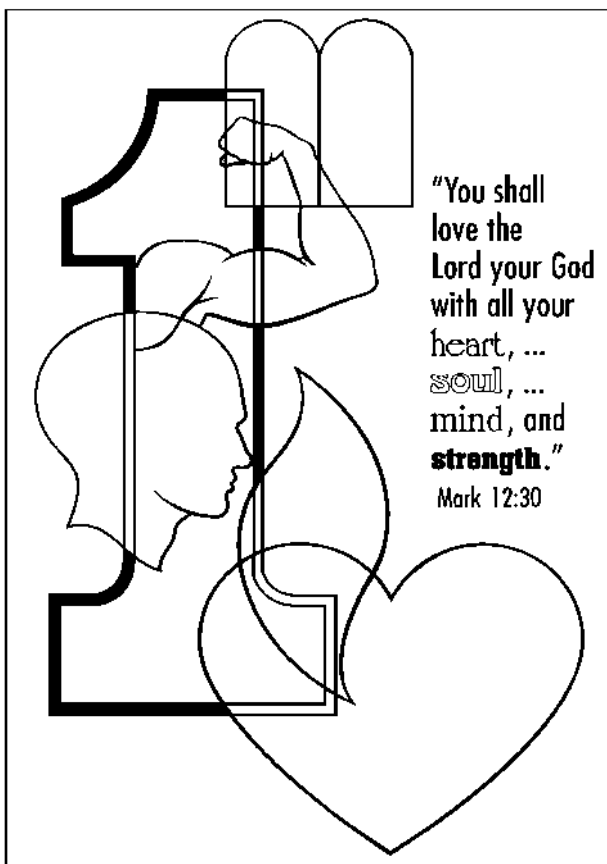


Welcome to *Amherst Presbyterian Church*. We are one of the visible churches for the invisible church that shall be gathered into one, under Christ, the head thereof; and is the spouse, the body, the fullness of Christ that fills all in all.

You are so welcome to our worship every Sunday.



24th Sunday after Pentecost

November 3, 2024 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: For All the Saints Vaughan-Williams

OPENING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Liturgist

*** INTROIT:** For All the Saints # 2283 (*Sing the Faith*) - Verses 1 and 3 only

CALL TO WORSHIP

Liturgist: Listen and hear, all you people of the book!
There is one God who created all time and space.

**People: Our hope is in God who made heaven and earth.
All creatures of the land and sea come from God.**

Liturgist: You shall love God with all your heart and soul.
You shall honor God with all your mind and strength.

**People: We will praise God as long as we live.
We will sing of God's glory all through our lives.**

Liturgist: A second commandment is like the first:
You shall love your neighbor as yourself.

**People: God watches over strangers and widows and orphans.
We honor God by honoring these, our sisters and brothers.**

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

(in unison)

We have not kept faith with you, righteous God. There are so many distractions that occupy our time! There are so many groups to claim our loyalty. There are so many activities that bid for our attention. Even the church involves us in busyness that keeps us from matters of greater importance. In these moments, we seek to know you and to be known by you, that in an honest exchange our relationship with you and with the people around us might be strengthened. In your name, and joining with you, we seek justice for the oppressed, food for the hungry, and healing for all. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

(in unison)

We can count on God's active presence when all other hope is gone. Let us respond in gratitude to the One who deals kindly with us and whose will for us is love and joy and peace. Happy are those whose help and whose hope is in the one true God, who reigns for all generations and beyond time.

PASSING OF PEACE

Pastor

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

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

* **HYMN:** The Church's One Foundation # 321 (purple)

FIRST READING

Luke 10:25-37

Liturgist

²⁵ Just then a lawyer stood up to test Jesus. "Teacher," he said, "what must I do to inherit eternal life?" ²⁶ He said to him, "What is written in the law? What do you read there?" ²⁷ He answered, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbor as yourself." ²⁸ And he said to him, "You have given the right answer; do this, and you will live."

²⁹ But wanting to justify himself, he asked Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?"

³⁰ Jesus replied, "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell into the hands of robbers, who stripped him, beat him, and went away, leaving him half dead. ³¹ Now by chance a priest was going down that road; and when he saw him, he passed by on the other side. ³² So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. ³³ But a Samaritan while traveling came near him; and when he saw him, he was moved with pity.

³⁴ He went to him and bandaged his wounds, having poured oil and wine on them. Then he put him on his own animal, brought him to an inn, and took care of him. ³⁵ The next day he took out two denarii, gave them to the innkeeper, and said, 'Take care of him; and when I come back, I will repay you whatever more you spend.' ³⁶ Which of these three, do you think, was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of the robbers?" ³⁷ He said, "The one who showed him mercy." Jesus said to him, "Go and do likewise."

SECOND READING

Mark 12:28-34

Pastor

²⁸ One of the scribes came near and heard them disputing with one another, and seeing that he answered them well, he asked him, "Which commandment is the first of all?" ²⁹ Jesus answered, "The first is, 'Hear, O Israel: the Lord our God, the Lord is one; ³⁰ you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength.' ³¹ The second is this, 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no other commandment greater than these." ³² Then the scribe said to him, "You are right, Teacher; you have truly said that 'he is one, and besides him there is no other'; ³³ and 'to love him with all the heart, and with all the understanding, and with all the strength,' and 'to love one's neighbor as oneself,'—this is much more important than all whole burnt offerings and sacrifices." ³⁴ When Jesus saw that he answered wisely, he said to him, "You are not far from the kingdom of God." After that no one dared to ask him any question.

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

People: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON**"Two Ways of Love—Easy or Hard?"***Pastor*

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

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM*Rebecca Hamilton***AFFIRMATION 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.

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

Follow Insert

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 energies and our resources are claimed by whatever is truly most important to us. If God is at the center of our lives, that will be apparent in what we give. From God we have received love so amazing that a lifetime of thanks is an inadequate response.

OFFERTORY: Fairest Lord Jesus Silesian Folk Melody

* **DOXOLOGY:** Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow # 606 (purple)

* OFFERTORY PRAYER

(in unison)

Receive from us, O God, the best we have to give. All we have comes from you. We return a portion with joy to accomplish the work we intend to do together in your name. We bring ourselves as well, to be blessed by you, so that while we are apart our words and deeds will continue to be a significant offering. May our lives praise you! Amen.

* COMMISSION AND BLESSING

Pastor: Find your direction in life as you follow Christ.
 Find in your neighbor a brother or sister in Christ.

People: **We are all children of the one God.**
 We are all beloved, honored, and set free.

(continued on next page)

Pastor: Our freedom allows for full commitment.
Because we are free, we can choose to be loyal.

**People: We will worship God together and alone.
We will be present for one another when needed.**

Pastor: Surely God will bless our journey.
Go in peace, confident of God's abiding grace.

**People: We will dwell in God's love day by day.
God reigns in every place we go.**

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: The Family of God Gaither

Today's Worship Team

Ministers: The People and Rev. Amir Tawadrous
Music Director: Dr. Donna Lorenzo
Liturgist: Tom Potts
Vocalists: The APC Singers

PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS

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

APC CALENDAR AND ANNOUNCEMENTS — November 3, 2024

- Today's Deacons' meeting has been moved to Sunday, Nov. 10, at noon.
- The next Session meeting will be on Monday, Nov. 11, at 7:00 PM, via Zoom.
- We're collecting cans of cranberry sauce and canned fruit for the Turkey Basket Project this year. Place donations in the big basket at the front of the sanctuary by Sunday, Nov. 17th. See Judie Bailey for questions, to make a financial contribution to the project, or for volunteer information if you'd like to help assemble the baskets.
- It's that time of year already... Christmas Angels from Gateway are here! Please consider 'adopting an Angel' and making their holiday special. All Angels are listed on the bulletin board in the narthex; please write your name on the list next to the Angel(s) you choose and then take the corresponding info sheet(s). Gifts need to be brought to church by Sunday, December 1. For questions, call Colleen Gibson at (716) 430-2001. Thank you!

Next week — ***Sunday, November 10***

10:30 AM - Worship Service

12:00 PM - Deacons' Meeting

Devotion of the Week

Let us read ***Luke 10:25-37*** and ***Mark 12:28-34***.

Questions for your meditation:

What would loving God with everything you have and loving your neighbor as yourself look like in our church?

“It's all that easy and it's all that hard.” Answer honestly: Why is loving God and neighbor all that easy? All that hard?

Amherst Presbyterian Church

151 S. Youngs Road

Williamsville, NY 14221-7023



CONTACT INFORMATION

Office Phone: 716-633-4656 / **Email:** AmherstPC@verizon.net

Office hours: 9:00am—1:00pm, Monday, Wednesday, Friday

Rev. Amir's Cell: 773-961-6977 / **Email:** APCpastor@verizon.net

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

Church website: www.amherstpreshurch.com

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