

**August 25, 2024**

**10:00 a.m.**

**14<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**

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**PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP**

MUSICAL PRELUDE (If you must speak, speak to God)

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Robert Toro

THE INTROIT HYMN #469 "Morning Has Broken"

**GATHERING AROUND THE WORD**

CALL TO WORSHIP

I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart;

**I will recount all of Your wonderful deeds.**

I will be glad and exult in You;

**I will sing praise to Your name, O Most High.**

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

Rev. Dr. Joanne Noel

OPENING HYMN #466 "O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing"

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Lord, you know our inmost being. You know all that we are, all that we know, all that we think, and all that we believe. When those thoughts, beliefs, ideas, and be-ings turn from You, we long to be placed back on Your path. We pray that our lives might be a never-ending offering to you, and that our sin might lead to more ways to learn and grow closer to Your hopes for us. Cleanse us of our sin; turn our thoughts and feet ever toward Your Way. We pray this together in the name of your Son Jesus.....(silence for personal confession)**

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Rev. Dr. Joanne Noel

Jesus is the way, the truth, and the life...acknowledging this we know that in Christ we have grace, love, and forgiveness.

**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

Romans 12:3-8 (N.T. pg. 162)

Children's Sermon

ANTHEM

HYMN #372 "Lord, I Want to Be a Christian"

**PROCLAIMING THE WORD**

SERMON:

"Gift Yourself Away"

Rev. Dr. Joanne Noel

**SEALING AND RESPONDING TO THE WORD**

\*RESPONSE HYMN #441

"I Love Thy Kingdom, 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**

INVITATION TO TITHES AND OFFERINGS & PRAYER OF DEDICATION

**CARRYING THE WORD TO THE WORLD**

\*CLOSING HYMN #357 "O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee"

\*BENEDICTION

MUSICAL POSTLUDE (A QUIET TIME OF REFLECTION)

PLEASE REMAIN SEATED

+++WE ENTER TO WORSHIP; WE LEAVE TO SERVE!!!

\*Please stand if able

**Rev. Dr. Joanne Noel Bio:**

Rev. Dr. Joanne Noel. She is a graduate of New Brunswick Theological Seminary and Union Institute and University where she earned her MDIV and DMIN and Ph. D in Humanities and Culture, including certificates in Creative Writing and Women and Gender Studies. She is currently a Dean and Professor of English at Pillar College where she has held various positions, including Assistant Vice President of Academic Affairs, Dean of Traditional Undergraduate programs, Director of the Writing Center, and Director of Spiritual Formation. She is currently, with God's grace, engaging in additional ordination processes with the ABCNJ Organization under the Raritan Valley Baptist Church (Pastor Nick Johnson) and preparing for future pastoral ministry and leadership.

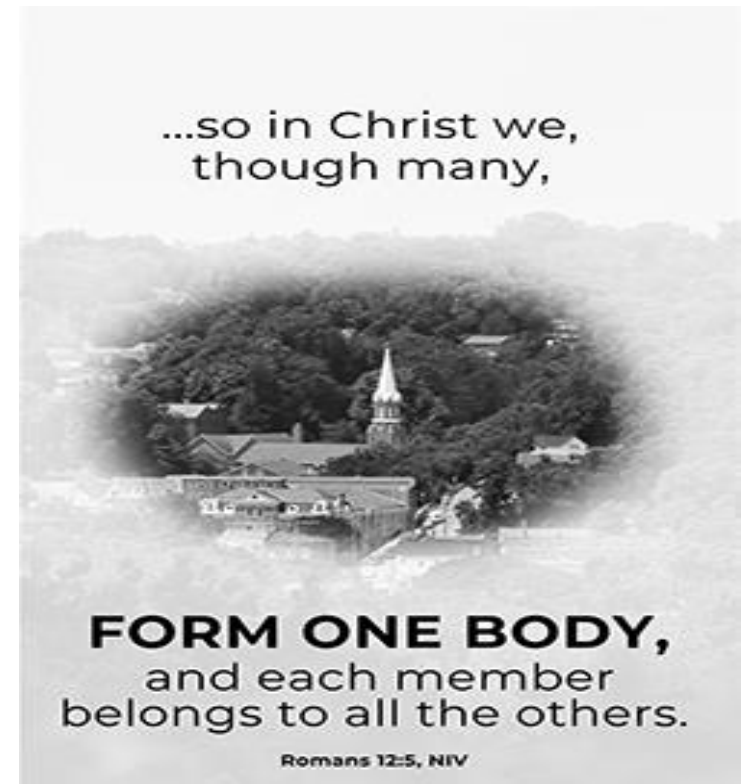
First Presbyterian Church of Avenel

621 East Woodbridge Avenue

Avenel, NJ 07001

Rev. Dr. Joanne Noel

August 25, 2024



"Gift Yourself Away"

### **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

#### **OVERSEAS**

Daniel Hedner – deployed to Japan – Carolyn Stockl’s nephew

Steven Stockl – deployed to Iraq – Carolyn Stockl’s nephew

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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*

*August 25, 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*

Prayers needed for Tom who fractured his neck vertebrae and is recovering in a rehab facility.

*2<sup>nd</sup> Week*

*3<sup>rd</sup> Week*

Prayers for Robbie who is back at home and doing well.  
Prayers for Joan who is in assisted living.  
Prayers for Lisa who is receiving chemotherapy.

*4<sup>th</sup> Week*

*5<sup>th</sup> Week*

Prayers for Lillian who is in the hospital recuperating from surgery for a broken hip.

*6<sup>th</sup> 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, August 25, 2024**

10:00 a.m. Worship Service  
(Guest Minister-Rev. Dr. Joanne Noel)  
(Guest Musician-Jon Benjamin)  
Live Stream–Facebook

#### **MONDAY, August 26, 2024**

#### **TUESDAY, August 27, 2024**

10:00 a.m. JoAnn Breza and Jack Stockl Food Pantry – CE Bldg.

#### **WEDNESDAY, August 28, 2024**

#### **THURSDAY, August 29, 2024**

9:30 a.m. Sit & Knit (Crochet) – CR

#### **FRIDAY, August 30, 2024**

#### **SATURDAY, August 31, 2024**

#### **SUNDAY, September 1, 2024**

10:00 a.m. Worship Service – (NO COMMUNION)  
(Guest Minister-Rev. Dr. Joanne Noel)  
(Guest Musician-Still Vacant)  
Live Stream–Facebook

## OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE OR SHARE

**CHANCEL FLOWER AVAILABILITY** – The following dates are open: 9/1, 9/8, 9/15, 9/22, & 9/29. 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 on **Thursday, 9/12**.

**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 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. **It will resume on Saturdays beginning September 7<sup>th</sup>**.

**BIBLE STUDY** – will begin again on September 11<sup>th</sup> and continue every Wednesday at 4:30pm in Jacob Morgan Hall. Topic is on the Book of Revelation taught by Rev. Misick. Please register by Email: [gmisick@yahoo.com](mailto:gmisick@yahoo.com) or Call: 917 679-5676

**WANTED:** Are you discarding an artificial Christmas tree this year, please donate it to our church for VBS 2025. Lights do not need to work. Call the church office or Ed Benkert if you need it to be picked up. Thanks in advance.

**GUEST MINISTER** – for Sunday, 9/1 is Rev. Dr. Joanne Noel. She is a graduate of New Brunswick Theological Seminary and Union Institute and University where she earned her MDIV and DMIN and Ph. D in Humanities and Culture, including certificates in Creative Writing and Women and Gender Studies. She is currently a Dean and Professor of English at Pillar College where she has held various positions, including Assistant Vice President of Academic Affairs, Dean of Traditional Undergraduate programs, Director of the Writing Center, and Director of Spiritual Formation. She is currently, with God's grace, engaging in additional ordination processes with the ABCNJ Organization under the Raritan Valley Baptist Church (Pastor Nick Johnson) and preparing for future pastoral ministry and leadership.

**GUEST MUSICIAN** – Jon Benjamin is our guest musician today. Since the completion of his Masters of Music at Rice University, Jonathan Benjamin has built a varied career as a pianist, composer, and arranger. He has played for the Houston Ballet and the American Repertory Ballet where he now works as Principal Pianist. While in Houston, he arranged, conducted and performed Gershwin pieces for Tim O'Keefe's piece Fascinating Evening. In addition, he performed in local jazz groups and created film scores for the Museum of Fine Arts of Houston. Since returning to his home state of New Jersey, Jon has played at Broadway Dance, Steps Over Broadway, and American Ballet Theater. His projects for American Repertory Ballet include a restaging of Twyla Tharp's Eight Jelly Rolls and Kirk Peterson's Eyes That Gently Touch. Most recently, he collaborated with Ethan Stiefel on Stiefel's new production of Midsummer Night's Dream. Jon keeps a busy freelance career throughout the New Jersey 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.*

<i>Pastor</i>	<i>Rev. Glen C. Misick</i>	<i>gmisick@gmail.com</i>
<i>Vacant</i>	<i>Music Director</i>	
<i>Michael Peterson</i>	<i>Sexton</i>	<i>avenelpres@gmail.com</i>
<i>Belinda Kerchner</i>	<i>SS Superintendent</i>	<i>For 2024</i>
<i>Linda Vassallo</i>	<i>Church Office</i>	<i>(732) 634-1631</i>
<i>Hanna Pallitto</i>	<i>Webmaster</i>	<i>hannapallitto@gmail.com</i>
	<i>Church Email</i>	<i>avenelpres@gmail.com</i>
	<i>Church Website</i>	<i>avenelpresbyterianchurch.org</i>

*Scripture for Sunday, September 1st*

*James 1:17-27*