

August 27, 2023

10:00 a.m.

**13th Sunday after Pentecost**

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS Carolyn Stevenson

PRELUDE "In Christ Alone" Keith Getty, Stuart Townend

**GATHERING AROUND THE WORD**

CALL TO WORSHIP

I give you thanks, O LORD, with my whole heart; before the gods I sing your praise.

**I bow down toward Your holy temple and give thanks to Your name for Your steadfast love and Your faithfulness; for You have exalted Your name and Your word about everything.**

On the day I called, You answered me, You increased my strength of soul.

**All the kings of the earth shall praise You, O LORD, for they have heard the words of Your mouth.**

They shall sing of the ways of the LORD, for great is the glory of the LORD.

**Come! Let us worship the Lord, our God.**

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart and mind and strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. In Your mercy forgive what we have been, help us amend what we are, and direct what we shall be, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways, to the glory of Your holy name.....(silence for personal confession)**

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

May the God of mercy, who forgives you all your sins, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.

**Amen. Thanks be to God.**

OPENING HYMN #442 "The Church's One Foundation"

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 Isaiah 51:1-6 (O.T.pg. 681)  
Matthew 16:13-20 (N.T. pg. 18)

ANTHEM "You Alone" Sarah Hart, Dwight Liles

**PROCLAIMING THE WORD**

Children's Sermon

SERMON: "Who Do You Say I Am?"  
Rev. Emily Lueder

**SEALING AND RESPONDING TO THE WORD**

\*HYMN #379 "My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less"

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

**CARRYING THE WORD TO THE WORLD**

INVITATION TO TITHES AND OFFERINGS & PRAYER OF DEDICATION

\*CLOSING HYMN #341 "Blessed Assurance, Jesus Is Mine!"

\*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE "Church of God, Elect and Glorious"  
HYFRYDOL, R. H. Pritchard, James E. Seddon

PLEASE REMAIN SEATED

\*Please stand if able

**Rev. Emily Lueder Bio:**

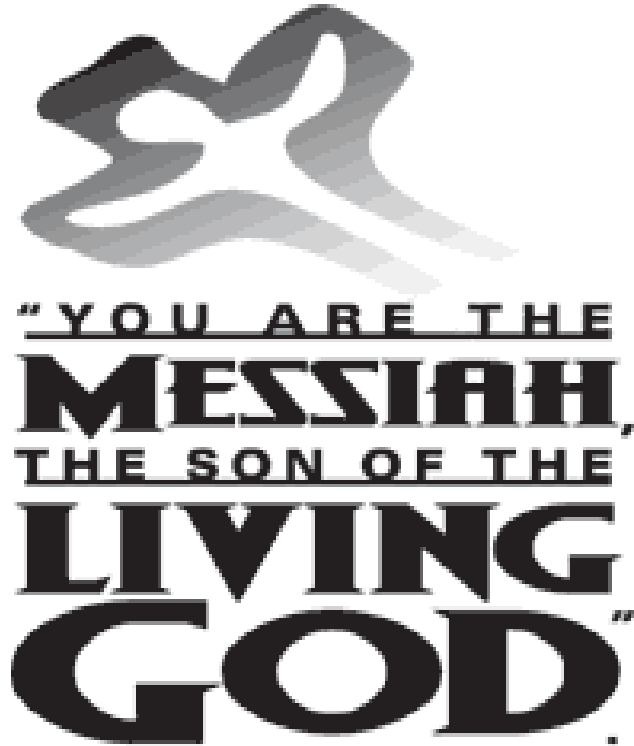
Originally from Northwest Indiana, Emily studied theology and ministry and philanthropic leadership and service at Valparaiso University. She moved to Princeton, NJ and graduated from Princeton Theological Seminary in 2019. She completed her yearlong chaplain residency at the Mount Sinai Hospital in 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.

First Presbyterian Church of Avenel

621 East Woodbridge Avenue

Avenel, NJ 07001

August 27, 2023



Matthew 16:16, NRSV

"Who Do You Say I Am?"

Rev. Emily Lueder

### **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

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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 –

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*

*August 27, 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*

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

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

Please pray for Tom Cameron, Gayle Nolan's dad, who is now at home receiving PT as an outpatient.

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

*5<sup>th</sup> 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.

*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

**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)
06/30/2023	\$ 85,270.39	\$ 4,953.19	\$ 1,810.99
07/31/2023	\$ 90,105.95	\$ 4,835.56	\$ 6,646.55

**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, August 27, 2023**

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

**MONDAY, August 28, 2023**

**TUESDAY, August 29, 2023**

10:00 a.m. JoAnn’s Food Pantry – CE Bldg

**WEDNESDAY, August 30, 2023**

**THURSDAY, August 31, 2023**

**FRIDAY, September 1, 2023**

**SATURDAY, September 2, 2023**

9:30 a.m. Sit & Knit (Crochet) – CR  
11:30 a.m. Wrestling-N-Wrecovery – GYM

**SUNDAY, September 3, 2023**

10:00 a.m. Worship Service – (Rev. Dr. Gayle Griffin)  
**NO COMMUNION**  
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: September 3rd & September 10th. 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 back to **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.

**WRESTLING-N-WRECOVERY** – will be hosting an event on Saturday, September 2<sup>nd</sup> in our GYM starting at 6:00p.m. For tickets, please visit the website: [www.titan-championshipwrestling.com](http://www.titan-championshipwrestling.com).

**GUEST MINISTER** – for the Sunday, September 3rd is Dr. Gayle Griffin. Gayle is a native of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, who at the age of seventeen moved to Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, to attend college. She graduated from Chatham College where she received her B.A. degree and the University of Pittsburgh where she received her M.Ed. and Ph.D. In Pittsburgh, she was a teacher and principal. She met and married her husband who was a native of western Pennsylvania. She is a widow and the mother of one daughter, Dr. FloJaune Griffin-Cofer, an epidemiologist, who lives in Sacramento, CA.

## 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, September 3rd*

Psalm 8  
Genesis 1:1-2, 24-31

TCW CWA Titan Championship Wrestling OWE  
PRESENTS

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WRESTLING N WRECOVERY

**Saturday, September 2nd**

The First Presbyterian Church of Avenel  
621 East Woodbridge Ave, Avenel NJ  
Doors open at 6pm, bell time 7pm  
Advanced tickets start at \$20, at the door \$30  
[www.titan-championshipwrestling.com](http://www.titan-championshipwrestling.com) for tickets

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