

SUNDAY

Worship Service

March 23, 2025

THOUGHTS FOR MEDITATION:

It's a hard thing to leave any deeply routine life, even if you hate it.

– John Steinbeck, [East of Eden](#)

Watch out for each other. Love everyone and forgive everyone, including yourself. Forgive your anger. Forgive your guilt. Your shame. Your sadness. Embrace and open up your love, your joy, your truth, and most especially your heart.

– Jim Henson

GATHERING MUSIC

Howard Raudenbush

WORDS of GREETING and GRACE

Rev. Linda Pepe

***HYMN of PRAISE**

Sweet, Sweet Spirit

Congregation

*There's a sweet, sweet Spirit in this place
And I know that it's the Spirit of the Lord
There are sweet expressions on each face
And I know they feel the presence of the Lord*

*Sweet Holy Spirit, sweet heavenly Dove
Stay right here with us filling us with Your love
And for these blessings we lift our hearts in praise
Without a doubt we'll know that we have been revived
When we shall leave this place*

Sweet Sweet Spirit; CCLI Song # 18204 Doris Akers © 1962. Renewed 1990 Manna Music, Inc. CCLI License # 11537482

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Stacey Williams

HAPPENINGS & OFFERINGS

Rev. Nevin Werron

SCRIPTURE

Luke 5:27-32

MINISTRY OF MUSIC

Give Me Jesus

Steven Di Pilla

SERMON

Follow Me: The Rise

Pastor Linda

***CLOSING HYMN**

Amazing Grace (Peaceful Easy Feeling)

Congregation

- 1. Amazing grace how sweet the sound
That saved a wretch like me
I once was lost but now am found
Was blind but now I see***

Refrain

***I've got a peaceful easy feeling
And I know you won't let me down
'Cause I'm already standing on the ground.***

- 2. 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear
And grace my fears relieved
How precious did that grace appear
The hour I first believed***
- 3. When we've been there ten thousand years
Bright shining as the sun
We've no less days to sing God's praise
Than when we've first begun***

CCLI Song # 4755360 John Newton © Words: Public Domain; Music: Public Domain CCLI License # 11537482
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***BENEDICTION**

Pastor Linda

POSTLUDE

Howard

**Please stand if you are able.*

TODAY and THE COMING WEEK at FBC MOORESTOWN

| | | |
|---------------------|-----------------|---|
| TODAY, March 23 | 10:00 am | Morning Worship Service (Sanctuary/Balcony & Facebook Live) |
| | 11:15 am | Coffee Hour (Fellowship Hall) |
| | 11:30 am | Qmunity Meeting (Home of Pastor Jen and Sandy Lehr) |
| TUESDAY, March 25 | 11:30 to 1:30 | Food Pantry Hours (Rooms 7, 8, 9 & 10, FH, Lower Level) |
| | 5:30 to 7:00 pm | Food Pantry Hours (Rooms 7, 8, 9 & 10, FH, Lower Level) |
| WEDNESDAY, March 26 | 2:00 pm | Lenten Nature Walk (Meet at FBC – Smith’s Woods) |
| | 6:45 to 8:00 pm | Lenten Study with Pastor Jen (Zoom) |
| THURSDAY, March 27 | 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 - March 16, 2025

Please pray for:

***Florence Schaivo, a friend of Joan Scharff, for recovery from brain cancer surgery, and
Christine Benson, Denise Benson’s sister, for breast cancer surgery recovery,***

Please pray for these church family members:

Jan Applegate, Lorene Moore, Leila Morgan 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 |
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| • Adam Buck, Leadership Team Co-chair | arbuck@comcast.net |
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| • 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/>

3/23/2025

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 **Pamela Crete and Jessica McSwain**.

Today's **Greeters** were **Adam Buck and Patrick O'Brien**.

Next week's **Greeters** are **Myrna Rodriguez and Trish Walker**.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

To: Katherine Simpson on Monday, March 24th, and Krista Carlson on Tuesday, March 25th. 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.

**The week of 3/10/25 we fed 249 people, including 52 children and 71 seniors.
This week we fed 245 people, including 59 children and 59 seniors.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

TODAY

COMMUNITY (LGBTQIA+ Ministry Circle) MEETING - will take place **TODAY, from 11:30-1:30, at Pastor Jen and Sandy's home - 118 Union St in Moorestown.** We will have a post-screening **1946** discussion at our meeting today. Please bring your movie packet questions with you. Please also bring a shareable side or dessert. If you have any questions, email Sandy at FBCMCommunity@gmail.com. We hope to see you today.

TODAY – DEADLINE TO ORDER EASTER FLOWERS – To celebrate Easter in our FBC Sanctuary, we will be **ordering Easter Flowers again this year. TODAY is the deadline to order 6-Bloom Tulips and/or 5 Bloom Hydrangeas (Pink or Blue).** Please use the **included order form or simply email Carol Murray at fbcmoorestown@gmail.com.** You can give in memory or in honor of someone. You can also donate your flowers to be planted in the FBC Community Garden. Your order, your cash or check can be placed in a regular tithe envelope and deposited in the giving boxes outside the Sanctuary.

THIS WEEK

MARCH 26th – LENTEN NATURE WALK - Lent is the perfect time to recharge your spirit by experiencing God's natural world first-hand. **We will meet in the church breezeway at 2pm to carpool to the walk location at Smith's Woods, 39 E. Railroad Ave. in Easthampton.** For more information, email Jill Lee at j.huntington_lee@icloud.com.

MARCH 26th - LENTEN STUDY CONTINUES - We are reading and discussing, "**Practice of the Presence - A Revolutionary Translation**". Jen Bradley is leading the study. **We meet on Wednesdays via Zoom from 6:45pm to 8:00pm.** We share prayer requests, pray for one another, and discuss our weekly reading and its application in our day to day lives. **The Zoom room is open at 6:30 to chat about life before we jump into the book study and discussion. Similarly, the Zoom room stays open from 8-8:30 following our study.**

SAVE THE DATE - APRIL

APRIL 13th - FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH EASTER FUN – The Annual **FBC Family Easter Party** will be held directly following service, **on Sunday, April 13th from 11:30am - 2pm in Fellowship Hall.** There will be an Easter Egg hunt and activities for our FBC kids of all ages. Please sign up so we can get a head count, and also let us know what you can bring. There are sign-up sheets in the lounge and in Fellowship Hall. We look forward to sharing this fun time of fellowship with you.



EASTER EVENTS



Palm Sunday Worship Service – This service which commemorates Jesus’ triumphal entry into Jerusalem will be held on **Sunday, April 13th at 10:00 am in the Sanctuary, followed by the Annual Family Easter Party in Fellowship Hall at 11:30.**

Maundy Thursday Dinner/Worship Service – Our Maundy Thursday Meal and Worship Service will be held on **Thursday, April 17th at 7:00 pm in Fellowship Hall.** We will be gathering for an authentic 1st Century meal, scripture reading, and reflection. **As food will be served, please sign-up for this service using the sign-up sheet in the lobby.**

Good Friday Scripture Meditation Service – Please join us for a time of meditation and reflection on the last words of Christ during this Service held in **our Sanctuary beginning at 3:00 pm on Friday, April 18th.**

Easter Sunday Worship Celebration: We celebrate Christ’s resurrection on **Sunday, April 20th at 10:00 am in our Sanctuary.**

We hope you will join us for these reflective events.

PHILANTHROPIC OPPORTUNITY

BLINKNOW FUNDRAISER – **“Margaret and Laureen’s furnishing fund for the new children’s home”** – If you don’t know, BlinkNow is a foundation (created by Margaret Smith’s cousin, Maggie Doyne) that is changing the world by empowering the children of Nepal. They do it through quality education, a safe environment, and inspiring others. Their new children’s home is in need of furnishing, especially mattresses. Margaret Smith and Laureen Gibeau have created a fundraiser to help with this effort. If you are able, please donate to BlinkNow to help us show support in raising funds to furnish the new children’s home. You may make a gift at this link <https://blinknow.donorsupport.co/-/NYMLBCHY?member=SLKBMKFG>. We thank you for any gift, and we so appreciate the continued support from the members the First Baptist Church of Moorestown.



Easter Flowers Order
2025

Name of Donor _____

() In memory of _____

() In honor of _____

Number of 6 Bulb Tulips @ \$10.00 each _____ x \$10.00 = \$ _____

Number of 5 Bloom Hydrangea Plants @ 26.00 each ___ x \$26.00 = \$ _____

Blue _____

Pink _____

Donate my flowers: Community Garden _____ Other _____

Make check payable to: First Baptist Church
(Please write "Flowers" on the memo line.)

*Put Cash or Check into a Regular Tithe Envelope and drop in the box at the top of the stairs outside of the Sanctuary, or in the church office.

Phone orders available: Office phone: (856) 235-1180

DEADLINE: SUNDAY, MARCH 23rd
(Please place your order as soon as possible. You can order now and pay later.)