

**January 15, 2023**  
**10:00 a.m.**  
**2nd Sunday after Epiphany**

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WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Bob Toro

**GATHERING AROUND THE WORD**

CALL TO WORSHIP

We wait patiently for our God.

**We will sing, we will sing new songs of the One who calls us here.**

We will not chase after other gods.

**We will sing, we will sing new songs of the One in whom we can trust.**

We will tell of all God has done for us.

**We will sing, we will sing new songs of the One whose salvation is for all.**

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**You are faithful, Patient God, even as we continue to live in the shadows of life. We could delight in your hopes for us but choose to do things our way. We could serve the most vulnerable around us, but long to pal around with the powerful. We could share the glad news of deliverance but prefer to swap stories and gossip. There is none like you, Redeemer of all your children. You lean over to listen to our prayers, and whisper forgiveness to our souls. You lift us out of the holes we dig for ourselves and set us on hope's solid ground. You strengthen our weak faith with the life, grace, and love of Jesus Christ, our Lord, our Savior.....(silence for personal confession)**

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

**I will sing of God's love for me; I will sing a new song of hope and wonder.**

**Amen. Thanks be to God.**

OPENING HYMN #302

“I Danced in the Morning”

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

Isaiah 49:1-7 (O.T. pg. 679)

John 1:29-42 (N.T. pg. 92)

ANTHEM

“Behold the Lamb”

Martin Willett

**PROCLAIMING THE WORD**

Children's Sermon

SERMON:

“When Jesus Calls”

Rev. Alice Batcher

**SEALING AND RESPONDING TO THE WORD**

\*HYMN #386

“O for a World”

ORDINATION (O) AND INSTALLATION (I) OF CHURCH OFFICERS

Elders:

Sandra Kosakowski (I)

Gayle Nolan (O)

Deacons:

Cynthia Culton (I)

Carolyn Stockl (I)

Robert Toro (I)

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**

INVITATION TO TITHES AND OFFERINGS & PRAYER OF DEDICATION

\*CLOSING HYMN #525 "Here I Am, Lord"

\*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE "This Little Light of Mine" SPIRITUAL

PLEASE REMAIN SEATED

\*Please stand if able

**Rev. Alice Batcher Bio:**

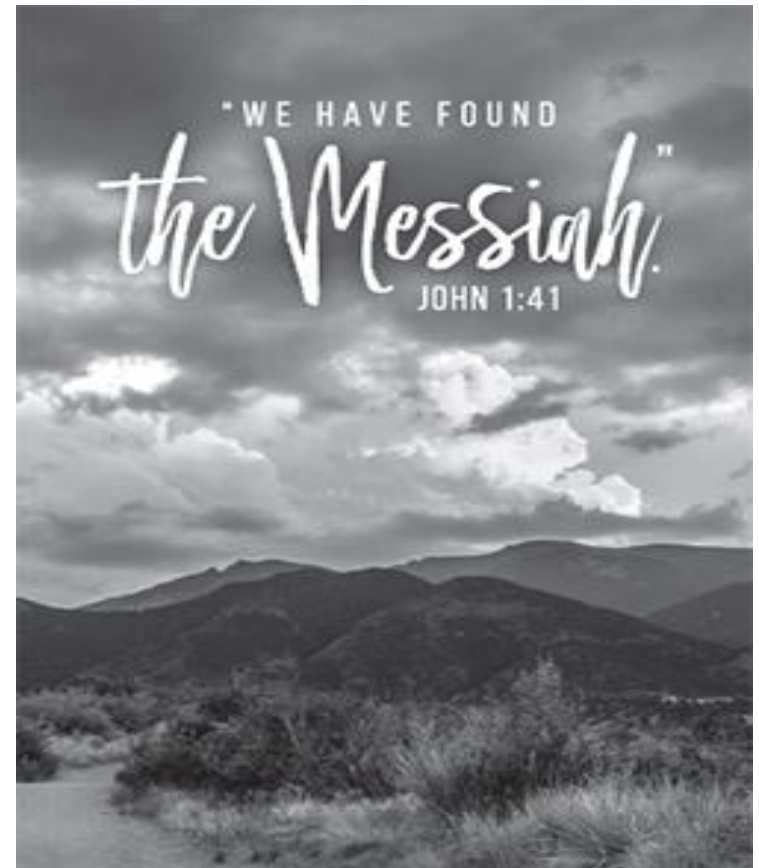
Reverend Alice Batcher is a graduate of Union Theological Seminary in NYC. Originally ordained with the ABCUSA, Alice now has standing with the UCC. During the week, Alice is a hospice chaplain. In her spare time Alice enjoys working with her little poodles, COVID adoptees.

First Presbyterian Church of Avenel

621 East Woodbridge Avenue

Avenel, NJ 07001

January 15, 2023



"When Jesus Calls"

Rev. Alice Batcher

### 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

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

Steven Stockl – Carolyn & Jake Stockl's nephew

#### OVERSEAS

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

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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

Christian Appalachian Project, Kentucky

International Justice Mission, Washington DC

International Students, Inc.

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 15, 2023*

**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*

Please pray for Maria Grezgorski, a friend of Linda Vassallo's, who has breast cancer.

Please pray for James Tuerke, Emily Palmer's brother, who is waiting for bone marrow biopsy results.

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

Prayers for Bob Fernandez, Joe Fernandez's dad, who has been diagnosed with prostate cancer. Please pray for his peace and comfort and for his family.

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

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

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

Prayers for our long-time church member Bill Morgan who is 93 years old and not doing well. Prayers for peace and comfort for him and Barbara.

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

*Prayers and Sympathies*

*Our sincere condolences go out to Betty Hulsizer and family on the passing of her sister, Donalda Funk*

*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>
12/31/2022	\$ 83,459.40	

**CHURCH PROPERTY ACTIVE 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 15, 2023**

10:00 a.m. Worship Service – (Rev. Alice Batchter)  
Ordination/Installation of Deacons & Elders  
Live Stream-Facebook

#### **MONDAY, January 16, 2023**

#### **TUESDAY, January 17, 2023**

7:00 p.m. Session Meeting – KHL

#### **WEDNESDAY, January 18, 2023**

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

#### **THURSDAY, January 19, 2023**

#### **FRIDAY, January 20, 2023**

#### **SATURDAY, January 21, 2023**

9:30 a.m. Sit & Knit (Crochet) – CR

#### **SUNDAY, January 22, 2023**

10:00 a.m. Worship Service – (Walter Hoving Home)  
Live Stream-Facebook

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

## OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE OR SHARE

**CHANCEL FLOWER AVAILABILITY** – The following dates are available on the chancel flower calendar: January 22nd & January 29th. Reservations for chancel flowers may be made through the church office. The cost is \$30.00 for two arrangements and is to be paid in advance.

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

**WORSHIP SERVICE LIVE STREAM** – via Facebook every Sunday at 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** – are now on our website.

**SIT AND KNIT (and CROCHET)** – is on Saturdays from 9:30am to 11:00am in the Sanctuary's Choir Room. Bring your projects, a friend, and any patterns you would like to share or may need help with. We can learn new things from each other.

**WALTER HOVING HOME** – will be our guests on Sunday, January 22<sup>nd</sup>. If anyone has items that they purchased for them for Christmas, they will gladly accept them then.

## 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.*

*Joseph Fernandez  
Michael Peterson  
Stephanie Kurowsky  
Belinda Kerchner  
Linda Vassallo  
Susan Smolsky*

*Music Director  
Sexton  
Stream Lines  
SS Superintendent  
Church Office  
Webmaster  
Church Email  
Church Website*

*resolutjoe@gmail.com  
avenelpres@gmail.com  
avenelstreamlines@comcast.net  
For 2022  
(732) 634-1631  
rustisioux@comcast.net  
avenelpres@gmail.com  
avenelpresbyterianchurch.org*

*Scripture for Sunday, January 22nd*

**Psalm 86:5**

**Luke 6:37**