

May 7, 2023
10:00 a.m.
5th Sunday of Easter

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS Belinda Kerchner

PRELUDE "Where My Father Lives" M.D. Ridge

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

CALL TO WORSHIP

The Lord is our refuge.

We can find peace in God's abiding love.

When troubles assail us, we call upon the Lord.

When joys abound, we call upon the Lord.

Welcome this day to God's house, one of many dwellings of the Almighty One.

We thank you and praise God for his refuge and sanctuary.

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Faithful God, we come before You with many issues on our hearts. We get frustrated and angry at the way things are going in the world and even in our lives. We want Your immediate intervention; and when we don't see things happening the way we think they should be, we are quick to dismiss You and any thought of Your presence. Help us stop our selfishness and our quick anger. Forgive us for our pettiness and our stubbornness. Bring us back to You, O Lord. Help us shout Your praises and live lives of joyful service. For we ask these things in Jesus' name.....(silence for personal confession)

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

This day, this moment has been given to us as a gift from God. Let us be glad in it.

Amen. Thanks be to God.

OPENING HYMN "Gather Us In" (insert) Marty Haugen

HEARING THE WORD

SCRIPTURE: Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16 (O.T. pg. 505, 506)
John 14:1-14 (N.T. pgs. 108-109)

ANTHEM "You Have Called Us" Bernadette Farrell

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

Children's Sermon

SERMON: "Turn Off Your ESP and Turn On Your GPS"
Rev. Lydia Tembo

SEALING AND RESPONDING TO THE WORD

*HYMN #485 "To God Be the Glory"

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 #513

“Let Us Break Bread Together”

CARRYING THE WORD TO THE WORLD

INVITATION TO TITHES AND OFFERINGS & PRAYER OF DEDICATION

*CLOSING HYMN #376 “Love Divine, All Loves Excelling”

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

“I Will Choose Christ”

Tom Booth

PLEASE REMAIN SEATED

*Please stand if able

REV. LYDIA TEMBO BIO:

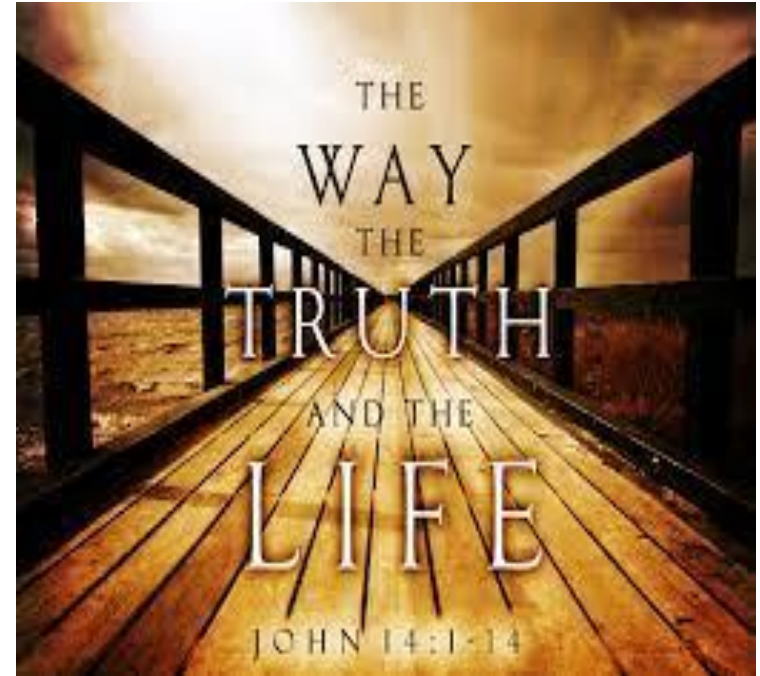
Rev. Lydia is a Zambian born, semi-cradle Presbyterian, raised in Forest Hills, NY. Rev. Tembo earned a Master of Divinity and a Certificate in Theology, Women and Gender from Princeton Theological Seminary. Rev. Tembo is the Director of Admissions at Princeton Theological Seminary and serves as a discernment partner for those exploring their sense of call to ministry and theological education. She enjoys walks to the local coffee shop with her partner Michael and their daughter Seraphina.

First Presbyterian Church of Avenel

621 East Woodbridge Avenue

Avenel, NJ 07001

May 7, 2023



“Turn Off Your ESP and Turn On
Your GPS”

Rev. Lydia Tembo

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

May 7, 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

Offering prayers for the family of Carol Palmer on her passing yesterday.

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

4th Week

5th Week

Please pray for Maria Grezgorski, a friend of Linda Vassallo's, who has breast cancer that has metastasized to her spine and spread to some of her bones.

6th Week

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.

Prayers and Sympathies

Our sincere condolences go out to the Palmer family on the passing of Carol.

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

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)	\$ (2,728.83)
02/28/2023	\$ 79,873.93	\$ (856.64)	\$ (3,585.47)
03/31/2023	\$ 79,283.62	\$ (590.31)	\$ (4,175.78)
04/30/2023	\$ 79,248.48	\$ (35.24)	\$ (4,210.92)

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.

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, May 7, 2023

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

MONDAY, May 8, 2023

TUESDAY, May 9, 2023

4:00 p.m. Deacons Mtg – CR

WEDNESDAY, May 10, 2023

THURSDAY, May 11, 2023

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

FRIDAY, May 12, 2023

SATURDAY, May 13, 2023

9:30 a.m. Sit & Knit (Crochet) – CR

SUNDAY, May 14, 2023

MOTHER’S DAY

10:00 a.m. Worship Service – (Rev. Brooks Smith)
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 – dates are: May 14th & May 21st. Please make reservations through the church office. The cost is \$30.00 for two arrangements and must be paid in advance.

*Flowers are for Amelia Kay Pallitto's 4th birthday.
Given with love from her grandparents, Rich and Cindy Culton.*

PRAYER GATHERING – is 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.

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.

SOUTH PLAINFILED HIGH SCHOOL – presents a tribute to Frankie Valli and the Four Seasons on Friday, May 19th at 8:00pm. For tickets visit Eventbrite.com. Advance tickets are \$18.00 and \$20.00 at the door.

GUEST MINISTER – for Sunday, May 14th is Rev. Brooks Smith.

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, May 14th

Esther 4:8-17
Luke 19:1-10