

THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF ISELIN

Mind, hearts, hands and voices in Christ

Minister: Rev. Chris Houtz

Liturgist: Elder Joan Katen

We request that you silence all electronic devices **before** service begins.

****Please rise in body or spirit.***

Sunday, May 15, 2022

10:30 A.M.



Gathering for Worship

PRELUDE

Janette Galeme, Guest Organist

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Elder Joan Katen

CHORAL INTROIT

He is Lord (2x)

He is Lord, He is Lord,
He is risen from the dead
And he is Lord.
Every knee shall bow,
Every tongue confess
That Jesus Christ is Lord.

***THE CALL TO WORSHIP (Responsive)**

Elder Joan Katen

Alleluia! Christ is alive; let all the people praise him.
Let all creation sing with joy. Alleluia!

***PRAYER OF THE DAY (In Unison)**

Elder Joan Katen

O God, form the minds of your faithful people into a single will. Make us love what you command and desire what you promise, that, amid all the changes of this world, our hearts may be fixed where true joy is found; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

*** HYMN #14 For the Beauty of the Earth**

CREATION AND PROVIDENCE

For the Beauty of the Earth 14

1 For the beau-ty of the earth, for the glo-ry of the skies,
2 For the won-der of each hour of the day and of the night,
3 For the joy of ear and eye, for the heart and mind's de-light,
4 For the joy of hu-man love, broth-er, sis-ter, par-ent, child,
5 For thy-self, best gift di-vine to the world so free-ly given;

for the love which from our birth o-ver and a-round us lies:
hill and vale, and tree and flower, sun and moon, and stars of light:
for the mys-tic har-mo-ny link-ing sense to sound and sight:
friends on earth, and friends a-bove, for all gen-tle thoughts and mild:
for that great, great love of thine, peace on earth and joy in heaven:

Refrain

Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grate-ful praise.

INVITATION TO CONFESSION**Elder Joan Katen**

Trusting in the love of God to make all things new, let us confess our sin to God and our neighbor.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (In Unison)**Elder Joan Katen**

God of mercy, your command to love one another across all differences opens us to new horizons, yet we often respond with fear and judgment that hinders your goal for humanity. Forgive our sins, we pray, and give us a true repentance that leads to life for all creation.

Merciful God, hear now our own personal confessions that we lift up to you in silence.

PERSONAL CONFESSION**Rev. Chris Houtz**

In the strong name of Jesus Christ we pray. **Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON**Rev. Chris Houtz**

God's promises are trustworthy and true; our sins are forgiven. Be at peace to serve the Lord, and may you always be known by your love.
Thanks be to God!

*** THE RESPONSE #519 You Are My All in All**

You Are My Strength When I Am Weak 519

You Are My All in All

Capo 5: (C) (G) (Am7) (Em) (C)
F C Dm7 Am F

You are my strength when I am weak; you are the trea- sure that I

seek; you are my all in all. When I fall down, you pick me

up; when I am dry, you fill my cup; you are my all in all.

Je - sus, Lamb of God, wor - thy is your name!

Je - sus, Lamb of God, wor - thy is your name!

*THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

(Please pass the peace with friends and loved-ones)

Hearing and Responding to the Word Proclaimed

CHILDREN'S TIME

Rev. Chris Houtz

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Elder Joan Katen

O God of promise, your word made flesh in Jesus Christ is trustworthy and true. By the power of your Holy Spirit, may it rise up in us this day like a gift from the spring of the water of life to refresh our thirsty souls. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

New Testament Reading:

Revelation 21:1-6

Elder Joan Katen

21 Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. **2** And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. **3** And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying,

“See, the home of God is among mortals.
He will dwell with them;
they will be his peoples,
and God himself will be with them and be their God;
4 he will wipe every tear from their eyes.
Death will be no more;
mourning and crying and pain will be no more,
for the first things have passed away.”

5 And the one who was seated on the throne said, “See, I am making all things new.” Also he said, “Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true.” **6** Then he said to me, “It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life.

Psalm Reading (Responsive):

Elder Joan Katen

Psalm 148

1 Praise the Lord!

Praise the Lord from the heavens;
praise him in the heights!

2 Praise him, all his angels;
praise him, all his host!

3 Praise him, sun and moon;
praise him, all you shining stars!

4 Praise him, you highest heavens
and you waters above the heavens!

5 Let them praise the name of the Lord,
for he commanded and they were created.

**6 He established them forever and ever;
he fixed their bounds, which cannot be passed.**

7 Praise the Lord from the earth,
you sea monsters and all deeps,

**8 fire and hail, snow and frost,
stormy wind fulfilling his command!**

9 Mountains and all hills,
fruit trees and all cedars!

**10 Wild animals and all cattle,
creeping things and flying birds!**

11 Kings of the earth and all peoples,
princes and all rulers of the earth!

**12 Young men and women alike,
old and young together!**

13 Let them praise the name of the Lord,
for his name alone is exalted;
his glory is above earth and heaven.

**14 He has raised up a horn for his people,
praise for all his faithful,
for the people of Israel who are close to him.**

Praise the Lord!

SCRIPTURE READING

Gospel Reading:

Rev. Chris Houtz

John 13:31-35

31 When he had gone out, Jesus said, "Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. **32** If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. **33** Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me, and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, 'Where I am going, you cannot come.' **34** I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. **35** By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

THE MESSAGE

Not Just a Second-Hand Emotion

Rev. Chris Houtz

***HYMN #300 They'll Know We Are Christians By Our Love**

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH—Apostles' Creed**

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come again 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.

JOYS AND CONCERNS

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

*Each petition will end by saying, "O God of love, **Raise us to new life in Christ.**"*

THE 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.

Thanksgiving

THE OFFERING

With grateful hearts, let us bring our tithes and offerings to the God from whom they came.

***THE OFFERTORY RESPONSE #697 Take My Life (vs. 1)**

Take My Life

697

1 Take my life and let it be con-se - crat - ed, Lord, to thee;
 2 Take my hands and let them move at the im - pulse of thy love;
 3 Take my voice and let me sing al-ways, on - ly, for my King;
 4 Take my sil - ver and my gold; not a mite would I with-hold;

take my mo - ments and my days; let them flow in
 take my feet and let them be swift and beau - ti -
 take my lips and let them be filled with mes - sa -
 take my in - tel - lect and use ev - ery power as

cease - less praise; let them flow in cease - less praise.
 ful for thee, swift and beau - ti - ful for thee.
 ges from thee, filled with mes - sa - ges from thee.
 thou shalt choose, ev - ery power as thou shalt choose.

5 Take my will and make it thine;
 it shall be no longer mine.
 Take my heart, it is thine own;
 it shall be thy royal throne,
 it shall be thy royal throne.

6 Take my love; my Lord, I pour
 at thy feet its treasure store;
 take myself and I will be
 ever, only, all for thee,
 ever, only, all for thee.

This hymn of consecration radiates from the repeated word "take," resulting in a remarkably full survey of a person's attributes and possessions and giving weight to the "all" at the end. The composer of the tune was influential in the renewal of Reformed hymnody in French.

***THE PRAYER OF DEDICATION (In Unison)**

Loving God, we give you thanks for the ministry of reconciliation to which you call us in the name of Jesus Christ and his resurrection. Accept these gifts for your mission to heal all creation. May they be a testament to your love for us as we share them in love for you; through Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.

***PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

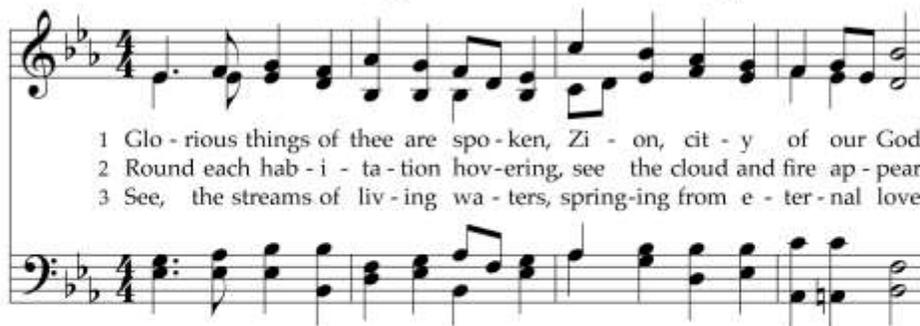
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

God of all mercies, we give you humble thanks for all your goodness and loving-kindness to us and to all living things. We bless you for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life; but above all for your boundless love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ; for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory. Give us such an awareness of your mercies, that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise, not only with our lips but in our lives, by giving up ourselves to your service, and by walking before you in holiness and righteousness all our days; through Jesus Christ our redeemer, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory now and forever. Amen.

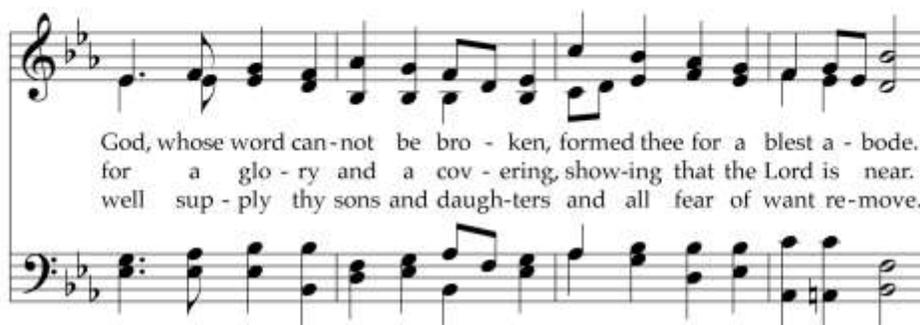
Sending Us into the World

***HYMN #81 Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken**

81 Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken



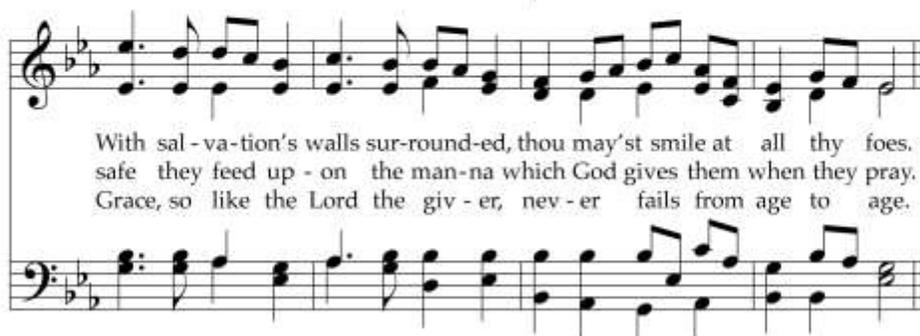
1 Glo - rious things of thee are spo - ken, Zi - on, cit - y of our God.
2 Round each hab - i - ta - tion hov - ering, see the cloud and fire ap - pear
3 See, the streams of liv - ing wa - ters, spring - ing from e - ter - nal love,



God, whose word can - not be bro - ken, formed thee for a blest a - bode.
for a glo - ry and a cov - ering, show - ing that the Lord is near.
well sup - ply thy sons and daugh - ters and all fear of want re - move.



On the rock of a - ges found - ed, what can shake thy sure re - pose?
Thus de - riv - ing from their ban - ner light by night and shade by day,
Who can faint while such a riv - er ev - er flows, their thirst to as - suage?



With sal - va - tion's walls sur - round - ed, thou may'st smile at all thy foes.
safe they feed up - on the man - na which God gives them when they pray.
Grace, so like the Lord the giv - er, nev - er fails from age to age.

The Nazi appropriation of this tune for propoganda purposes has clouded a noble piece of music first associated with this text in 1889. In a 1779 collection, the author indicated that this hymn is primarily based on Isaiah 33:20-21 with allusions to several other passages.

BENEDICTION

CHORAL BENEDICTION

Lord I Lift Your Name on High (2x)

Lord, I lift your name on high;
Lord, I love to sing your praises.
I'm so glad you're in my life;
I'm so glad you came to save us.

You came from heaven to earth, to show the way,
From the earth to the cross, my debt to pay.
From the cross to the grave, from the grave to the sky;
Lord I lift your name on high.

THE POSTLUDE

Please join us for Fellowship after Worship

About our Guest Organist

Today we welcome Janette Goleme as our guest organist!

Janette Goleme is a singer/pianist who resides in Metuchen, NJ. She has a B.A. in music education and an M.A. in performance. She sang and played at Grove Reformed Church in North Bergen for 15 years. Since then she has substituted at several churches playing and singing. She teaches voice and piano at Westerhoff School in Metuchen, privately, and is vocal coach for the Jersey City High School Arts Program.

Friendly Reminders

Margarita Estrada vacation: 5/16/22

Per capita for 2022 is \$40.

Pot Luck Luncheon

June 12th, 2022

The Christian Education Committee will be holding a potluck luncheon to close out the Sunday School year. Please join us after church on Sunday, June 12th as we celebrate our Sunday School students. Plan on making your favorite potluck dish. A sign-up sheet will be provided in Fellowship Hall as we get closer to the date.

Regular Activities

Church Office is open Monday - Friday, 9 am to 1 pm

Wednesday Morning Bible Study at 11 am

Rev. Chris' Congregational Call - Every Thursday at 11 am

Phone Number:

978-990-5000

Access Code:

533696#

Prayer Shawl Ministry – Thursdays, 7-9 pm

Men's Breakfast & Ladies Breakfast, 1st Saturday of the month
at 9 am

Sunday Bible Study - 9:00 am

Session meeting every 3rd Sunday of the month

Choir practice: 1st and last Sunday of the Month at 9:30 am

Divine Worship: In sanctuary and on Facebook Livestream
Sundays at 10:30 am

Vacation Bible School

Monday, July 25th – Friday July 29th

Volunteers Needed!

Exciting News! This year, we will be joining with The First Presbyterian Church of Avenel for Vacation Bible School (VBS). VBS will take place July 25-29, 9:00 A.M. - 12:15 P.M. at the FPresAvenel, 621 Woodbridge Avenue, Avenel, NJ. It is open to students preschool (age 4)-5th grade (information on registration will be provided soon). **They are currently looking for both teenage (having completed 6th grade or higher) and adult volunteers.** If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Elder Heather Meyers at 732-762-3552 or hellohmm@aol.com.

You can also connect to The First Presbyterian Church of Avenel by calling (732) 634-1631 or emailing them at avenelpres@gmail.com.

Deadline for Registration is June 30th!

Our Mission Statement



We are a friendly, multi-cultural congregation that welcomes all to worship with us as we glorify our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ; sing praises to God, the Father; and let the Holy Spirit guide our footsteps. As faithful witnesses to our Christian beliefs, we dedicate ourselves to worship, stewardship and discipleship. We will always endeavor to nurture the youth in our congregation to grow in their commitment to God and the Church and to become active participants in the life and work of the Church.

We commit ourselves to evangelism and mission to spread the good news of Jesus Christ to all people in a variety of ways in our

community and beyond.

We will continue to be open to God's presence, leading us into new pathways of ministry and service for the betterment of the community and to the glory of Jesus Christ our Savior.

-ratified by congregational vote, January 27, 2008

Dear Members and Guests, if you'd like to know more information about the latest news,



Visit our website www.1stpresbyterianiselin.org using your mobile device, scan QR Code. To participate with us on social media, "Like" us on Facebook & Instagram, or follow us on Twitter, @FPresIselinNJ