

PENTECOST SUNDAY

Worship Service

June 8, 2025

THOUGHTS FOR MEDITATION:

“At the heart of experience, there is a fire that burns all we know. Offer everything to that fire, what remains the ashes of love – is that for which we have longed all over life.”— Rupert Spira

“Love in its essence is spiritual fire.”— Seneca

"Love takes off the masks that we fear we cannot live without and know we cannot live within."
- James Baldwin

GATHERING MUSIC

WORDS of GREETING and GRACE:

Rev. Linda Pepe

*HYMN of PRAISE

Joyful, Joyful

Congregation

Verse 1

Joyful, joyful, we adore You,
God of glory, Lord of love;
Hearts unfold like flowers before You,
Opening to the sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness;
Drive the dark of doubt away;
Giver of immortal gladness,
Fill us with the light of day!

Verse 2

All Your works with joy surround You,
Earth and heaven reflect Your rays,
Stars and angels sing around You,
Center of unbroken praise;
Field and forest, vale and mountain,
Flowery meadow, flashing sea,
Chanting bird and flowing fountain
Praising You eternally!

Verse 3

Mortals, join the mighty chorus,
Which the morning stars began;
God's own love is reigning o'er us,
Joining people hand in hand.
Ever singing, march we onward,
Victors in the midst of strife;
Joyful music leads us sunward
In the triumph song of life.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Stacy Williams

MOMENT FOR MISSIONS

One Great Hour of Sharing

Nevin Werron

HAPPENINGS & OFFERINGS

Lois Dinsmore

PRAYERS of the COMMUNITY

Rev. Jennifer Bradley

*Stand if your able

SCRIPTURE

Acts 2:1-21

Collaborative

Pastor: When the holy day of Pentecost came *50 days after Passover*, they were gathered together in one place. *Picture yourself among the disciples:* A sound roars from the sky without warning, the roar of a violent wind, and the whole house where you are gathered reverberates with the sound.

Congregation: Look at that flame! Something that feels like fire is among us. Look- it's dividing into smaller flames and spreading from one person to the next. AND all of us are aware of the Holy Spirit within us! How is this possible? We can speak in languages we've never spoken! The Spirit has made this possible.

Pastor: *Because of the holy festival*, there are devout Jews staying as pilgrims in Jerusalem from every nation under the sun. They hear the sound, and a crowd gathers. The Pilgrims are amazed because each of them can hear the group speaking in their native languages. They are shocked and amazed by this.

Pilgrims: Just a minute. Aren't all of these people Galileans? How in the world do we all hear our native languages being spoken? *Look*—there are people here from all over the region and beyond! Yet, we're each, in our own languages, hearing these people talk about God's powerful deeds!

Pastor: But their amazement becomes confusion as they wonder,

Pilgrims: What does this mean?

Skeptics: It doesn't mean anything. They're all drunk on wine! They have to be!

Pastor: Then as the twelve disciples stood together, Peter shouted to the crowd,

Peter: People of Judea and everyone staying here in Jerusalem, listen. I want you to understand: these people aren't drunk as you may think. Look, it's only nine o'clock in the morning! *No, this isn't drunkenness*; this is the fulfillment of the prophecy of Joel. Hear what God says!

Prophet Joel: "In the last days," says God, "I will pour My Spirit to all humanity. Your children will prophesy, boldly speaking *the word of God*. Your young ones will see visions, and your elders will dream dreams. Yes, in those days I shall offer My Spirit to all servants, from the greatest to the least, and they will boldly speak My word. And I will show wonders in heaven above, and signs in the earth beneath; blood, and fire, and vapor of smoke: The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before the day of the Lord comes, great, and blazing. And everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved; liberated *into God's freedom and peace*."

Pastor: May we be blessed and challenged by the reading of this word

Congregation: Amen.

MINISTRY OF MUSIC

Standing Outside The Fire, by Garth Brooks

Jonathan Carrell

SERMON

Love Language

Rev. Linda Pepe

*Stand if your able

***CLOSING HYMN**

We Are (The Light of the World)

Congregation

Verse 1

Every secret, every shame
Every fear, every pain
Live inside the dark
But that's not who we are
We are children of the day

Pre-Chorus

So wake up, sleeper, lift your head
We were meant for more than this
Fight the shadows, conquer death
Make the most of the time we have left

Chorus

We are the light of the world
We are the city on a hill
We are the light of the world
We gotta, we gotta, we gotta let the light shine
We are the light of the world We are the city on a hill
We are the light of the world
We gotta, we gotta, we gotta let the light shine, let the light shine, let the light

Verse 2

We are called to spread the news
To tell the world the simple truth
Jesus came to save, there's freedom in His name
So let His love break through

Chorus

We are the light of the world We are the city on a hill
We are the light of the world
We gotta, we gotta, we gotta let the light shine
We are the light of the world
We are the city on a hill
We are the light of the world
We gotta, we gotta, we gotta let the light shine

Bridge

We are the light
We are the light
We are the light
So let your light shine brighter
We are the light
We are the light
We are the light

Jesus, you are the light
You are the light
You are the light
We will lift you high and shine, shine, shine

Chorus

We are the light of the world We are the city on a hill
We are the light of the world
We gotta, we gotta, we gotta let the light shine
We are the light of the world
We are the city on a hill
We are the light of the world
We gotta, we gotta, we gotta let the light shine

Let the light shine, let the light shine.

***BENEDICTION
POSTLUDE**

Rev. Linda Pepe

*Stand if your able

SUNDAY JUNE 8, 2025 FBC MOORESTOWN

TODAY, June 1	10:00 am	Morning Worship Service (Sanctuary/Balcony & Facebook Live)
	11:15 am	Coffee Hour (Fellowship Hall)
TUESDAY, June 3	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, June 5	11:30 to 1:30	Food Pantry Hours (Rooms 7, 8, 9 & 10, FH, Lower Le

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 are Robbie and Coach Thornton-Peek
Next week's Greeters are Eufemio and Tom Tamburello

GIVING TO FBC Moorestown

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.



COFFEE HOUR HOSTS

Consider volunteering 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 several Sundays available June through September of 2025. If you would like to participate, please sign up on the Coffee Hour volunteer board in Fellowship Hall.

PRAYER CONCERNS

Please pray for:

Howard Raudenbush recuperation, 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), She would enjoy visitors along with prayers.

Emily Gibeau & Baby in the hospital.

Please continue to 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.

PRIDE and 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!



NEW MEMBERS

New Members will be received into our congregation on June 22, 2025 during the worship service. There will be a welcome reception for new members during coffee hour.

Please plan to attend as we grow our beloved community of faith and celebrate with us.

SMALL GROUP OPPORTUNITIES

New Small Group

Beginning June 11th for 5 weeks

Join a small group beginning June 11th for 5 weeks. This group will be reading the first half of "**A is For Alabaster - 52 Reflections on the Stories of Scripture**" by Anna Carter Florence. This is a great read to get to know some of the lesser-known people, places and things in scripture. The group will meet for 5 weeks, take a summer break, and resume September 10th for 5 weeks. This small group is a great way to get to know others while reading and discussing a good book. If you have any questions or would like to sign up please reach out to Pastor Jen. She has a couple copies of the book if you would like to check it out. Email Pastor Jen at jbradley12@gmail.com

Book Club:

Beginning July 8th for 4 weeks

Campfire Summer Book Club- We will meet around the campfire at the home of Elizabeth Endres to discuss "**The Little Book of Biblical Justice**" on Tuesdays at 7 pm in July (8, 15, 22, and 29th). No worries for those who can't attend every week, we'll do a quick catch-up each week for those unable to attend every meeting. Contact Debbie Chen (732-586-1144 or debtchen3@gmail.com) if you're interested or have questions, or sign up in the Lounge or Fellowship hall. The Little Book of Biblical Justice is available on Amazon. There will be S'mores!!

Brown Bag

Lunch Study:

Beginning July 9th for 8 weeks

We will meet in the 1st floor conference room using the "**Sacred Belonging Devotional**" on Wednesdays at 11:30 am in July (9, 16, 23, 30) taking a break August 6th and continuing August (13, 20, 27) and September 3. This Cuban American writer Kät Armas shows us that reading the Bible with fresh eyes allows us to experience God in new ways. Contact Richard Hinchman (rikhinch@msn.com) if you're interested or have questions, he has copies of the book available and some are in the Church Office.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

New: Health and Wellness Ministry Circle is forming!

We would like to identify resources within our congregation to build a much-needed ministry to promote health and wellness within our midst. No previous training or experience is necessary, just a desire to help FBCM become a healthier version of ourselves! Please write your name and contact information on the sign-up sheet on the table in the 2nd floor foyer or by calling the church office.

III John 1:2 "Beloved, I wish above all things that you may prosper and be in health, even as your soul prospers."

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's Food Pantry served 259 people, including 76 children and 57 seniors

FOOD PANTRY DAY OF SERVICE JUNE 14TH

Sign up for one or more of the three two-hour time slots for this important day of Service. We have a sign-up clipboard on the table in the 2nd floor foyer.

FOOD PANTRY SUMMER FOOD DRIVE

This special summer collection will be on Saturday morning, July 26th. With prices rising and schools being out for the summer, the FBCM Food Pantry needs your help more than ever. More information to come.

CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Linda A. Pepe, Senior Pastor

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Rev. Jennifer Bradley, Associate Pastor

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Howard Raudenbush, Minister of Music

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Stacey Williams, Children's Ministry

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Adam Buck, Leadership Team Co-chair

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Tom Tamburello, Leadership Team Co-chair

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Dean Eson, Church Clerk & Office Administrator

fbcmoorestown@gmail.com

Church Office Hours: MON. to FRI. – 9:00 am to Noon - (856) 235-1180

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/firstbaptistmoorestown/>

<https://www.fbcmoorestown.org/>

ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING

'Be the Light' Special offering during the month of June for three Sundays starts today.

MISSION STORIES

"You're here to be light, bringing out the God-colors in the world."

Matthew 5:14 (The Message)



BE THE LIGHT: IN ANADARKO, OKLAHOMA

Wichita Community Church (WCC) in Anadarko, Okla., has been a beacon of light in its community for years. Established in 1908 by the missionary Rev. George W. Hicks and his wife, it provides spiritual guidance to the community under the leadership of Pastor Damon Smith and his wife Lois, who also serve as vice-moderator and treasurer of the Oklahoma Indian Baptist Association, respectively. They are both led in their calling by our Lord Jesus Christ who said: "I must work the works of Him that sent me, while it is day: the night cometh, when no man can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world." (John 9:4-5)

Like many rural towns, Anadarko faces economic challenges, including a relatively high poverty rate. American Baptist Home Mission Societies supports WCC in its mission of helping the community flourish through faith and material support to families in need. "We as a church truly feel the presence of God through the mission work with youth and adults of the community when they least expected," said Lois Smith.

WCC supports youth who are at the core of its ministry.



Youth from the church participated in the 2nd Annual Harvest Soul 3-Day Bible Camp located at the Wichita Community Church.



Children from Wichita Community Church participated in a "Prayer Walk" through the downtown streets of Anadarko, Oklahoma.

Sixteen children attend services regularly; in summer, twenty-five children attend the vacation Bible school. "Number one goal is to teach them of Christ and to take Him as their Savior and learn that they have a purpose in life as they accept and serve Christ as one," added Lois Smith. "Faith just starts with a small seed and just grows and grows with the word."

With the support of

ABHMS, sometimes through One Great Hour of Sharing grants, Wichita Community has provided aid via a multitude of initiatives: Community outreach in-sack lunches, Vacation Bible School, fall Bible camp, back to school supplies, household baskets, hygiene products, warm clothing during the Christmas holidays, holiday dinners, and an Easter egg hunt. "This is a church that has continued to make steady progress, and we continue to watch them with joy and anticipation of how the Lord is moving among them," said Rev. Ben Sullivan, ABHMS' national coordinator for Native American Ministries.

Giving to One Great Hour of Sharing enables churches like Wichita Community Church to assist those most beloved by our Lord - those in need. Give abundantly today and be a beacon of light!

**One Great
HOUR
OF SHARING**

www.abc-oghs.org
