

February 19, 2023

10:00 a.m.

Transfiguration of the Lord

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Elaine Ferrie-Kaczmarek

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

CALL TO WORSHIP

It is good to be here in this sacred space,

in the shelter of God's love and hope.

It is good to be here with folks we know well, as well as with new friends,

joining with all of God's beloved, sisters and brothers of Jesus.

It is good to be here, where we can hear God's voice,

calling us to be eyewitnesses to the Spirit's presence.

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Our judgment often becomes clouded by our foolishness, Sheltering God, and so we make all the wrong choices. We let fancy philosophies draw us away from your grace. The flowery words of politicians can lead us into valleys of worry and despair. Our fears can convince us that those around us are conspiring against us. You can take all our foolishness, Creative God, and make us wise enough to see you among us. You take the shards of our broken lives to recast us into a faithful people. You speak gently to us, so we can listen to your dreams of our seeing each person as your beloved, even as Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior, sees us through such eyes.....(silence for personal confession)

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

In this moment, in every moment, may we glimpse the grace of God which comes and transfigures our lives.

Thanks be to God, we are forgiven! Amen!

OPENING HYMN #482

"Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty"

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

Exodus 24:12-18 (O.T. pg. 70)

Matthew 17:1-9 (N.T. pgs. 18-19)

ANTHEM

"You Alone" Sarah Hart, Dwight Liles

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

Children's Sermon

SERMON:

"Rethinking, Refiguring"

Rev. Alice Batcher

SEALING AND RESPONDING TO THE WORD

*HYMN #357

"O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee"

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 #339 "Be Thou My Vision"

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE "Alleluia! Raise the Gospel"
Bernadette Farrell, Owen Alstott

PLEASE REMAIN SEATED

*Please stand if able

First Presbyterian Church of Avenel

621 East Woodbridge Avenue

Avenel, NJ 07001

February 19, 2023

**He was transfigured
before them,
and his face shone like
the sun...**



"Rethinking, Refiguring"

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 – 1st LT, – Stephanie & Charlie Kurowsky’s niece

Jeffrey Hansen – 1st 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

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 ***February 19, 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

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

2nd Week

3rd Week

Requesting prayers for Richard (Richie) Kaczmarek, who is Stan's brother and Elaine Ferrie's brother-in-law. He fell from a second story ladder and is in an ICU unit with lung issues, multiple rib, skull, spine, and other fractures. Please for healing and a full recovery.

Prayers are needed for Donna Cecire, a friend of Holly Ely-Calantoni, who's breast cancer has come back and spread to her bones. She is undergoing blood transfusions. Please pray her platelets remain high.

4th Week

5th Week

Please pray for James Tuerke, Emily Palmer's brother, who is in leukemia remission but still receiving treatments.

6th Week

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

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.

General Fund Balance	Net for the month	YTD
12/31/2022	\$ 83,459.40	
01/31/2023	\$ 80,730.57	\$ (2,728.83)

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, February 19, 2023

10:00 a.m. Worship Service – (Rev. Alice Batchter)
Live Stream-Facebook

MONDAY, February 20, 2023

HOLIDAY - PRESIDENT'S DAY

TUESDAY, February 21, 2023

5:00 p.m. Pancake Supper – JMH
7:00 p.m. Session Meeting – KHL

WEDNESDAY, February 22, 2023

ASH WEDNESDAY

7:00 p.m. Worship at The First Presbyterian Church of Woodbridge

THURSDAY, February 23, 2023

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

FRIDAY, February 24, 2023

SATURDAY, February 25, 2023

9:30 a.m. Sit & Knit (Crochet) – CR

SUNDAY, February 26, 2023

10:00 a.m. Worship Service – (Rev. Alice Batchter)
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: February 26th & March 5th. 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 now back to every **Thursday** 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.

ASH WEDNESDAY – we have been invited to worship at The First Presbyterian Church of Woodbridge located at 600 Rahway Avenue at 7:00p.m. Therefore, there will be **NO WORSHIP SERVICE** in our Sanctuary, February 22nd.

LENTEN SOUP SUPPERS – for the next 4 weeks beginning on Wednesday, March 1st through Wednesday, March 29th, we will once again be having our Lenten soup suppers along with a showing of “Noah” from the Sight and Sound Theater located in Lancaster, PA. in Jacob Morgan Hall. Soup served at 5:30pm followed by film/discussion at 6:15pm. Please come out and join us for a wonderful night of soup and fellowship.

GUEST MINISTER – for next week is Rev. Alice Batchter.

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 2023</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>

Scripture for Sunday, February 26th

Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7

Matthew 4:1-11

Please join us for...



Film Discussion



Wednesday, March 1st through
Wednesday, March 29th
Jacob Morgan Hall
Soup is served @ 5:30
Film & discussion begins @ 6:15

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