

March 31, 2024
7:00 a.m.
Easter SonRise Service

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS Carolyn Gilligan

PRELUDE “Alleluia No. 1” [Instrumental] Donald Fishel
Guest Pianist-Elliot Bernard

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

CALL TO WORSHIP

This is the day the Lord has made!

We will rejoice and be glad in it!

The Lord is our strength and our song; he has become our victory!

You are our God, and we will praise you; You are our God, and we will exalt you.

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good!

His faithful love endures forever!

PRAYER OF INVOCATION Rev. Dr. Glen C. Misick

OPENING HYMN #123 “Jesus Christ Is Risen Today”

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Loving God, we confess that at times we do not share in the joy of the resurrection but are caught in the worries of the world. We confess that we do not always live in the spirit of new life but remain discontent, grumbling, and anxious. Forgive us for not sharing in the Good News. Forgive us when we find it more comfortable to worry and complain than to risk the joy and encouragement of new life in Christ. Call us back to Your ways, O God, to seek hope and reconciliation, restoration, and peace. In the name of the Risen Christ, we pray.....(silence for personal confession)

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS Rev. Dr. Glen C. Misick

My beloved, because of the resurrection of our Lord, you are forgiven; accept your forgiveness and know that God loves you and desires great joy for your life. Walk forward on this journey of faith, knowing the risen Christ is walking with you! As the early Christians proclaimed: Christ is Risen! And you say: **He is Risen, Indeed! 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 John 20:1-18 (N.T. pgs. 114-115)

Children's Sermon

ANTHEM “I Know That My Redeemer Lives” [Instrumental]
Scott Soper
Guest Pianist-Elliot Bernard

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

SERMON: “The Empty Tomb—A Symbol of Victory”
Rev. Dr. Glen C. Misick

SEALING AND RESPONDING TO THE WORD

*RESPONSE SONG "In Christ Alone" [insert]

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 #122 "Thine Is the Glory"

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE "Christ Is Risen! Shout Hosanna!" [Instrumental]
Guest Pianist-Elliot Bernard

PLEASE REMAIN SEATED

*Please stand if able



First Presbyterian Church of Avenel

621 East Woodbridge Avenue

Avenel, NJ 07001

Rev. Dr. Glen C. Misick, Pastor

March 31, 2024



"The Empty Tomb—A Symbol
of Victory"

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

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 –

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 ***March 31, 2024***

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

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

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS:

Tuesday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

**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, March 31, 2024

EASTER SUNDAY

- 7:00 a.m. SonRise Worship Service – Sanctuary
(Guest Pianist-Elliot Bernard)
- 8:00 a.m. Continental Breakfast – Choir Room
- 10:00 a.m. Easter Worship Service
Live Stream–Facebook

MONDAY, April 1, 2024

TUESDAY, April 2, 2024

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

WEDNESDAY, April 3, 2024

- 4:30 p.m. Bible Study – JMH

THURSDAY, April 4, 2024

- 4:30 p.m. Property Care Mtg. – CO
- 8:00 p.m. Prayer Gathering – Dial In
(425) 436-6302 then enter code 773724#.

FRIDAY, April 5, 2024

SATURDAY, April 6, 2024

- 9:30 a.m. Sit & Knit (Crochet) – CR
- 12:00 p.m. Wrestling-N-Wrecovery-GYM

SUNDAY, April 7, 2024

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

OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE OR SHARE

CHANCEL FLOWER AVAILABILITY – The following dates are open: 4/7, 4/14, 4/21, & 4/28. Please make reservations through the church office. The cost is \$30.00 for two arrangements and must be paid in advance.

PRAYER GATHERING – is now back 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 church. Please tell your friends, especially shut ins.

SIT AND KNIT (and CROCHET) – is now back 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.

PRAYER REQUESTS – sheets are located beside the bulletin bin.

BIBLE STUDY – a 13-week course every Wednesday at 4:30pm will be taught by Rev. Misick in Jacob Morgan Hall. Please register by Email: gmisick@yahoo.com or Call: **917 679-5676**

WRESTLING-N-WRECOVERY – will be hosting a free event on Saturday, April 6th in our GYM starting at 1:00pm. For more information, please contact Dennis Lytle at (732) 397-0242.

PW WOMEN'S 2024 SPRING RETREAT – hosted by the First Presbyterian church of Woodbridge on May 11th from 9am to 4pm at 600 Rahway Avenue. Please see the bulletin flyer for details and registration.

SonRise WORSHIP SERVICE GUEST PIANIST – is Elliot Bernard. Pianist and educator Elliot Bernard first cultivated his interest in music at a local studio in his hometown of Leesburg, Virginia. During high school, Bernard became involved with and mentored by the veteran military musicians of the Washington, D.C. area, performing at venues such as the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts and the 2018 Jazz Education Network Conference in Dallas, Texas. Bernard recently completed his undergraduate studies as a jazz piano performance major at William Paterson University. In 2022, he was invited to Washington, D.C. to

audition for the United States Navy Commodores, where he was selected as a finalist. Now a resident of New Jersey, Bernard performs and teaches piano in the greater New York metropolitan area.

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
Belinda Kerchner
Linda Vassallo
Hanna Pallitto

Music Director
Sexton
SS Superintendent
Church Office
Webmaster
Church Email
Church Website

resolutjoe@gmail.com
avenelpres@gmail.com
For 2024
(732) 634-1631
hannapallitto@gmail.com
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Scripture for Sunday, April 7th

John 20:19-29



Easter Lilies

The beautiful trumpet-shaped white flowers symbolize purity, virtue, innocence, hope and life- the spiritual essence of Easter. Often called the "white-robed apostles of hope." Lilies were found growing in the Garden of Gethsemane after Christ's agony. Tradition has it that the beautiful white lilies sprung up where drops of Christ's sweat fell to the ground in his final hours of sorrow and deep distress. Churches continue this tradition at Easter time by surrounding their alters and crosses with masses of Easter Lilies to commemorate the resurrection of Jesus Christ and hope of life everlasting.



First Presbyterian Church Avenel, NJ March 31, 2024

Each year, the sanctuary is beautifully decorated on Easter morning with lilies. Each lily has been given by a member or friend of the congregation in honor or remembrance of loved ones.

Given by:

Ed & Shirley Benkert

Holly Ely-Calantoni

Diane Cardona

The Gilligan Family

Danetta Juarez

Millie Knotts

Regina Luntungan-Seda

Rev. Dr. Glen Misick

Dr. Jennifer Misick

Amelia and Mary Pallitto

Gay Patrouch

In Memory of:

Edward Benkert Sr.
Reinhart Thorsen
William & Ruth Freist
Nancy Leclair

Howard & Edna Ely
Christopher & Leslie Yuhasz

Josephine Gebhardt Davis
John Gebhardt
JoAnn Smith

Don Gilligan
Mary Sandor

Frank Juarez
Renehan Family
Toth Family

Al Knotts

Luisa Rondoh

Parents, James & Helen Misick

Parents, Ulysses & Archie
Engram

Kay Price

Walter & Eloise Emery

Given by:

Gary & Carolyn Stevenson

Jake and Carolyn Stockl

Given by:

Sandara Kosakowski

Amelia and Mary Pallitto

The Sammartino Family

Gail Sheets

Jake and Carolyn Stockl

In Memory of:

Ernest & Arleen Schreiber
George & Stella Stevenson

All family members who have
passed away

In Honor of:

My children

Gaga and Pa Culton

The Church Family

Happy Easter to everyone!
Miss you all!

Our family and friends



WRESTLING N WRECOVERY
501 C-3 ORGANIZATION
PRESENTS

OUTREACH: 1-4 PM
FREE WRESTLING SHOW: 2-3 PM

**UNITY IN THE
COMMUNITY**

SATURDAY, APRIL 6, 2024
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, AVENEL
621 E. WOODBRIDGE AVE, AVENEL NJ, 07001

LIGHT REFRESHMENTS, PHOTOS IN THE
WRESTLING RING, SPEAKER SESSION,
RECOVERY FELLOWSHIP AND GUIDANCE

**ACTION PACKED
PRO
WRESTLING**

**APPEARANCES BY ACTION
PACKED PRO WRESTLING
SUPERSTARS**

FOR ANY MORE INFORMATION OR QUESTIONS, PLEASE
CONTACT DENNIS LYTLE: 732-397-0242



In Christ Alone.pdf



PW Retreat 2024
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