

April 3, 2022
10:00 a.m.
5th Sunday in Lent

Prayer of Preparation (*for silent meditation before worship*)
God of extravagant love, as Mary anointed Jesus' feet with precious perfume, anoint us with your mercy. Make us ready for the day when you will pour out your grace at the foot of the cross, through the costly self-offering of our Savior and Lord. Amen.

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Bob Toro

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Like Judas, God of new things, we like to complain about your generous ways, rather than living in your grace. The poor are always with us, we believe, which justifies our ignoring them. In our memories, we see a perceived golden past, and so close our eyes to the new things you do in our midst. We are so enamored with our achievements that we are not willing to throw them away in order to follow Jesus. Forgive us, restoring God, and help us to notice the kingdom springing forth in our midst. By your grace, may our fears turn to faith, our seeds of grief produce a bumper crop of joy, and our tears turn into torrents of tenderness as we journey with Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior, to Jerusalem.....(*silence for personal confession*)

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Do we notice what God has done for us, what God is doing in us? This is good news for everyone.

Thanks be to God, we are forgiven! Amen.

OPENING HYMN #339 "Be Thou My Vision"

HEARING THE WORD

SCRIPTURE: John 12:1-8 (N.T. pg. 106)

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

ANTHEM "Oh Dios, Crea en Mi" Eleazar Cortes

SERMON: "Extravagant Love" Rev. Alice Batchner

SEALING AND RESPONDING TO THE WORD

*HYMN #391 "Take My Life"

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

*CLOSING HYMN #408 "Where Cross the Crowded Ways of Life"

INVITATION TO TITHES AND OFFERINGS & PRAYER OF DEDICATION

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE "Glory in the Cross" Dan Schutte

*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

April 3, 2022



"Extravagant Love"

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

Daniel Hedner – Carolyn & Jake Stockl's nephew

Steven Stockl – Carolyn & Jake Stockl's nephew

Amy Updike

Rob – serving in the U.S. Navy, San Diego, CA. - Lynn & Wayne Dubin's son.

Anthony Service – U.S. Air Force, in San Antonio.

OVERSEAS

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

Camp Johnsonburg

Christian Appalachian Project, Kentucky

Elijah's Promise, New Jersey

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 3, 2022

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 Vilma Ambis' peace and comfort.

2nd Week

3rd Week

4th Week

5th Week

6th Week

Please pray for Alba Grano, Linda Vassallo's childhood friend, who is facing multiple health issues.

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
12/31/2021 \$ 76,156.39		
01/31/2022 \$ 73,393.05	\$(2,753.34)	\$(2,753.34)
02/28/2022 \$ 73,809.90	\$ 416.85	\$(2,336.49)

CHURCH PROPERTY 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.

Per Capita Amount has been changed from \$45.00 to \$40.00

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 3, 2022

- 9:00 a.m. Sunday School – SSO
- 10:00 a.m. Worship Service (Guest Preacher– Rev. Alice Batcher)
Live Stream-Facebook
- 6:00 p.m. Youth Group – CE

MONDAY, April 4, 2022

- 7:00 p.m. Property Care/Stewardship Mtg. – CO

TUESDAY, April 5, 2022

- 2:00 p.m. Mission/Outreach Mtg. – CO
- 7:00 p.m. Worship Comm Mtg. – CO
- 7:30 p.m. CE Mtg. – SSO

WEDNESDAY, April 6, 2022

THURSDAY, April 7, 2022

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

FRIDAY, April 8, 2022

SATURDAY, April 9, 2022

SUNDAY, April 10, 2022

PALM SUNDAY

- 9:00 a.m. Sunday School – SSO
- 10:00 a.m. PALM SUNDAY Worship Service –
(Guest Preacher–Rev. Emily Lueder)
Live Stream-Facebook

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

OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE OR SHARE

SUNDAY SCHOOL – meets every Sunday at 9 am in the Christian Education Building’s Sunday School Office.

YOUTH GROUP – meets every 1st and 3rd Sunday of the month at 6:00pm in the Christian Education Building. **No Youth Group on Easter Sunday, April 17th.**

CHANCEL FLOWER AVAILABILITY – The following dates are available on the chancel flower calendar: April 17th & April 24h. Reservations for chancel flowers may be made through the church office. The cost is \$30.00 for two arrangements.

PRAYER GATHERING – is on Thursday evenings at 8 pm. Dial (425) 436-6302 then enter code 773724#. If you have any questions, please contact Sandy Kosakowski 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 – will now be on our website. Weekly bulletins can be emailed as well. If you would like a weekly bulletin emailed, please contact the Church Office to be put on the emailing list.

YOU TUBE CHANNEL – An email request has been sent to everyone asking to subscribe to the church YouTube Channel. We need a minimum of 50 subscribers to be able to live stream our service, we currently have 34. Thank you for helping. Mission Team.

VBS – will begin July 25th through July 29th for 3 year old potty trained through 5th Grade. Please fill out registration form attached to the bulletin.

SIT AND KNIT (and CROCHET) – On Saturdays from 9:30am to 11:00am in the 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.

GUEST PREACHER – for Sunday, April 10, 2022, is Rev. Emily Lueder. Originally from Northwest Indiana, Emily studied theology and ministry and philanthropic leadership and service at Valparaiso University. She moved to Princeton, NJ and graduated from Princeton Theological Seminary in 2019. She completed her yearlong chaplain residency at the Mount Sinai Hospital in Manhattan and currently serves as a palliative care chaplain with Hackensack Meridian Health. In her free time, Emily enjoys all things Golden Girls and Abraham Lincoln.

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	Music Director	resolutjoe@gmail.com
Michael Peterson	Sexton	avenelpres@gmail.com
Stephanie Kurowsky	Stream Lines	avenelstreamlines@comcast.net
Belinda Kerchner	SS Superintendent	For 2022
Linda Vassallo	Church Office	(732) 634-1631
Susan Smolsky	Webmaster	rustisioux@comcast.net
	Church Email	avenelpres@gmail.com
	Church Website	avenelpresbyterianchurch.org

Scripture for Sunday, April 10th

Psalm 18:1-2, 19-29

Luke 19:28-40



Get Ready For A Howlin' Good Time!

New friends • Amazing experiments • Creative games
Super-fun snacks • Surprising adventures • Incredible music

The First Presbyterian Church of Avenel
621 E Woodbridge Ave, Avenel, NJ

July 25th – July 29th 9:00 am – 12:15 pm

Vacation Bible School Registration:
Contact church office at 732-634-1631

or

Email: avenelpres@gmail.com

Website: www.Avenelpresbyterianchurch.org



Harley

Miley

Howell

Rollo

Jet



Vacation Bible School 2022
July 25th – July 29th 9:00 am – 12:15 pm

ALL CHILDREN 3 YEARS OLD & POTTY TRAINED THROUGH 5TH GRADE

COME & CELEBRATE GOD'S GREATNESS, MUSIC, CRAFTS, SNACKS, & MORE

SNEAKERS MUST BE WORN FOR GYM

The First Presbyterian Church of Avenel
621 E. Woodbridge Ave. Avenel, NJ 07001
Phone: 732-634-1631 / Fax 732-634-1291

Email: avenelpres@gmail.com

Website: www.Avenelpresbyterianchurch.org

Register by: June 30, 2022

Please print clearly

Child's name:

_____ M/F _____

Address:

Birthday: _____ Grade Completed in June: _____



Parent/Guardian:

Dad's Cell Phone: _____

Mom's Cell Phone: _____

Email address: _____

Emergency Contact Name:

Phone: _____

Allergies:

I give the church permission to use my child's photograph on the church's Facebook page Yes No

Please return completed form to The First Presbyterian Church of Avenel by mail, email, fax or in person

SIGN UP NOW !!!!!!!

3/21/22

Dear First Presbyterian Church,

I am reaching out to you on behalf of the Carboard Box City Steering Committee at Trinity Presbyterian Church, East Brunswick. We would like to invite your congregation to participate in the Cardboard Box City event that will be held on April 30th-May1st, 2022. The event is dedicated to support the FISH Hospitality Program, Inc.

Trinity would appreciate you promoting this event during a worship service or in your church newsletter before the event occurs. In addition, we would appreciate you referring your congregants to the Cardboard Box City webpage at www.cardboardboxcity.com where they can sign up to participate in this event and/or donate to the FISH Hospitality Program, Inc. We would be very excited for individuals or families from your congregation to sign up for this fun event! Should you have any questions, please call (585) 694-0881 or email us at admin@cardboardboxcity.com . Thank you so much for your kind consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Beth Knox". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Beth Knox
Trinity Cardboard Box City Steering Committee