

October 19, 2025

10:00 a.m.

19th Sunday after Pentecost

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

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

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Bob Toro

THE INTROIT – Choir "Soon and Very Soon"

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

CALL TO WORSHIP

Like clay on a wheel

God forms us: shaping us, molding us, creating us.

And like moldable clay,

God continues to shape us.

Let us worship God.

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

Linwood Bagby

OPENING HYMN #288 "I Sing The Mighty Power of God"

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Creator God, You know us better than anyone else. You formed us in Your own image. And yet, we sometimes stray from the gift You've given us. We keep people at a distance, letting systemic and personal barriers get in the way of relationships. Forgive us, Lord. Let us hear Your call to change and do better. Empower us to ask for forgiveness from those whom we have wronged. Help us to think of You and those around us.....(silence for personal confession)

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Linwood Bagby

Friends, the good news is this: God is not done with us. Our Creator is still forming and shaping us, forgiving us, and allowing us to grow. Hear the Good News of the Gospel: **In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.**

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)

***THE PASSING OF THE PEACE**

HEARING THE WORD

SCRIPTURE: Jeremiah 18:1-11 (O.T. pg. 720)
Romans 9:20-21 (N.T. pg. 159)

Children's Sermon

ANTHEM – Choir "We Are Called"

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

SERMON: "God's Plan, My Response"

Linwood Bagby

SEALING AND RESPONDING TO THE WORD

*RESPONSE HYMN #391 "Take My Life"

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 #536 "Lord, Make Us More Holy"

*BENEDICTION

MUSICAL POSTLUDE (A QUIET TIME OF REFLECTION)

PLEASE REMAIN SEATED

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

LINWOOD BAGBY BIO:

Linwood Bagby is a native of West Deptford, New Jersey and received his BS from The College of New Jersey and his Masters from Kean University. Both degrees were in Speech and Language Pathology. He resides in Union Township and retired in July 2021 as a Speech and Language Specialist with the Elizabeth Public Schools Board of Education. Linwood is active in the community where he worked. In 1994, he founded Restore Ministries, Inc. to be a safe haven by providing academic help, recreational, and cultural activities and experiences for children and teenagers. Linwood is an active member in our Presbytery. In 2012 he was elected to serve as the Moderator for the Elizabeth Presbytery. Linwood was the Chair of the Presbytery Cabinet (2014-2017). He is on the Vision Team of our new Northeast Presbytery of New Jersey (formerly the Elizabeth Presbytery). Currently he fills his time at Restore and as a Ruling Elder and is working part time as the Director of Youth and Young Adults at Second Presbyterian Church. He leads the monthly alternative worship service at a local restaurant and serves on Second Church's Session (the governing board). His hobbies are reading fantasy and mystery novels, playing his acoustic guitar, cooking, and riding his bike.

*Please stand if able

First Presbyterian Church of Avenel

621 East Woodbridge Avenue

Avenel, NJ 07001

Linwood Bagby

October 19, 2025



"God's Plan, My Response"

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.

Robbie Olah

Joan Benkert

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 – Jake & Carolyn Stockl's nephew

Steven Stockl – deployed to Iraq – Jake & Carolyn 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 –

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

Samaritan's Purse

Walter Hoving Home

World Vision

Prayer Concerns and Praises ***October 19, 2025***

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

4th Week

5th Week

Prayers for Betty Hulsizer recovering from surgery.

6th Week

Prayers and Sympathies

*Our sincere condolences go out to the Cameron and Nolan Family
on the passing of Carolyn Cameron on Tuesday, October 14.*

SHUT-INS

*Please continue to keep in your prayers those members who are
unable to join us for worship on Sundays.*

Health and Healing



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 – FRIDAY 8:30AM – 1:30PM

**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 19, 2025

10:00 a.m. Worship Service – (Guest Minister-Linwood Bagby)
Live Stream – Facebook

MONDAY, October 20, 2025

TUESDAY, October 21, 2025

WEDNESDAY, October 22, 2025

THURSDAY, October 23, 2025

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

FRIDAY, October 24, 2025

SATURDAY, October 25, 2025

9:30 a.m. Sit & Knit (Crochet) – CO
10:00 p.m. His Hands Clothes Closet – GYM

SUNDAY, October 26, 2025

10:00 a.m. Worship Service – (Guest Minister-Rev. Debra Given)
Live Stream – Facebook

OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE OR SHARE

CHANCEL FLOWER AVAILABILITY – The following dates are open 11/9, 11/16, 11/23, & 11/30. Please make reservations through the church office. The cost is \$30.00 for two arrangements and must be paid in advance.

Today's flowers on the communion table are in honor of Rich and Cindy's 45th wedding anniversary on 10/25.

Love their grandchildren, Colette, Amelia, Oliver, and Mary

PRAYER GATHERING – is every Thursday evening at 8:00pm. 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 church. Please tell your friends, especially shut ins. Bulletins are on our website: avenelpresbyterianchurch.org

SIT AND KNIT (and CROCHET) – is every Saturday morning 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.

GUEST MINISTER – for Sunday, 10/26 is Rev. Debra Given. Rev. Debra is a graduate of Earlham College and Yale Divinity School. She has served in several Presbyterian churches and retired in 2016 after 15 years as pastor of the Presbyterian Church in Leonia, New Jersey, a multicultural congregation. She lives in Manhattan with her husband of 46 years, Tom Phillips. She enjoys visiting with her children and grandchildren, sewing, playing the Irish drum (bodhran), birdwatching, and singing in the hospice choir, Eventide, which she founded after retiring.

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.

	Pastor	Temporary Pulpit Supply
William Gorman	Music Director	williamgormanmusic@gmail.com
Michael Peterson	Sexton	avenelpres@gmail.com
Belinda Kerchner	SS Superintendent	For 2025
	Church Office	(732) 634-1631
Susan Smolsky	Webmaster	rustisioux@comcast.net
	Church Email	avenelpres@gmail.com
	Church Website	avenelpresbyterianchurch.org

Scripture for Sunday, October 26

Psalm 65

Luke 18:9-14