

**October 10, 2021
10:00 a.m.
20th Sunday after Pentecost**

Prayer of Preparation *(for silent meditation before worship)*

Merciful God, in Jesus Christ you do not call the righteous, but sinners to repentance. Draw us away from the easy road that leads to destruction and guide us into paths that lead to life abundant, that in seeking your truth, and obeying your will, we may know the joy of being a disciple of Jesus Christ our Savior, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ed Benkert

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Creator God of all that is good, we ask your forgiveness for exploiting the planet, denying our interdependence; For hyper sexualizing people's bodies, denying that we are whole; For believing that we have dominion over what You have created and sanctified. Jesus Christ, we are ashamed because we refuse to live frugally, because we measure our happiness with a numerical balance, and because we live holding on to things rather than to people and relationships. Spirit of Life, teach us to return to our first love, to the simplicity of giving. Show us the way of salvation and remove the scales that are caused by the cares of this life, so that we can be free, and follow you step by step, until we achieve the impossible.....*(silence for personal confession)*

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

.....Listen to the good news. Christ was sent by God to redeem us from our sins. We can live in peace.

Amen. Thanks be to God.

*OPENING HYMN #467 "How Great Thou Art"

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, Maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord; Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit; Born of the Virgin Mary; Suffered under Pontius Pilate; Was crucified, dead and buried; He descended into Hell; The third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven; And sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; From thence He shall come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit; The Holy Christian Church, the Communion of Saints; The Forgiveness of sins; The Resurrection of the body; And the life everlasting. Amen.

(*universal)

HEARING THE WORD

SCRIPTURE: Amos 5:6-7, 10-15 (O.T. pgs. 853-854)

Mark 10:17-31 (N.T. pg. 46)

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

SERMON: "Seek the Lord and Do Justice"

William Reyes

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

*HYMN #377 "Lord, You Have Come to the Lakeshore"

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

*CLOSING HYMN #367 "Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love"

INVITATION TO TITHES AND OFFERINGS & PRAYER OF DEDICATION

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE "Lead Me, Lord" John D. Becker

*Please stand if able

WILLIAM REYES BIO:

I am William Reyes Vega. I was born in Caguas, Puerto Rico. I came to New York City after high school. I obtained an Associate Degree in Human Services psychology from La Guardia Community College of City University of New York (CUNY). I also have a Bachelor Science Degree from John Jay College of Criminal Justice (CUNY). I received a Master of Divinity from Princeton Theological Seminary. I acquired a certificate in Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) from New York Presbyterian Psychiatric Hospital Westchester Division. I accomplished a certification in Transitional and Interim Ministry from Princeton Theological Seminary. I completed and received a certificate in Mediation Skills Training Institute for Church Leaders, sponsored by the Synod of the Northeast (PCUSA); Presented by the Lombard Mennonite Peace Center - Lombard, IL. I worked in the mental health field as a therapy aide, and as a psychiatric social worker; and worked as a Juvenile Parole Worker Youth Counselor with New York State Officer of Children & Family Services. I am honorably retired. And I am certified ready for a call and ordination. I am married to the Reverend Carmen M. Rosario, an ordained minister in the Presbyterian Church (USA).

First Presbyterian Church of Avenel
621 East Woodbridge Avenue
Avenel, NJ 07001
October 10, 2021



“Seek the Lord and Do Justice”

William Reyes

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

Daniel Hedner – Carolyn & Jake Stockl's nephew

Steven Stockl – Carolyn & Jake Stockl's nephew

Amy Updike

Rob – serving in the U.S. Navy, San Diego, CA. - Lynn & Wayne Dubin's son.

Anthony Service – U.S. Air Force, in San Antonio.

OVERSEAS

Jeffrey Hansen – 1st LT, Kuwait, Stephanie & Charlie Kurowsky'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

Elizabeth Port Presbyterian Church Children's Center, NJ

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 October 10, 2021

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

Prayers for Carol Palmer. She took a CAT SCAN on 9/28 to determine outcome of HIPEC procedure. Please pray for Larry, her husband, and their extended families.

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

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
12/31/2020	\$109,515.39		
01/31/2021	\$104,658.48	\$(4,856.91)	\$(4,856.91)
02/28/2021	\$100,834.39	\$(3,824.09)	\$(8,681.00)
03/31/2021	\$ 94,305.80	\$(6,528.59)	\$(15,209.59)
04/30/2021	\$ 88,398.27	\$(5,907.53)	\$(21,117.12)
05/31/2021	\$ 86,186.03	\$(2,212.24)	\$(23,329.36)
06/30/2021	\$ 83,254.27	\$(2,931.76)	\$(26,261.12)
07/31/2021	\$ 70,951.00	\$(12,303.27)	\$(38,564.39)
08/31/2021	\$ 71,414.52	\$ 463.52	\$(38,100.87)
09/30/2021	\$ 71,063.34	\$ (351.18)	\$(38,452.05)

CHURCH PROPERTY 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.

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 10, 2021

- 9:00 a.m. Sunday School – SSO
- 10:00 a.m. Worship Service (Guest Preacher–William Reyes)
Live Stream-Facebook

MONDAY, October 11, 2021

HOLIDAY - COLUMBUS DAY

TUESDAY, October 12, 2021

- 7:00 p.m. Deacons Mtg – CO

WEDNESDAY, October 13, 2021

THURSDAY, October 14, 2021

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

FRIDAY, October 15, 2021

SATURDAY, October 16, 2021

SUNDAY, October 17, 2021

- 9:00 a.m. Sunday School – SSO
- 10:00 a.m. Worship Service (Guest Preacher–Rev. Michael Walker)
Live Stream-Facebook

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS: Tuesday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE OR SHARE

SUNDAY SCHOOL – begins today and will meet every Sunday at 9 am in the Sunday School Office.

YOUTH GROUP – will begin in October. Projected date 10/23.

CHANCEL FLOWER AVAILABILITY – The following dates are available on the chancel flower calendar: November 7th & November 14th. Reservations for chancel flowers may be made through the church office. The cost is \$30.00 for two arrangements.

The flowers are given in honor of Lillian Thorsen to celebrate her 99th birthday today, with love from her family.

CHILD CARE – is available for infants and those not yet in Kindergarten in the care room in the back of the Sanctuary. Please let an usher know if you would like to have your child there during the service. We will have a Toddler Care volunteer to help.

PRAYER GATHERING – is on Thursday evenings at 8 pm. Dial (425) 436-6302 then enter code 773724#. If you have any questions, please contact Sandy Kosakowski 908-930-3628.

God said, "Then you will call upon me and come and pray to me and I will hear you." Jeremiah 29:12

WORSHIP SERVICE LIVE STREAM – via Facebook every Sunday 10:00 am. We hope you will join us online if you will not be attending at the church. Please tell your friends and 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.

LIVE STREAM CAMERA VOLUNTEERS – The mission team is asking for several people to consider operating the live streaming camera

so we can insure no interruptions in our outreach. It is easy, requires very little work once setup. Stephen will show exactly how to operate. If you are willing, see Stephen after worship or Bob Toro.

GUEST PREACHER – for Sunday, October 17, 2021, is Rev. J. Michael Walker. He is an honorably retired member of the Presbytery of Central New Jersey. A graduate of Union Theological Seminary in Virginia (now Union Presbyterian Seminary), he served churches in North Carolina, Virginia, and Missouri before joining the national staff of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). He retired as Executive Director of the State Board of Psychological Examiners, Office of the New Jersey Attorney General. He is married to the Rev. Joyce MacKichan Walker. They are parents of two adult children and reside in Princeton, NJ.

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, the worship assistant or Pastor Bob.

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 2021
Linda Vassallo	Church Office	(732) 634-1631
Susan Smolsky	Webmaster	churchwebsite@comcast.net
	Church Email	avenelpres@gmail.com
	Church Website	avenelpresbyterianchurch.org

Scripture for Sunday, October 17th

Luke 18:9-14