

November 21, 2021

10:00 a.m.

Christ the King/Reign of Christ

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

Almighty, Eternal and Holy God, who is, who was, and who is to come, worthy are you to receive our praise and thanksgiving. Here in this holy place where you have promised to dwell among us, we gather to offer our praise to you. To you be glory and dominion forever. Amen.

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Charlie Kurowsky

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of Passion, we remember those times we have been part of the crowd, seeking our best interest over what is right and good. God of Fidelity, we remember those times when we chose the path of safety over loyalty to your Way. God of Constant Presence, we remember the ways we have wandered away from your presence, only to complain that we have been abandoned. God of the Cross, for all the ways we have missed the mark, all the ways we have come up short, forgive us. Through your grace bring us back into relationship. Help us find the path again.....(silence for personal confession)

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

We are forgiven, we are called back into relationship, we are set back on the path that leads to the Kingdom of God.

Amen. Thanks be to God.

OPENING HYMN #151 "Crown Him with Many Crowns"

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:

Psalms 93 (O.T. pg. 549)

John 18:28-38 (N.T. pgs. 112-113)

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

SERMON:

"Danger versus Duty"

Samantha Gilmore

SEALING AND RESPONDING TO THE WORD

*HYMN #339

"Be Thou My Vision"

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 #155 "Rejoice, the Lord Is King"

INVITATION TO TITHES AND OFFERINGS & PRAYER OF DEDICATION

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE "He Is Exalted" Twila Paris

*Please stand if able

Samantha Gilmore Bio:

Samantha Gilmore is a Ph.D. candidate in homiletics (the study of preaching) at Princeton Theological Seminary, where she also received her M.Div./M.A. She is passionate about preaching and teaching preaching and thanks God that she gets to do both! Originally from Seattle, she loves coffee and the sound of rain on rooftops. When she's not studying, she can be found running or taking walks with her husband Lance and their dog, Driscoll, preferably with coffee in hand!

First Presbyterian Church of Avenel

621 East Woodbridge Avenue

Avenel, NJ 07001

November 21, 2021

“Everyone
who belongs
to
the
truth
listens to
my
voice.”

John 18:37, NRSV

“Danger versus Duty”

Samantha Gilmore

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 November 21, 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 guidance and comfort for Matt Barany Sr. and his family.
Matt is battling advanced prostate cancer.

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)
02/28/2021	\$100,834.39	\$(3,824.09)
03/31/2021	\$ 94,305.80	\$(6,528.59)
04/30/2021	\$ 88,398.27	\$(5,907.53)
05/31/2021	\$ 86,186.03	\$(2,212.24)
06/30/2021	\$ 83,254.27	\$(2,931.76)
07/31/2021	\$ 70,951.00	\$(12,303.27)
08/31/2021	\$ 71,414.52	\$ 463.52
09/30/2021	\$ 71,063.34	\$ (351.18)
10/31/2021	\$ 72,418.97	\$ 1,355.63

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, November 21, 2021

- 9:00 a.m. Sunday School – SSO
- 10:00 a.m. Worship Service (Guest Preacher–Samantha Gilmore)
Live Stream-Facebook
Sanctuary Decorating Immediately Following Worship
- 6:00 p.m. Youth Group – CE Bldg

MONDAY, November 22, 2021

TUESDAY, November 23, 2021

PRESBYTERY MEETING

WEDNESDAY, November 24, 2021

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

THURSDAY, November 25, 2021

**HOLIDAY-THANKSGIVING DAY
CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED**

FRIDAY, November 26, 2021

CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED

SATURDAY, November 27, 2021

- 9:00 a.m. His Hands Clothes Closet – Gym

SUNDAY, November 28, 2021

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

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

OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE OR SHARE

SUNDAY SCHOOL – meets every Sunday at 9 am in the Christian Education Building's Sunday School Office.

YOUTH GROUP – meets every 1st and 3rd Sunday of the month at 6:00pm in the Christian Education Building.

CHANCEL FLOWER AVAILABILITY – The following dates are available on the chancel flower calendar: November 28th & December 5th. Reservations for chancel flowers may be made through the church office. The cost is \$30.00 for two arrangements.

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.

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, 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. Please see Stephen or Bob Toro after worship.

SANCTUARY DECORATING – We will decorate the sanctuary for Christmas immediately after service today. All are invited!! Please come out and help us start the holiday season!!!

POINSETTIA ORDERS – Poinsettia plants will be obtained from Floral Expressions at a cost of \$10 per plant. All orders must be in by Thursday, December 9th. Detailed order form is attached.

CHURCH OFFICE – will be closed Thursday, 11/25 and Friday, 11/26 in observance of Thanksgiving.

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL – In the midst of your hectic Christmas season, let's rekindle our connection to the Christ of Christmas! Join us for a 4 week Advent adult Sunday School series beginning November 28 at 9:15am in Ken Hunt Lounge.

GUEST PREACHER – for Sunday, November 28, 2021, is Rev. Alice Batcher. Reverend Alice Batcher 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 works 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, the worship assistant or Pastor Bob.

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
avenelstreamlines@comcast.net
For 2021
(732) 634-1631
rustisioux@comcast.net
avenelpres@gmail.com
avenelpresbyterianchurch.org

Scripture for Sunday, November 28th

Jeremiah 33:14-16

Luke 21:25-36

Walter Hoving Home Christmas Program

Hi Friends!

It's coming up on that time of year again. The Hoving Home is looking forward to celebrating our 54th holiday season with the ladies, staff, volunteers, and families of the ministry. We are beyond grateful for how folks like you have partnered in the vision of making each Christmas season special for the ladies entrusted to our care. Before entering the Hoving Home, most of the women have little to no positive Christmas memories. It is with great joy and through the remarkable generosity of individuals such as yourself, that the ministry can provide the ladies in the Hoving Home with a Christmas experience centered around the love of Christ. This Christmas the Hoving Home has an incredible opportunity for creating a Christmas to remember for our ladies.

This year we will continue doing our new Christmas program where those who contribute will not only enrich the ladies' holiday season but simultaneously improve their future at large. In reflection of the structure we currently utilize, the ministry desires to shift into a greater stewardship of your kindness. We realized that if the very same funds that currently go into purchasing generalized items, was instead invested in gifting items the resident specifically needs, the impact would be immeasurable. Whether needing a pair of winter boots or finances towards getting their driver's license. The harvest of this new program will surely abound.

If you are interested in contributing to the Christmas program, you will see on the next page the general wants/needs and community needs which benefit the ladies directly for Christmas. Please do not hesitate to contact, Kaitee Coe, at 908-651-5846 or kcoe@hovingshome.org with any questions. Thank you for considering this opportunity to extend God's love to the ladies, not only while they are in the program, but also throughout their lifetime.



Walter Hoving Home Christmas Items List.pdf

Once again our sanctuary will be decorated for Christmas. Poinsettia plants will be obtained from Floral Expressions at a cost of \$10 per plant. If you would like to donate toward the poinsettias, you may do so. If you wish your gift to be in honor or in memory of a loved one, please designate the name(s) when placing your request. If you would like to make a contribution to the church for music or in lieu of sending Christmas cards to church family and friends, you may do that as well on the form below.



Poinsettia plants may be taken after the 4:30 worship service on Friday, December 24, by those who donated them.

Please have all donations and requests in the church office no later than **Thursday, December 9, 2021**. Requests can be sent by mail, dropped off to the Church Office, or placed in the offering tray.

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

Your name: _____

Poinsettias \$ _____ (\$10.00 each) Music \$ _____

In Memory of: _____

In Honor of: _____

Greetings from: _____ \$ _____

TOTAL AMOUNT \$ _____

The First Presbyterian Church of Avenel
 621 E. Woodbridge Avenue
 Avenel, NJ
 732-634-1631

Come experience the true meaning of Christmas by driving through our

Live Nativity Scene

Real people and real animals

Sunday, December 19, 2021

5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Everyone is welcome to this FREE event





Christmas Caroling
December 13, 2021

Leaving from the church parking
lot at 6:00 pm

**Come join with others, as we bring
joy to several homebound
members of our congregation this
Christmas season!**

**Each family will drive their own
car as we travel to their homes.
Masks should be worn.**

**If you have any questions or
recipient suggestions, please let
us know.**

CALL FOR CONGREGATION / CORPORATION MEETING

BY ORDER OF THE SESSION OF THE FIRST
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF AVENEL,
NEW JERSEY, THE SEMI-ANNUAL
MEETING OF THE
CONGREGATION/CORPORATION WILL
BE HELD ON

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2021

*IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE
WORSHIP SERVICE.* THE PURPOSE OF
THE MEETING IS TO REVIEW THE
NOMINATIONS FOR CHURCH OFFICERS,
REVIEW OF THE 2022 BUDGET, AND TO
CONDUCT ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT
MAY BE PROPERLY BROUGHT TO THE
ATTENTION OF THE CONGREGATION.