

November 26, 2023

10:00 a.m.

**Christ the King/Reign of Christ**

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS Delia Zelazny

PRELUDE "Here I Am to Worship" Tim Hughes

**GATHERING AROUND THE WORD**

CALL TO WORSHIP

I will give thanks to You, LORD, with all my heart;

**I will tell of Your wonderful deeds.**

I will be glad and rejoice in You;

**I will sing the praises of Your name, O Most High.** – Psalm 9: 1-2

PRAYER OF INVOCATION Rev. Dr. Glen C. Misick

OPENING HYMN #555 "Now Thank We All Our God"

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Lord, you know our inmost being. You know all that we are, all that we know, all that we think, and all that we believe. When those thoughts, beliefs, ideas and be-ings turn from You, we long to be placed back on Your path. We pray that our lives might be a never-ending offering to You, and that our sin might lead to more ways to learn and grow closer to Your hopes for us. Cleanse us of our sin; turn our thoughts and feet ever toward Your Way. We pray this together in the name of Your Son Jesus.....(silence for personal confession)**

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS Rev. Dr. Glen C. Misick

The God of David, the father of Jesus knows all that we are. In God's love and grace, we know that we are indeed cleansed from all our sin, and sustained by the Spirit. In the name of Jesus Christ, God's ultimate sacrifice, 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)

**HEARING THE WORD**

SCRIPTURE Ephesians 1:15-23 (N.T. pg. 192)

Children's Sermon

ANTHEM "Shout to the Lord"

Darlene Zschech [*insert*]

**PROCLAIMING THE WORD**

SERMON: "The Power of Gratitude"

Rev. Dr. Glen C. Misick

**SEALING AND RESPONDING TO THE WORD**

\*RESPONSE HYMN #276 "Great Is Thy Faithfulness"

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 #369 "I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me"

\*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE "He Is Exalted" Twila Paris

PLEASE REMAIN SEATED

\*Please stand if able

First Presbyterian Church of Avenel

621 East Woodbridge Avenue

Avenel, NJ 07001

Rev. Dr. Glen C. Misick, Pastor

November 26, 2023



"The Power of Gratitude"

**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 –Stephanie & Charlie Kurowsky’s niece

Jeffrey Hansen –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

Christian Appalachian Project, Kentucky

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 26, 2023**

**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*

*2<sup>nd</sup> Week*

Prayers for Kim, friend of Carolyn Stevenson. Kim is receiving chemo and radiation for a rare, very aggressive form of cancer.

*3<sup>rd</sup> Week*

*4<sup>th</sup> Week*

*5<sup>th</sup> Week*

*6<sup>th</sup> 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***

*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 2023

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
12/31/2022	\$ 83,459.40		
01/31/2023	\$ 80,730.57	\$(2,728.83)	\$( 2,728.83)
02/28/2023	\$ 79,873.93	\$ (856.64)	\$( 3,585.47)
03/31/2023	\$ 79,283.62	\$ (590.31)	\$( 4,175.78)
04/30/2023	\$ 79,248.48	\$ (35.24)	\$( 4,210.92)
05/31/2023	\$ 80,317.20	\$ 1,068.72	\$( 3,142.20)
06/30/2023	\$ 85,270.39	\$ 4,953.19	\$ 1,810.99
07/31/2023	\$ 90,105.95	\$ 4,835.56	\$ 6,646.55
08/31/2023	\$ 91,709.07	\$ 1,602.12	\$ 8,249.67
09/30/2023	\$ 94,254.05	\$ 2,544.98	\$10,794.65
10/31/2023	\$100,771.56	\$ 6,517.51	\$17,312.16

**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 \$14/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 26, 2023

10:00 a.m. Worship Service  
Live Stream-Facebook

#### MONDAY, November 27, 2023

#### TUESDAY, November 28, 2023

6:30 p.m. Presbytery Mtg – Zoom  
7:00 p.m. Session Mtg – KHL

#### WEDNESDAY, November 29, 2023

#### THURSDAY, November 30, 2023

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

#### FRIDAY, December 1, 2023

#### SATURDAY, December 2, 2023

9:30 a.m. Sit & Knit (Crochet) – CR  
9:30 a.m. Sanctuary Decorating – Sanctuary

#### SUNDAY, December 3, 2023

10:00 a.m. Worship Service  
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 open: 12/3, 12/10, 12/17, & 12/31. Please make reservations through the church office. The cost is \$30.00 for two arrangements and must be paid in advance.

**PRAYER GATHERING** – is now back 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 church. Please tell your friends, especially shut ins.

**BULLETINS** – are now on our website.

**SIT AND KNIT (and CROCHET)** – is now back 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.

**WALTER HOVING HOME** – once again we will participate in giving Christmas Donations to the ladies. Please see the attached flyer for more details.

**SANCTUARY DECORATING** – will be on Saturday, December 2<sup>nd</sup> beginning at 9:30am.

**POINSETTIA ORDERS** – Poinsettia plants will be purchased from Floral Expressions at a cost of \$10.50 per plant. All orders must be in by Thursday, December 7th. Detailed order form is attached to bulletin and on the doors of the CE building.

**CHRISTMAS CAROLING** – will be on Wednesday, December 13<sup>th</sup> at 5:00pm in the Sanctuary parking lot.

**LIVE NATIVITY** – will be on Sunday, December 17<sup>th</sup> from 5:00pm-7:00pm in the Sanctuary parking lot.

**STAFF APPRECIATION** - We are beginning our year-end collection for Staff Appreciation. Envelopes are located in the bulletin bin.

## 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.*

Joseph Fernandez  
Michael Peterson  
Belinda Kerchner  
Linda Vassallo  
Susan Smolsky

Music Director  
Sexton  
SS Superintendent  
Church Office  
Webmaster  
Church Email  
Church Website

resolutjoe@gmail.com  
avenelpres@gmail.com  
For 2023  
(732) 634-1631  
rustisioux@comcast.net  
avenelpres@gmail.com  
avenelpresbyterianchurch.org

*Scripture for Sunday, December 3rd*

**Mark 13:32-37**



Inviting all congregation members to join us for

## SANCTUARY DECORATING

on Saturday, December 2nd  
beginning at 9:30am



Christmas Caroling

December 13, 2023

Leaving from the church parking  
lot at 5:00 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.**

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

# The First Presbyterian Church of Avenel

621 East 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 17, 2023

5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Everyone is welcome to this FREE event



## Hoving Home Christmas Gift Ideas

### For the House:

Vacuum Cleaners - Brooms & Mops

“HE” Laundry Detergent - Dish Soap & Hand Soap -  
Disinfectant

Copy Paper (not WB Mason) - Bath & Shower Mats

Cleaning Supplies - College Lined Notebooks - Swiffer  
Dusters Plastic

Shower Curtains - All Sizes New Sports Bras - Pajamas All  
Sizes New Underwear Packages - All Sizes New Socks

### For the Ladies:

UGG Boots/Shoes/Sneakers, Cardigans, Clear Water Bottles,  
Laundry Bags, Devotionals, Winter Wear, Slippers/Socks,  
Book Bags, Curling Irons/Flat Irons, Purses/Wallets  
Stationary/Stamps, Perfume (no twist off cap), Writing  
Journals, Christian Books, Watches/Fit Bit, Batteries AA/AAA,  
Hair Dryers, Pajamas/Night Gowns/Robes (all sizes),  
Flashlights, Make-Up Cases/Shower Caddies, Make-Up,  
Manicure Kits, Jewelry, Bibles (NIV), Alarm Clocks (no radios),  
MP3 Players (Eclipse Fit Clip no radio), Bible Highlighter,  
Markers, Pens, Toiletries, Lotions, Hygiene Products, Photo  
Albums/Frames (no candles), Book Lights/Night Light that  
clips to bed, African American Hair Products

IF YOU OR YOUR CHURCH CAN HELP US WITH ANY OF THE ABOVE  
ITEMS:

Please drop off any time before, but no later than December 15, 2023

You can donate gifts- wrapped or unwrapped.

Please Contact: Chelsea Caldwell at 908-651-5846 or email:

[ccaldwell@hovinghome.org](mailto:ccaldwell@hovinghome.org)

THANK YOU FOR YOUR PRAYERS AND SUPPORT



Once again our sanctuary will be decorated for Christmas. Poinsettia plants will be obtained from Floral Expressions at a cost of \$10.50 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 10:00am worship service on Saturday, December 24, by those who donated them.

Please have all donations and requests in the church office no later than **Thursday, December 7, 2023**. Requests can be sent by mail, dropped off to the Church Office, or placed in the offering tray.

**PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY**

Your name: \_\_\_\_\_

Poinsettias \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (\$10.50 each) Music \$ \_\_\_\_\_

In Memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

In Honor of:

\_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Greetings from: \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**TOTAL AMOUNT \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

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In Memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

In Honor of:

\_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Greetings from: \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**TOTAL AMOUNT \$ \_\_\_\_\_**



Please fill out this sheet for a prayer request and give it to either the **Worship Assistant** or an **Usher**.

Prayer Request for:

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Please fill out this sheet for a prayer request and give it to either the **Worship Assistant** or an **Usher**.

Prayer Request for:

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