

July 2, 2023

10:00 a.m.

5th Sunday after Pentecost

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS Carolyn Stevenson

PRELUDE "All Are Welcome" Marty Haugen

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

CALL TO WORSHIP

Sing, sing of God's unalterable love!

We will rejoice as we walk in the light of our God.

Tell everyone around you of God's faithfulness.

We will share the stories of the One who experienced our life in all its fullness.

Shout out loud of God's presence with us, on this day and in all the days to come.

Justice and goodness are God's gifts to us; truth and love walk by our side.

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

It seems so simple, God of compassion, to offer a cup of cold water to a thirsty person, yet we know we worry more about how that might inflate our bill at the end of the month. We are to open our hearts to others, but they may need to be careful lest they slip on our icy attitudes towards them. People are looking for places to lay their heads, yet our spare bedrooms continue to be the place where only the dust bunnies sleep. Forgive us, Radical Hope. You did not have to become one of us, but you did, so we might know your love. You did not have to welcome us into your family, but you do, so we might experience unexpected grace in our lives. You did not have to die for us, but in Jesus Christ you did, so we might have life with you forever.....(silence for personal confession)

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Without a doubt, God's love never comes to an end. We will tell our kids and grandkids of the grace and peace which is ours. Amen. Thanks be to God, we are forgiven!

OPENING HYMN #472 "O Sing to the Lord"

HEARING THE WORD

SCRIPTURE: Genesis 22:1-14 (O.T. pgs. 17-18)
Matthew 10:40-42 (N.T. pg.11)

ANTHEM "I Will Always Thank the Lord" Scott Soper

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

Children's Sermon

SERMON: "In God's Service"

Rev. Alice Batchner

SEALING AND RESPONDING TO THE WORD

*HYMN #488 "The God of Abraham Praise"

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 #433

“There’s a Spirit in the Air”

CARRYING THE WORD TO THE WORLD

INVITATION TO TITHES AND OFFERINGS & PRAYER OF DEDICATION

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

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE “O Beautiful for Spacious Skies” MATERNA #564

PLEASE REMAIN SEATED

*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

July 2, 2023



“In God’s Service”

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 –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

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

July 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

Prayers for Danetta Juarez who is undergoing physical therapy after knee replacement surgery.

Prayers for Gayle Nolan's dad, Tom, who is in rehab undergoing physical therapy.

Prayers for Vilma Ambis, who is in an assisted living facility with advanced stages of Alzheimer's disease.

2nd Week

3rd 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.

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

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)
05/31/2023	\$ 80,317.20	\$ 1,068.72	\$ (3,142.20)

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, July 2, 2023

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

MONDAY, July 3, 2023

TUESDAY, July 4, 2023

HOLIDAY-INDEPENDENCE DAY

WEDNESDAY, July 5, 2023

THURSDAY, July 6, 2023

9:30 a.m. Sit & Knit (Crochet) – CR
7:00 p.m. Property Care Mtg – CO

FRIDAY, July 7, 2023

SATURDAY, July 8, 2023

SUNDAY, July 9, 2023

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

**JULY CHURCH OFFICE HOURS:
Wednesday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.**

OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE OR SHARE

CHANCEL FLOWER AVAILABILITY – dates are: July 9th & July 16th. Please make reservations through the church office. The cost is \$30.00 for two arrangements and must be paid in advance.

PRAYER GATHERING – will resume in September. Date to be determined.

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 now on **Thursdays** for the summer 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.

GUEST MINISTER – for the month of July is Rev. Alice Batchner.

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>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, July 9th

Genesis 24:34-38, 42-49, 58-67

Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30