

January 9, 2022  
10:00 a.m.  
Baptism of the Lord

---

Prayer of Preparation (*for silent meditation before worship*)  
Ascribe to the Lord, O heavenly beings, ascribe to the Lord glory and strength. Ascribe to the Lord the glory of his name; worship the Lord in holy splendor. Amen.

### GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS Carolyn Gilligan

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**In the waters of baptism, O God, you have cleansed us and claimed us. Forgive us for refusing your grace and rejecting your name. We have followed our own paths, and they have led us far from you. Help us to live into our baptisms, to trust that all we need is in you, for you have marked us as your own, loving us without limit. Wash us with your love again, that with clean hearts we may go in the way of Jesus. Amen.....(silence for personal confession)**

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

The love of God flows ceaselessly. The mercy of God never ends. This is good news! In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!  
**Amen. Thanks be to God.**

OPENING HYMN #461 "God Is Here!"

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, Maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord; Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit; Born of the Virgin Mary; Suffered under Pontius Pilate; Was crucified, dead and buried; He descended into Hell;**

**The third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven; And sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; From thence He shall come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit; The Holy Christian Church, the Communion of Saints; The Forgiveness of sins; The Resurrection of the body; And the life everlasting. Amen.**  
(\*universal)

### HEARING THE WORD

SCRIPTURE: Isaiah 43:1-7 (O.T. pg. 672)  
Luke 3:12-17, 21-22 (N.T. pg. 60)

### PROCLAIMING THE WORD

ANTHEM "We Adore" Sarah Hart/Scott Krippayne

SERMON: "Adopted by God"  
Rev. Janet Macgregor Williams

RENEWAL OF BAPTISM VOWS

Who is your Lord and Savior? **Jesus Christ.**

Do your trust in him? **I do.**

Relying on God's grace, will you be a faithful disciple, obeying his Word and showing his love? **I will, with God's help.**

In baptism, we become part of the church universal, for we are one in the body of Christ. Do you affirm your desire to be part of the body of Christ? **I do.**

### SEALING AND RESPONDING TO THE WORD

\*HYMN #322 "Spirit of the Living God"  
(sing through twice)

INSTALLATION OF CHURCH OFFICERS

<u>Elders:</u>	<u>Deacons:</u>
Carolyn Gilligan	Millie Knotts
Carolyn Stevenson	
Delia Zelazny	

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**

**CARRYING THE WORD TO THE WORLD**

\*CLOSING HYMN #361 "How Firm a Foundation"

INVITATION TO TITHES AND OFFERINGS & PRAYER OF DEDICATION

\*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE "Joy to the World!" Hymn #40

\*Please stand if able

**Rev. Janet Macgregor Williams Bio:**

Janet grew up in California. A graduate of Fuller Seminary and Louisville Seminary, she has served churches in Caldwell, Irvington, Elizabeth, and West Milford, before moving to Lawrenceville. Her and her husband have one son, who is a music teacher. In her spare time, Janet enjoys travel, reading and quilting.

First Presbyterian Church of Avenel

621 East Woodbridge Avenue

Avenel, NJ 07001

January 9, 2022



"Adopted by God"

Rev. Janet Macgregor Williams

### 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 – 1<sup>st</sup> LT, – Stephanie & Charlie Kurowsky's niece

Daniel Hedner – Carolyn & Jake Stockl's nephew

Steven Stockl – Carolyn & Jake Stockl's nephew

Amy Updike

Rob – serving in the U.S. Navy, San Diego, CA. - Lynn & Wayne Dubin's son.

Anthony Service – U.S. Air Force, in San Antonio.

#### OVERSEAS

Jeffrey Hansen – 1<sup>st</sup> LT, Kuwait, Stephanie & Charlie Kurowsky'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 –

Boys Town

Camp Johnsonburg

Christian Appalachian Project, Kentucky

Elijah's Promise, New Jersey

Elizabeth Port Presbyterian Church Children's Center, NJ

International Justice Mission, Washington DC

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

Reliant Redemption Church, Pennsylvania

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 9, 2022*

***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*

*2<sup>nd</sup> Week*

*3<sup>rd</sup> Week*

*4<sup>th</sup> Week*

*5<sup>th</sup> Week*

*6<sup>th</sup> Week*

Prayers for Linda Vassallo's mother-in law, Teresa, who is diagnosed with Dementia.

*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***

*Carol Palmer and 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

### **STEWARDSHIP 2021**

In an effort to help our congregation track our annual budget as it compares to giving, the Session has decided to include a brief monthly report. We are a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization, and are completely dependent upon tithes, offerings, and donations to fulfill our budgeted expenses.

<b>General Fund Balance</b>	<b>Net for the month</b>	<b>YTD</b>
12/31/2021	\$ 76,156.39	

**CHURCH PROPERTY STEWARDS NEEDED (for pay)** – When we rent church property such as the gym (Westminster Hall) or Jacob Morgan Hall, a church member must be present on site. Stewards open/close the building and oversee good property stewardship. For their service, stewards are paid \$12/hour (by renters). If you are able to serve in this way (occasionally or regularly), or have questions or would like more information, please call the church office from 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., Tuesday through Friday.

**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 9, 2022**

9:00 a.m. Sunday School – SSO  
10:00 a.m. Worship Service (Guest Preacher–Rev. Janet Williams)  
Live Stream-Facebook

#### **MONDAY, January 10, 2022**

#### **TUESDAY, January 11, 2022**

7:00 p.m. Deacons Mtg – CO

#### **WEDNESDAY, January 12, 2022**

6:00 p.m. Mission/Outreach Mtg – CO

#### **THURSDAY, January 13, 2022**

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

#### **FRIDAY, January 14, 2022**

#### **SATURDAY, January 15, 2022**

#### **SUNDAY, January 16, 2022**

9:00 a.m. Sunday School – SSO  
10:00 a.m. Worship Service (Guest Preacher–Rev. Janet Williams)  
Live Stream-Facebook  
6:00 p.m. Youth Group – CE Bldg

**CHURCH OFFICE HOURS:** Tuesday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

## OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE OR SHARE

**SUNDAY SCHOOL** – meets every Sunday at 9 am in the Christian Education Building's Sunday School Office.

**YOUTH GROUP** – meets every 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the month at 6:00pm in the Christian Education Building.

**CHANCEL FLOWER AVAILABILITY** – The following dates are available on the chancel flower calendar: January 16th & January 23rd. Reservations for chancel flowers may be made through the church office. The cost is \$30.00 for two arrangements.

**PRAYER GATHERING** – is on Thursday evenings at 8 pm. Dial (425) 436-6302 then enter code 773724#. If you have any questions, please contact Sandy Kosakowski 908-930-3628.

**WORSHIP SERVICE LIVE STREAM** – via Facebook every Sunday 10:00 am. We hope you will join us online if you will not be attending at the church. Please tell your friends, especially shut-ins.

**BULLETINS** – will now be on our website. Weekly bulletins can be emailed as well. If you would like a weekly bulletin emailed, please contact the Church Office to be put on the emailing list.

**LIVE STREAM CAMERA VOLUNTEERS** – The mission team is asking for several people to consider operating the live streaming camera so we can insure no interruptions in our outreach. It is easy, requires very little work once setup. Stephen will show exactly how to operate. Please see Stephen or Bob Toro after worship.

**GUEST PREACHER** – for Sunday, January 16, 2022, is Rev. Janet Macgregor Williams. Janet grew up in California. A graduate of Fuller Seminary and Louisville Seminary, she has served churches in Caldwell, Irvington, Elizabeth, and West Milford, before moving to Lawrenceville. Her and her husband have one son, who is a music teacher. In her spare time, Janet enjoys travel, reading and quilting.

## WELCOME TO OUR WORSHIP SERVICE!

*Visitors, we welcome you to this morning's time of worship. If you are looking for a church home or would like to explore the meaning of membership at Avenel Presbyterian Church, please ask an usher or the worship assistant.*

<i>Joseph Fernandez</i>	<i>Music Director</i>	<i>resolutjoe@gmail.com</i>
<i>Michael Peterson</i>	<i>Sexton</i>	<i>avenelpres@gmail.com</i>
<i>Stephanie Kurowsky</i>	<i>Stream Lines</i>	<i>avenelstreamlines@comcast.net</i>
<i>Belinda Kerchner</i>	<i>SS Superintendent</i>	<i>For 2022</i>
<i>Linda Vassallo</i>	<i>Church Office</i>	<i>(732) 634-1631</i>
<i>Susan Smolsky</i>	<i>Webmaster</i>	<i>rustisioux@comcast.net</i>
	<i>Church Email</i>	<i>avenelpres@gmail.com</i>
	<i>Church Website</i>	<i>avenelpresbyterianchurch.org</i>

*Scriptures for Sunday, January 16th*

*Isaiah 62:1-5; John 2:1-11*