

August 28, 2022
10:00 a.m.
12th Sunday after Pentecost

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Carolyn Stevenson

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

CALL TO WORSHIP

Holy God, you invite us to your table as honored guests.

You wash our feet with water and anoint our heads with oil.

Holy God, you turn no one away.

You welcome us to your kingdom and give us a seat at your feast.

May we too welcome all to our tables, and honor those who others have cast aside.

Holy God, may we exalt you alone.

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Almighty God, you invite us to your table, but we exclude others from joining your feast. You give generously, but we hold tight to what is ours. We hold onto our pride and push away our neighbors in need, wrapped in our own concerns. We condone injustice, discrimination, and greed. God of grace, help us to admit our sin, so that as you come to us in mercy, we may repent, turn to you, and receive forgiveness; through Jesus Christ our Redeemer.....(*silence for personal confession*)

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Beloved, I declare to you today that in Christ Jesus you are forgiven and redeemed.

Amen. Thanks be to God.

OPENING HYMN #516 "Lord, We Have Come at Your Own Invitation"

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: Luke 14:1;7-14 (N.T. pg. 77)

ANTHEM "Blest Are They" David Haas

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

SERMON: "Sitting At the Lowest Place"
Tori Paquette

SEALING AND RESPONDING TO THE WORD

*HYMN #427 "Lord, Whose Love Through Humble Service"

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 #17 "Sleepers, Wake! A Voice Astounds Us"

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE "Lead Me, Lord" John D. Becker

PLEASE REMAIN SEATED

*Please stand if able

Tori Paquette Bio:

Tori Paquette is a third-year Master of Divinity student at Princeton Theological Seminary and has a B.A. in Jewish Studies from Colby College. Tori is passionate about small congregations and hopes to help churches strengthen relationships with their communities, particularly across lines of social class and religion.

First Presbyterian Church of Avenel

621 East Woodbridge Avenue

Avenel, NJ 07001

August 28, 2022



When
you give a feast,
invite the poor, the crippled,
the lame, the blind,
and you will be blessed.

Luke 14:13-14, ESV

"Sitting At The Lowest Place"

Tori Paquette

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

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 August 28, 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

2nd Week

3rd Week

Please pray for Vilma Ambis who has continuing health issues.

Please pray for Robbie Olah who is home from the hospital and recovering.

4th Week

5th Week

Please pray for Susan Shubeck, a friend of Betty Hulsizer, who is in treatment for Stage 4 Pancreatic Cancer.

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

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)
03/31/2022 \$ 64,806.01	\$(9,003.89)	\$(11,340.38)
04/30/2022 \$ 59,120.22	\$(5,685.79)	\$(17,026.17)
05/31/2022 \$ 54,878.34	\$(4,241.88)	\$(21,268.05)
06/30/2022 \$ 60,701.39	\$ 5,823.05	\$(15,445.00)
07/31/2022 \$ 67,525.20	\$ 6,823.81	\$(8,621.19)

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 \$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, August 28, 2022

10:00 a.m. Worship Service (Guest Preacher– Tori Paquette)
Live Stream-Facebook

MONDAY, August 29, 2022

TUESDAY, August 30, 2022

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

WEDNESDAY, August 31, 2022

THURSDAY, September 1, 2022

9:30 a.m. Sit & Knit (Crochet) – CR

FRIDAY, September 2, 2022

SATURDAY, September 3, 2022

SUNDAY, September 4, 2022

10:00 a.m. Worship Service (Guest Preacher–Rev. Alice Batcher)
NO COMMUNION due to Labor Day Holiday
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 – The following dates are available on the chancel flower calendar: September 4th & September 11th. Reservations for chancel flowers may be made through the church office. The cost is \$30.00 for two arrangements and is to be paid in advance.

PRAYER GATHERING – has ended for the summer and will begin again in September.

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.

SIT AND KNIT (and CROCHET) – is now on Thursdays 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. We can learn new things from each other.

WALTER HOVING HOME – will be celebrating 55 years and hosting a two-night Faith, Hope, and Love banquet at the Palace at Somerset Park beginning Thursday, September 29th. Registration is 6:00pm and Dinner and Program to follow at 7:00pm. Please visit WWW.HOVINGHOME.ORG/NJ Tickets for details.

GUEST PREACHER – for Sunday, September 4, 2022, is Rev. Alice Batcher. She 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.

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>avenelstreamlines@comcast.net</i>
<i>Belinda Kerchner</i>	<i>SS Superintendent</i>	<i>For 2022</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, September 4th

Psalm 1
Luke 14:25-33