

April 2, 2023
10:00 a.m.
Palm/Passion Sunday

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS Carolyn Stevenson

PRELUDE "He Is Exalted" Twila Paris

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

CALL TO WORSHIP

Look, Your king is coming to You, humble and mounted on a donkey.

Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest heaven!

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Abba God, Father of Jesus, forgive our lack of respect and attention as your son enters this most painful of weeks. We, like the disciples, fall asleep when Jesus asks us to stay awake and pray. Our minds wander as he sets his path straight for Jerusalem to speak truth to power on our behalf. We are careless with our faith, while Jesus acts with extraordinary love. Forgive our apathy. Forgive our inattention. Forgive our careless and self-serving attitudes. Remind us, this Holy Week, of the salvation you offer in Jesus Christ. Let us not take this gracious gift for granted.....(silence for personal confession)

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

"O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his steadfast love endures forever!" In the name of Jesus Christ, know that you are forgiven and be at peace.

Amen. Thanks be to God.

OPENING HYMN #89 "Hosanna, Loud Hosanna"

HEARING THE WORD

SCRIPTURE: Zechariah 9:9 (O.T. pg. 884)
Matthew 21:1-11 (N.T. pg. 23)

ANTHEM "Above All" Lenny LeBlanc and Paul Baloche

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

Children's Sermon

SERMON: Hosanna In The Highest: "We Still Give Jesus the Praise!"
Linwood Bagby

SEALING AND RESPONDING TO THE WORD

*HYMN #91 "Ride On! Ride On in Majesty"

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

THE INVITATION

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

SANCTUS #581 "Holy, Holy, Holy Lord"

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.

...The gifts of God for the people of God.

Let us keep the feast.

HYMN #367 "Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love"

CARRYING THE WORD TO THE WORLD

INVITATION TO TITHES AND OFFERINGS & PRAYER OF DEDICATION

*CLOSING HYMN #536 "Lord, Make Us More Holy"

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE (Depart in Silence)

PLEASE REMAIN SEATED

*Please stand if able

CALL FOR CONGREGATION / CORPORATION MEETING

BY ORDER OF THE SESSION OF THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF AVENEL, NEW JERSEY, THE SEMI-ANNUAL MEETING OF THE CONGREGATION/CORPORATION WILL BE HELD ON **SUNDAY, April 16, 2023**, IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE WORSHIP SERVICE. THE PURPOSE OF THE MEETING IS TO REVIEW THE ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2022 AND TO CONDUCT ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT MAY BE PROPERLY BROUGHT TO THE ATTENTION OF THE CONGREGATION.

LINWOOD BAGBY BIO:

Linwood Bagby is a native of West Deptford, New Jersey and received his BS from The College of New Jersey and his Masters from Kean University. Both degrees were in Speech and Language Pathology. He resides in Union Township and retired in July 2021 as a Speech and Language Specialist with the Elizabeth Public Schools Board of Education. Linwood is active in the community where he worked. In 1994, he founded Restore Ministries, Inc. to be a safe haven by providing academic help, recreational, and cultural activities and experiences for children and teenagers. Linwood is an active member in our Presbytery. In 2012 he was elected to serve as the Moderator for the Elizabeth Presbytery. Linwood was the Chair of the Presbytery Cabinet (2014-2017). He is on the Vision Team of our new Northeast Presbytery of New Jersey (formerly the Elizabeth Presbytery). Currently he fills his time at Restore and as a Ruling Elder and is working part time as the Director of Youth and Young Adults at Second Presbyterian Church. He delivers the online church sermons twice a month and serves on Second Church's Session (the governing board). His hobbies are reading fantasy and mystery novels, playing his acoustic guitar, cooking, and riding his bike.

First Presbyterian Church of Avenel

621 East Woodbridge Avenue

Avenel, NJ 07001

April 2, 2023



Hosanna In The Highest:

"We Still Give Jesus the Praise!"

Linwood Bagby

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 –

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

April 2, 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 Francie Pocalyko, friend of Gay Patrouch & Melanie Meli, who is on hospice care at home for brain cancer. Please pray for her peace and comfort for the family.

Please pray for Charles Olah, son of Robbie Olah and brother of Susan Smolsky. He is still recovering from his recent brain surgery and has now started 6 weeks of radiation treatments as well as 6 weeks of chemotherapy. The radiation treatments are 5 days a week and the chemotherapy is 7 days a week.

2nd Week

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.

3rd Week

4th Week

5th Week

6th Week

Please pray for James Tuerke, Emily Palmer's brother, who has leukemia. His levels were low last week and couldn't receive his bone marrow biopsy and chemo.

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 2023

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)
02/28/2023	\$ 79,873.93	\$ (856.64)
		\$ (3,585.47)

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 \$14/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.

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, April 2, 2023

PALM SUNDAY

10:00 a.m. Worship Service – (Linwood Bagby)

Live Stream-Facebook

MONDAY, April 3, 2023

HOLY WEEK

TUESDAY, April 4, 2023

2:00 p.m. Mission/Outreach Mtg. – CO

7:00 p.m. Worship Committee Mtg. – CO

7:30 p.m. CE Mtg.– SSO

WEDNESDAY, April 5, 2023

THURSDAY, April 6, 2023

MAUNDY THURSDAY

7:00 p.m. Tenebrae Worship Service – Sanctuary

8:00 p.m. Prayer Gathering – Dial In (**CANCELLED**)

(425) 436-6302 then enter code 773724#.

FRIDAY, April 7, 2023

GOOD FRIDAY

SATURDAY, April 8, 2023

HOLY SATURDAY

9:30 a.m. Sit & Knit (Crochet) – CR

SUNDAY, April 9, 2023

EASTER

7:00 a.m. SonRise Worship Service – **CHAPEL** (Rev. Mike Atzert)

Guest Organist-Jon Benjamin

8:00 a.m. Easter Continental Breakfast – GYM

10:00 a.m. Worship Service – (Rev. Mike Atzert)

Live Stream-Facebook

OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE OR SHARE

CHANCEL FLOWER AVAILABILITY – dates are: April 16th & April 23rd. 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 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.

TENEBRAE SERVICE – will be this Thursday, April 6th at 7:00pm in the Sanctuary. Please come out and worship with us on this very somber night.

EASTER CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST – will be served in the Gym immediately after the 7:00am Easter SonRise Service on April 9th.

LADIES TEA – is Saturday, April 29th at 2:00pm in the Gym. Invitations are located in the Sanctuary near the bulletin box. RSVP by April 10th.

GUEST MINISTER – for Sunday, April 9th is SonRise and Easter service is Rev. Mike Atzert. Mike is a Hospice Chaplain after serving as pastor of Kirkpatrick Memorial Presbyterian Church (Ringo) for 8 years and First Presbyterian Church of Blackwood, NJ for 10 years. Mike graduated from Princeton Theological Seminary in 2003 and was ordained by New Castle Presbytery (Delaware). Mike has been married to Amy for 30 years. They have two daughters, a son-in-law, a future son-in-law, and a rescue dog named Auggie.

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

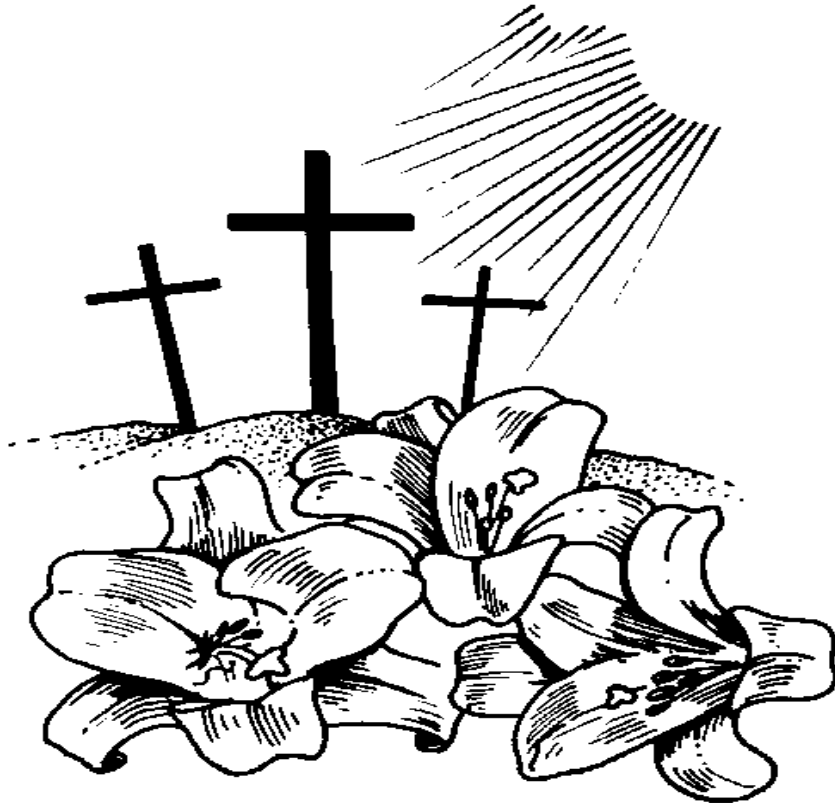
For 2023
(732) 634-1631

rustisioux@comcast.net
avenelpres@gmail.com
avenelpresbyterianchurch.org

Scripture for Sunday, April 9th

Matthew 28:1-10

***The Deacons of
The First Presbyterian Church of
Avenel
cordially invite you to
the Easter Continental Breakfast
immediately following the SonRise
Service on
April 9, 2023, at 8:00am
in the GYM***



Annual Ladies Tea

Saturday, April 29, 2023

The First Presbyterian Church
of Avenel



2:00 pm to 4:30 pm in the GYM

RSVP BY April 10, 2023

Reservations must be made early. We are limited to 80 people in the GYM.

NO TICKETS WILL BE AVAILABLE AT THE DOOR.

Invitations are located in the Sanctuary.