

Welcome to *Amherst Presbyterian Church*. We are one of the visible churches for the invisible church that shall be gathered into one, under Christ, the head thereof; and is the spouse, the body, the fullness of Christ that fills all in all.

You are so welcome to our worship every Sunday.



11th Sunday after Pentecost

August 21, 2022 at 10:30 AM

"This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it." Psalm 118:24

AMHERST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
The Presbyterian Church in the USA
All Are Welcome

* We invite you to please stand, as you are able, for items preceded by an asterisk.

PRELUDE: Lobe Den Herren (*anonymous composer*)

OPENING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Liturgist

* INTROIT: Great Is the Lord # 2022, verses 1 & 2 (*Sing the Faith*)

CALL TO WORSHIP

Liturgist: Assemble before God, our rock and refuge.
Come together to listen for the voice of our Creator.

People: **The Word of God shakes the foundation of the earth.
We expect to be changed by God's message to us.**

Liturgist: God rescues us from cruelty and injustice.
In steadfast love, God delivers us from our enemies.

People: **We remember the rich heritage we have received.
We give thanks for God's grace and mercy.**

Liturgist: This is God's holy day, a time to lay aside narrow interests.
How will we honor God in word and deed?

People: **We will delight in the Word and works of our God.
We will join together in praise and good works.**

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

(in unison)

We bow in awe before you, powerful God. We have forgotten that you are in charge of the earth. We have neglected the brothers and sisters you have called us to love. We want them to conform to our way of doing things rather than reaching out to them where they are. We would rather ignore them than feel obligated to help. Sometimes we would rather continue our own crippled existence than call on you for help. O God, we need your mercy. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

(in unison)

God forgives, heals, and redeems. Stand firm in your call, for God reclaims you and grants you freedom to become all you are meant to be. God crowns you with steadfast love and mercy. God appoints you to speak and act as representatives of the heavenly realm, as prophets of the new covenant.

PASSING OF PEACE

Pastor

Pastor: "The Peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you..."

People: "...and also with you."

* **HYMN:** Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah # 281

FIRST READING

Psalm 71:1-6

Liturgist

- ¹ In you, O Lord, I take refuge;
let me never be put to shame.
- ² In your righteousness deliver me and rescue me;
incline your ear to me and save me.
- ³ Be to me a rock of refuge,
a strong fortress, to save me,
for you are my rock and my fortress.
- ⁴ Rescue me, O my God, from the hand of the wicked,
from the grasp of the unjust and cruel.
- ⁵ For you, O Lord, are my hope,
my trust, O Lord, from my youth.
- ⁶ Upon you I have leaned from my birth;
it was you who took me from my mother's womb.
My praise is continually of you.

SECOND READING

Jeremiah 1:4-10

Pastor

- ⁴ "Now the word of the Lord came to me saying,
 - ⁵ "Before I formed you in the womb I knew you,
and before you were born I consecrated you;
I appointed you a prophet to the nations."

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⁶ Then I said, “Ah, Lord God! Truly I do not know how to speak, for I am only a boy.” ⁷ But the Lord said to me,

“Do not say, ‘I am only a boy’;
for you shall go to all to whom I send you,
and you shall speak whatever I command you,

⁸ Do not be afraid of them,
for I am with you to deliver you, says the Lord.”

⁹ Then the Lord put out his hand and touched my mouth; and the Lord said to me,
“Now I have put my words in your mouth.

¹⁰ See, today I appoint you over nations and over kingdoms,
to pluck up and to pull down,
to destroy and to overthrow,
to build and to plant.”

Pastor: The Word of God, to all people of God.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

“Called by God”

Pastor

MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION ~ *Please observe this time of silence.*

* **HYMN:** Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us # 387

STATEMENT OF FAITH

The Apostles' Creed

(in unison)

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 Ghost, 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 quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting.
Amen.

SHARING OF JOYS AND PRAYER REQUESTS

Pastor

THE LORD'S PRAYER

(in unison)

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.

OFFERTORY INVITATION

Liturgist

Our gifts speak where we cannot go. They witness to people we will never meet. They praise God who has provided for us every day of our lives. Let us give thanks through our offerings.

OFFERTORY: There Is a Balm in Gilead *(traditional)*

* **DOXOLOGY:** Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow # 592

* OFFERTORY PRAYER

(in unison)

O God, we cannot forget all your benefits. Accept our offerings as expressions of praise and acts of true worship. We pour out our thanks for all you have given us and for all you do for us. We are grateful for the opportunities you grant us to help others. May healing come to all who suffer and freedom be granted to those weighed down and bent over with heavy burdens. Use us and our gifts to bring the changes for good that you intend for our world. Amen.

* COMMISSION AND BLESSING

Pastor: God promises to reign among us and guide us.
God's rule in our midst will not be shaken.

People: **We will approach God with reverence and awe.**
We will worship God in our daily pursuits.

Pastor: God's freeing, uplifting presence is ever with us.
God's transforming power is working among us.

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People: **We rejoice at the wonderful things God is doing.
 We are eager to join in good works for God.**

Pastor: The Word of God empowers us to speak and act.
 God is sending us to people who need our help.

People: **We will not be afraid to speak of God's love.
 We will dare to act as God directs.**

ALL: **Amen.**

*** HYMN:** Go Now In Peace

Go now in peace, never be afraid. God will go with you each hour of ev'ry day.
Go now in faith, steadfast, strong and true. Know He will guide you in all you do.
Go now in love, and show you believe. Reach out to others so all the world can see.
God will be there watching from above. Go now in peace, in faith, and in love.

POSTLUDE: Gigue by Handel

Today's Worship Team

Ministers: The People and Rev. Amir Tawadrous
Music Director: Donna Lorenzo
Liturgist: Leslie Palermo

PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS

Our friends and family in care facilities and at home, including:
Doreen Connolly, Joan Hambleton, John Kelley Jr.,
Betty Knowl, Lois McMillan, Gail Trankle

APC CALENDAR AND ANNOUNCEMENTS — August 21, 2022

- Next week, on **Sunday, August 28** at **6:00 PM**, everyone is invited to the **SUMMER SERENADE OF MUSIC** here at Amherst Presbyterian Church. We will sing and hear hymns, songs, and other familiar music. We will also have a special guest instrumental artist. Bring your family and friends! We look forward to seeing you there!
- On **Sunday, September 4** we will have a brief **Congregational Meeting** following worship to approve the slate of nominees from the Nominating Committee.
- Thank you to everyone who has assisted with the Lord's Supper so far this year. We still have dates open that need to be filled for the setup/cleanup roles, including September 4th. Please sign up on the bulletin board near the nursery.

Next week — ***Sunday, August 28***

10:30 AM - Worship Service

6:00 PM - Summer Serenade of Music

Devotion of the Week

Let us read **Psalm 71:1-6** and **Jeremiah 1:4-10**.

Questions for your meditation:

Have you ever felt called to a task or a role for which you felt completely unequipped? How can our church as a community of faith nurture the call of young people and young leaders?

Amherst Presbyterian Church

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CONTACT INFORMATION

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Rev. Amir's hours: 9:00am—12:30pm, Mon, Wed, Thurs, Fri, and by appointment
(scheduling your visit is recommended)

Church website: <https://amherstpreschurch.com>

Facebook: Amherst Presbyterian Church—closed group; ask to be invited