

January 5, 2025

10:00 a.m.

2nd Sunday of Christmas/Holy Communion

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

ORGAN PRELUDE (If you must speak, speak to God)

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENT Carolyn Stevenson

THE INTROIT "Total Praise" Richard Smallwood

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

CALL TO WORSHIP

In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, the earth was a formless void, and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters.

Then God said, "Let there be light" and there was light,

And God saw that the light was good, and God separated the light from the darkness.

God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

Let us worship God, the creator of heaven and earth!

PRAYER OF INVOCATION Rev. Dr. Glen Misick

OPENING HYMN #210 "Our God, Our Help in Ages Past"

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Gracious and loving God, open our hearts so that we are able to admit to You the fullness of our lives – that which is beautiful and good, and that which is hurtful and hateful. We confess that we do not follow Jesus in all that we do. We love with condition. We judge and condemn. We cast the first stone and keep the logs in our own eyes. We do not turn to You as the source of our healing. Forgive us, we pray. Forgive our sin, and empower us to be imitators of Christ in love and service.....(silence for personal confession)

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS Rev. Dr. Glen Misick

Friends in Christ, know this: the mercy of God is from everlasting to everlasting, and I remind you of this surpassing grace – in Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

Amen. Thanks be to God.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (Apostles' Creed)

Let us confess the faith of the Church as one, using the words of the Apostles' Creed. Church, what do you believe?

I believe in God the Father Almighty, the Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ His only Son our Lord; who was conceived of the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; He descended into hell; the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from whence He shall come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit; the holy catholic* church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

(*universal)

HEARING THE WORD

SCRIPTURE: Joshua 1:6-9 (O.T. pg. 194); Matthew 28:18-20 (N.T. pg. 34)

ANTHEM "10,000 Reasons" Matt Redman (sung by Amanda Seik)

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

SERMON: "Stepping Boldly Into God's Future" Rev. Dr. Glen Misick

SEALING AND RESPONDING TO THE WORD

*RESPONSE HYMN #320 "I Am Thine, O Lord" [insert]

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

THE INVITATION

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

COMMUNION PRAYER

SANCTUS #581 "Holy, Holy, Holy Lord"

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

...The gifts of God for the people of God.

Let us keep the feast.

COMMUNION HYMN #84 "In the Cross of Christ I Glory"

THE BLESSING AND ANOINTING OF THE CHILDREN

INVITATION TO TITHES AND OFFERINGS & PRAYER OF DEDICATION

CARRYING THE WORD TO THE WORLD

*CLOSING HYMN #538 "Lord, Dismiss Us with Thy Blessing"

*BENEDICTION

MUSICAL POSTLUDE (A QUIET TIME OF REFLECTION)

PLEASE REMAIN SEATED

+++WE ENTER TO WORSHIP; WE LEAVE TO SERVE!!!

*Please stand if able

CALL FOR CONGREGATION/CORPORATION MEETING

BY ORDER OF THE SESSION OF THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF AVENEL, NEW JERSEY, THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE CONGREGATION/CORPORATION WILL BE HELD ON **SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2025, IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE WORSHIP SERVICE.** THE PURPOSE OF THE MEETING IS TO REVIEW THE ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2024 AND TO CONDUCT ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT MAY BE PROPERLY BROUGHT TO THE ATTENTION OF THE CONGREGATION.

First Presbyterian Church of Avenel

621 East Woodbridge Avenue

Avenel, NJ 07001

Rev. Dr. Glen Misick

January 5, 2025

THEREFORE GO AND
MAKE **DISCIPLES**
OF ALL NATIONS,
BAPTIZING THEM
IN THE NAME OF THE
FATHER & OF
THE **SON & OF THE**
HOLY SPIRIT...



"Stepping Boldly Into God's Future"

Prayers for those with long-term concerns

We ask that these friends have God in their lives, that they and their families feel His loving presence, and comfort during their continued struggles. Updates will be printed as available.

Jennifer Perez – RSD/CRPS, & gastroparesis

Maria - a friend of the Knotts and Haggerty families; she is in an acute care facility for traumatic brain injury.

Friends and Loved Ones in the Service and their Families

STATESIDE

Robert L. Gillis – invasive cardiovascular technologist in the US Navy and stationed at Walter Reed Medical Center in Washington DC, grandson of Barbara & Bill Morgan.

Lauren Hansen-Salmond –Stephanie & Charlie Kurowsky’s niece

Jeffrey Hansen –Stephanie & Charlie Kurowsky’s nephew

OVERSEAS

Daniel Hedner – deployed to Japan – Jake & Carolyn Stockl’s nephew

Steven Stockl – deployed to Iraq – Jake & Carolyn Stockl’s nephew

The children and youth in our congregation and our youth ministry
Racial equality reconciliation in Woodbridge Township and our nation.

Our ministry partners –

Christian Appalachian Project, Kentucky

International Justice Mission, Washington DC

Mr. Matt Barany Jr., who serves with Second Level Ministry

Navajo Ministries

Salvation Army of Perth Amboy, NJ

Saint Jude’s Children’s Hospital of Memphis, Tennessee

Walter Hoving Home

World Vision

Prayer Concerns and Praises

January 5, 2025

The Prayer Chain - provides immediate prayer for *critical and emergency situations*. All other needs will be taken care of through the prayer list. To place someone on the prayer chain call Millie Knotts at 732-382-9391.

The Prayer List - provides opportunities to share prayer within our church family. Prayer requests will be published for up to 6 weeks unless updated. To add someone to this list call the church office at 732-634-1631.

(Note: Please be sure the person you are adding to this list has given his or her permission to do so).

“And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord’s people”

Ephesians 6:18



New Joys and Concerns

2nd Week

3rd Week

4th Week

Prayers for Robbie.

Prayers for Joan who is in assisted living.

5th Week

6th Week

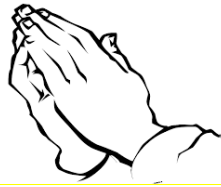
Prayers and Sympathies

SHUT-INS

Please continue to keep in your prayers those members who are unable to join us for worship on Sundays.

Health and Healing

Jen Perez



The mission of First Presbyterian Church is to grow in Christ and make Him known. This is based on John 15:5: "Yes, I am the vine; you are the branches, apart from me you can do nothing." The Holy Spirit strengthens us to:

1. **Connect** to the vine,
2. **Grow** to maturity,
3. **Share** the fruit

Sermon Notes

Sunday:

Preacher:

Sermon Topic/Theme:

Scripture:

Point # 1:

Point # 2

Point # 3

**WELCOME TO WORSHIP THIS MORNING. WE'RE GLAD YOU'RE
HERE! WE BELIEVE YOU ARE HERE FOR A DIVINE PURPOSE.
LET US KNOW HOW WE CAN SERVE YOU TODAY!**

THIS WEEK IN OUR CHURCH

SUNDAY, January 5, 2025

10:00 a.m. Worship Service
Live Stream–Facebook

MONDAY, January 6, 2025

4:00p.m. Property Care Mtg-CO

TUESDAY, January 7, 2025

2:00p.m. Missions/Outreach Mtg-CO
4:30p.m. Worship Committee Mtg-CO
7:30p.m. CE Mtg-SSO

WEDNESDAY, January 8, 2025

6:30 p.m. Bible Study – On-Line (**Beginning 1/15**)

THURSDAY, January 9, 2025

8:00 p.m. Prayer Gathering – Dial In
(425) 436-6302 then enter code 773724#.

FRIDAY, January 10, 2025

SATURDAY, January 11, 2025

9:30 a.m. Sit & Knit (Crochet) – CR

SUNDAY, January 12, 2025

10:00 a.m. Worship Service
Live Stream–Facebook

I Am Thine, O Lord

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Benny Crosby, 1875

I AM THINE: 10, 7, 10, 7, with Refrain
William H. Doane, 1875

1. I am Thine, O Lord, I have heard Thy voice; And it
2. O the pure de-light of a sin-gle hour That be-
3. Con-se-crate me now to Thy serv-ice, Lord, By the

told Thy love to me; But I long to rise in the arms of faith,
fore Thy throne I spend, When I kneel in prayer, and with Thee, my God,
power of grace di-vine; Let my soul look up with a stead-fast hope,

REFRAIN

And be clos-er drawn to Thee.
I com-mune as friend with friend! Draw me near-er, near-er,
And my will be lost in Thine.

bles-ed Lord, To the cross where Thou hast died; Draw me near-er,

near-er, near-er, bless-ed Lord, To Thy pre-cious, bleed-ing side. AMEN.