All those interested in the Garden are invited to attend, and to join the effort. Many hands make light work and provide a chance for fellowship. Hope you see you there.

THIS WEEK

MAY 10th – CPR/AED TRAINING - On Saturday, May 10th, from 9 am to 12 noon, FBC will host CPR/AED training in Fellowship Hall.

American Red Cross CPR/AED training courses allow you to learn how – and when – to use an automated external defibrillator (AED) (like the new one in Fellowship Hall), and how to perform CPR. The average response time for first responders once 911 is called is 8-12 minutes. For each minute **defibrillation or CPR** is delayed, the chance of survival reduces by approximately 10%. With CPR/AED training, which takes just a few short hours, you can gain the skills necessary to help save a life.

NEXT WEEK

MAY 14th - SAVE THE DATE – BIRD WATCHING TRIP

On Wednesday, May 14th, join Jill Lee for a Bird watching trip to the Ibis/Egret/Heron nesting site at the 9th St. bridge visitor's center in Ocean City, NJ!! On this trip you will see nests of White Ibis, Great Egrets, Snowy Egrets, Yellow-Crowned Night Herons, Black-Crowned Night Herons and more . . . just a few feet away. No walking is necessary – hundreds of nests can be seen right from the visitor center parking lot. Watch for more details to come.

MAY 17th – MEN'S BREAKFAST – The next Men's Breakfast is scheduled

for Saturday, May 17th at 9:30 am. This energetic group meets on the third Saturday of every month in the FBC Lounge. They share a breakfast together and have a lively discussion on a variety of subjects that connect God to everyday life. The group has grown in numbers, and we look forward to welcoming even more new members. Come join us.

MAY 18th – 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 on Sunday, May 18th 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 - MAY

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.

PHILANTHROPIC and VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

A THANK YOU - BLINKNOW FUNDRAISER – Margaret Smith and Lauren Gibeau share a thank you for all of the gifts made to the fundraiser for the Kopila Valley Children’s Home in Nepal. Over \$2,000 was raised toward furnishings and mattresses. We thank you for all your prayers and gifts. We so appreciate the continued support from the members the First Baptist Church of Moorestown.