

October 9, 2022
10:00 a.m.
18th Sunday after Pentecost

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Carolyn Gilligan

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

CALL TO WORSHIP

Make a joyful noise to God, all the earth;

sing the glory of his name; give to him glorious praise.

Say to God, "How awesome are your deeds! Because of your great power, your enemies cringe before you."

All the earth worships you; they sing praises to you, sing praises to your name.

Come and see what God has done. 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 #288 "I Sing the Mighty Power of 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

Jeremiah 29:1, 4-7 (O.T. pg. 731)
Luke 17:11-19 (N.T. pg. 80)

ANTHEM

"I Will Always Thank the Lord" Scott Soper

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

Children's Sermon

SERMON:

"In a Strange Land"

Rev. Emily Lueder

SEALING AND RESPONDING TO THE WORD

*HYMN #139

"Come, Thou Almighty King"

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 #260 "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God"

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE "10,000 Reasons (Bless the Lord)"
Jonas Myrin, Matt Redman

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

October 9, 2022



*Seek the welfare of the city
... and pray to the LORD
on its behalf.*

Jeremiah 29:7, NRSV

"In a Strange Land"

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 – 1st LT, – Stephanie & Charlie Kurowsky's niece

Jeffrey Hansen – 1st LT, Kuwait, 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

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

October 9, 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

Please continue your prayers for Maritza and her family, especially her dad who has health issues.

Prayers Donna, Emily Palmer's Mom. She fell and broke her wrist and will need surgery.

3rd Week

Please pray for James Tuerke, Emily Palmer's brother, who has been diagnosed with Lukemia. He will be in CHOP (Children's Hospital of Philadelphia) for 2 weeks and then to another facility for about 2 months to continue his chem treatments. Please also pray for Emily.

4th Week

5th Week

Prayers for the Spewak family on the passing of John, Carol Palmer's sister's father-in-law.

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) |
| 08/31/2022 \$ 74,944.98 | \$ 7,419.78 | \$(1,201.41) |
| 09/30/2022 \$ 74,880.75 | \$ (64.23) | \$(1,265.64) |

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, October 9, 2022

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

MONDAY, October 10, 2022

HOLIDAY – COLUMBUS DAY

TUESDAY, October 11, 2022

WEDNESDAY, October 12, 2022

7:00 p.m. Deacons Mtg – CR

THURSDAY, October 13, 2022

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

FRIDAY, October 14, 2022

SATURDAY, October 15, 2022

9:30 a.m. Sit & Knit (Crochet) – CR

SUNDAY, October 16, 2022

10:00 a.m. Worship Service
(Guest Preacher–Rev. Dr. Grace Nzameyo-Maa)
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: October 23rd & November 6th. 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.

The flowers are in celebration of Lillian Thorsen's 100th Birthday given with love from your whole family.

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 at the 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. We can learn new things from each other.

TRUNK-OR-TREAT FALL FEST – Mark your calendars! Friday, 10/28 5:00-7:00pm in the Sanctuary parking lot. Free hot dogs, games, and crafts. If you would like to decorate your car and pass out candy, or to man a table or game, see the sign-up sheet in the back of the Sanctuary. If you have questions, contact Cindy Culton at 732-261-3720.

PUMPKIN DECORATING CONTEST – Iselin Presbytery will be hosting a pumpkin decorating contest. Submit a photo to Margarita at Margarita01@comcast.net by Thursday, 10/27. Winner(s) will be published in November issue of Spire.

GUEST PREACHER – for Sunday, October 16, 2022, is Rev. Dr. Grace Nzameyo-Maa. Grace Katie Nzameyo was born in Douala, Cameroon. She grew up in Kribi in the South Shore community area of the capital and was raised in a conventional Presbyterian parent home. She is a member of the 100-year-old Black sorority Alpha Kappa Alpha, the NAACP and the National Black Presbyterian Caucus. In 2006, Ms. Nzameyo enrolled at Drew Theological Seminary where she obtained her Master of Divinity degree and came under the care of the Presbytery of Newark as a ministerial candidate. She was ordained as a Minister of the Word and Sacraments in 2018, and in 2021 obtained her Doctorate degree from New Brunswick Theological Seminary. Grace is married and has three children, Franck, and Ines (twins), 25, and baby Grace, 17, and they live in Newark, New Jersey.

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.

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| Joseph Fernandez | Music Director | resolutjoe@gmail.com |
| Michael Peterson | Sexton | avenelpres@gmail.com |
| Stephanie Kurowsky | Stream Lines | avenelstreamlines@comcast.net |
| Belinda Kerchner | SS Superintendent | For 2022 |
| Linda Vassallo | Church Office | (732) 634-1631 |
| Susan Smolsky | Webmaster | rustisioux@comcast.net |
| | Church Email | avenelpres@gmail.com |
| | Church Website | avenelpresbyterianchurch.org |

Scripture for Sunday, October 16th

Luke 15:1-10