

February 8, 2026
10:00 a.m.
5th Sunday after Epiphany

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

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

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS Charlie Kurowsky

THE INTROIT "The Butterfly Song" Children's Choir

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

CALL TO WORSHIP

We are salt for the earth.

We are a light for the world.

Just as no one hides a lamp away,

we will offer the world what only we can give.

In shining our lights, we will remember:

We are not the only ones with vital wisdom.

Grateful for mutual enlightenment,

we will not drown out another's beam with ours. Let us worship the living God.

PRAYER OF INVOCATION Rev. Jeremy Campbell

OPENING HYMN #132 "Come, Great God of All the Ages"

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of the oppressed, we confess we have made a mess of Your creation. We come to seek Your mercy and to hear again Your promise to make all things new. We have placed conditions on kinship, and we often feel powerless to enact justice. We are tempted to give up in despair. Forgive us, we pray. When despair beckons, teach us defiant hope in the face of oppressive powers. When we sink in grief and uncertainty, inspire us together to act
.....(*silence for personal confession*)

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS Rev. Jeremy Campbell
Friends, believe the good news: In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Jesus sets us free and calls us to join in God's revolution.
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: Isaiah 58:1-12 (O.T. pgs. 688-689)
Matthew 5:13-20 (N.T. pg. 4)

ANTHEM "The Peace Gift" Choir

Children's Sermon

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

SERMON: "You are the Salt...You are the Light..."
Rev. Jeremy Campbell

SEALING AND RESPONDING TO THE WORD

*RESPONSE HYMN #281 "Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah"

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.

INVITATION TO TITHES AND OFFERINGS & PRAYER OF DEDICATION

DOXOLOGY

CARRYING THE WORD TO THE WORLD

*CLOSING HYMN #40 "Joy to the World!"

*BENEDICTION

MUSICAL POSTLUDE (A QUIET TIME OF REFLECTION)

PLEASE REMAIN SEATED

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

Rev. Jeremy Campbell Bio:

Rev. Jeremy Campbell serves the Presbytery of Northeast New Jersey as Resourcing Co-Leader and Stated Clerk. He is a graduate of Moravian College in Bethlehem PA with a BA in Graphic Design and German Language. He completed his M. Div and an MA in clinical counseling at Moravian Theological Seminary earned his Certified Advanced Alcohol and other Drug Counselor (CAADC). He, his wife Megan, and their two kids live in Metuchen NJ with their cat.

*Please stand if able

First Presbyterian Church of Avenel

621 East Woodbridge Avenue

Avenel, NJ 07001

Rev. Jeremy Campbell

February 8, 2026



**SHINE YOUR
LIGHT.
SHARE GOD'S
LOVE!**

“You are the Salt... You are the Light...”

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.

Robbie Olah

Joan Benkert

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

Michael Seda – US Navy Training – husband of Regina Luntungan-Seda

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

Samaritan's Purse

Walter Hoving Home

World Vision

Prayer Concerns and Praises *February 8, 2026*

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

Prayers for Dani Juarez who is back home recuperating.

3rd Week

4th Week

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



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

NEW CHURCH OFFICE HOURS
WORKING FROM HOME
TUESDAY-THURSDAY

IN THE CHURCH OFFICE
FRIDAY'S ONLY 8:30AM – 1:30PM

**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, February 8, 2026

10:00 a.m. Worship Service – (Guest Minister-
Rev. Jeremy Campbell)
Live Stream – Facebook

MONDAY, February 9, 2026

TUESDAY, February 10, 2026

4:30 p.m. Deacons Meeting– CR

WEDNESDAY, February 11, 2026

THURSDAY, February 12, 2026

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

FRIDAY, February 13, 2026

SATURDAY, February 14, 2026

9:30 a.m. Sit & Knit (Crochet) – CO

SUNDAY, February 15, 2026

10:00 a.m. Worship Service – (Guest Minister- Rev. Dr. Ken Macari)
Live Stream – Facebook

OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE OR SHARE

CHANCEL FLOWER AVAILABILITY – The following dates are open 2/15, 2/22, 3/1, 3/8, 3/15, 3/22, & 3/29. Please make reservations through the church office. The cost is \$30.00 for two arrangements and must be paid in advance.

PRAYER GATHERING – is every Thursday evening at 8:00pm. 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 church. Please tell your friends, especially shut ins. Bulletins are on our website: avenelpresbyterianchurch.org

SIT AND KNIT (and CROCHET) – is every Saturday morning 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.

PNC COMMITTEE – is looking for one more member to form a Pastor Nomination Committee. If you are interested in becoming a member, please see either Carolyn Gilligan or Carolyn Stevenson.

ASH WEDNESDAY WORSHIP SERVICE – in our Sanctuary on February 18th at 7:00pm led by Rev. Jeremy Campbell.

TEMPORARY FILL-IN GUEST MINISTER – beginning in March and going forward, Rev. Jeremy Campbell has agreed to stay on as our temporary guest minister until a permanent Pastor has been hired.

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING – is Sunday, February 22 immediately following worship.

GUEST MINISTER – Sunday, 02/15 is Rev. Dr. Ken Macari. Rev. Macari is an honorably retired member of the Presbytery of Northern New Jersey. He has both a Masters of Divinity and Doctor of Ministry from Gordon-

Conwell Seminary in Massachusetts. Ken served churches in his hometown of Philadelphia, PA, Buffalo, NY and then in Edison, NJ. Since 2016, he has served as the voluntary mission pastor and briefly as the temporary pastor at Fanwood Church. He occasionally serves as pulpit supply throughout New Jersey and Pennsylvania. His wife, Linda, serves on the Fanwood session and is also a pulpit supply.

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>Pastor</i>	<i>Temporary Pulpit Supply</i>
<i>William Gorman</i>	<i>Music Director</i>	<i>williamgormanmusic@gmail.com</i>
<i>Michael Peterson</i>	<i>Sexton</i>	<i>avenelpres@gmail.com</i>
<i>Belinda Kerchner</i>	<i>SS Superintendent</i>	<i>For 2026</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>

Scripture for Sunday, February 15

Luke 9:28-36



Ash Wednesday

Please join us for our
Ash Wednesday Service

February 18th at 7pm

led by Rev. Jeremy Campbell

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 22, 2026 *IMMEDIATELY*
FOLLOWING THE WORSHIP SERVICE.
THE PURPOSE OF THE MEETING IS
TO REVIEW THE ANNUAL REPORTS
FOR 2025 AND TO CONDUCT ANY
OTHER BUSINESS THAT MAY BE
PROPERLY BROUGHT TO THE
ATTENTION OF THE
CONGREGATION.