

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.



***25<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost***

**November 14, 2021 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:** Andante in G Major *G.P. Telemann*

**OPENING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

*Liturgist*

**\* INTROIT:** Come, Christians, Join to Sing # 150 (*verses 1 & 2*)

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

Liturgist: Come, let us present ourselves before our God.  
Bring all your troubles and anxiety to God in prayer.

**People: Surely God knows our thoughts and hears our prayers.  
We find strength for living as we praise God.**

Liturgist: Lay down your arrogance and false pride.  
Admit your needs as you seek God's favor.

**People: We pour out our souls before the living God.  
We do not withhold from God our misery and distress.**

Liturgist: God grants our petitions and gives us peace.  
The counsel of our God gladdens our hearts.

**People: In God's presence there is fullness of joy.  
As we meet together, we are encouraged and comforted.**

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

*(in unison)*

Mighty God, we confess the arrogance of our doubts and the falsehood of our denials. We have neglected to pray and have forgotten to give thanks. Many activities have become more important to us than gathering for worship. Our busyness crowds out times of private prayer. We shake our heads at the evil around us but do little to witness to a better way. Your law is seldom consulted, and your pathways of self-sacrificing love rarely explored. Turn us around, God. Only you can meet our need. Amen.

## **ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

*(in unison)*

The Holy Spirit renews in us the covenant we have made with our God, offering us forgiveness and assuring us that our lawless deeds will be remembered no more. The law of God is planted in our hearts and written on our minds so love and good deeds may become second nature to us. We are set free to express gladness and to encourage one another.

## **PASSING OF PEACE**

*Pastor*

**Pastor:** “The Peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you...”

**People:** “....and also with you.”

\* **HYMN:** We Are God’s People # 2220 (*Sing the Faith*)

## **FIRST READING**

Daniel 12:1-3

*Liturgist*

<sup>1</sup> “At that time Michael, the great prince, the protector of your people, shall arise. There shall be a time of anguish, such as has never occurred since nations first came into existence. But at that time your people shall be delivered, everyone who is found written in the book. <sup>2</sup> Many of those who sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt. <sup>3</sup> Those who are wise shall shine like the brightness of the sky, and those who lead many to righteousness, like the stars forever and ever.”

## **SECOND READING**

Mark 13:1-8

*Pastor*

<sup>1</sup> As he came out of the temple, one of his disciples said to him, “Look, Teacher, what large stones and what large buildings!” <sup>2</sup> Then Jesus asked him, “Do you see these great buildings? Not one stone will be left here upon another; all will be thrown down.”

<sup>3</sup> When he was sitting on the Mount of Olives opposite the temple, Peter, James, John, and Andrew asked him privately, <sup>4</sup> “Tell us, when will this be, and what will be the sign that all these things are about to be accomplished?” <sup>5</sup> Then Jesus began to say to them, “Beware that no one leads you astray. <sup>6</sup> Many will come in my name and say, ‘I am he!’ and they will lead many astray. <sup>7</sup> When you hear of wars and rumors of wars, do not be alarmed; this must take place,

*(continued on next page)*

but the end is still to come. <sup>8</sup> For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom; there will be earthquakes in various places; there will be famines. This is but the beginning of the birth pangs.

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

People: **Thanks be to God.**

## THE SERMON

*Pastor*

### “Inspire Your Imagination”

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

\* **HYMN:** Be Thou My Vision # 339

## STATEMENT OF FAITH

*(in unison)*

### The Nicene Creed (Traditional)

We believe in one God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible;

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of the Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, Very God of Very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men, and for our salvation, came down from heaven, and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the Virgin Mary, and was made man, and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried, and the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures, and ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of the Father. And he shall come again with glory to judge both the quick and the dead, whose kingdom shall have no end.

And we believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and Giver of Life, who proceedeth from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And we believe one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins. And we look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

## STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN

### 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*

We are encouraged to give as God has blessed us, bringing our offerings, not to win God's favor but to express our thanks, not out of habit but as a caring community that provokes one another to love and good deeds.

**OFFERTORY SOLO:** Saviour Like a Shepherd Lead Us *William Bradbury*

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

**\* OFFERTORY PRAYER** *(in unison)*

Our hearts are glad and our souls rejoice in the opportunity to share. Here are the fruits of your generosity and our hard work. In thanks for the perfect offering of Jesus Christ, we bring ourselves with our gifts. Show us how to combine our efforts to build wholesome relationships, extend your church, and minister in your name throughout the world. Amen.

### \* COMMISSION AND BLESSING

Pastor: Go forth in confidence that God remembers you.  
Go in peace, knowing you will find blessings in abundance.

**People: God is with us wherever we go.  
We seek to recognize the blessings we have ignored.**

Pastor: Live your lives in a continuing relationship of prayer.  
Listen for the counsel God offers every day.

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**People:**                    **There is a word for us in every situation.  
God is always ready to guide our decisions.**

Pastor:                    A new and living way opens before us.  
We are learning to encourage our sisters and brothers.

**People:**                    **We seek to provoke one another to good deeds.  
Love for one another will be our highest motive.**

**ALL:**                    **Amen.**

*(Please remain standing until the Christ candle passes your pew.)*

**POSTLUDE:**            Allegro Gioioso      *G.P. Telemann*

Today's Worship Team

Ministers:	The People and Rev. Amir Tawadrous
Music Director:	Donna Lorenzo
Liturgist:	Tom Potts
Usher:	Roberta Jones

**Devotion of the Week**

Let us read The Gospel according to **Mark 13:1-8**.

**Questions for your meditation:**

What inspires your imagination? When do you feel most creative?

What patterns of creativity and adaptation do you notice in our church?

What do you imagine these patterns growing into if you were to pay attention to them?

## **APC CALENDAR AND ANNOUNCEMENTS — November 14, 2021**

- Our current safety guidelines can be found on the back of your bulletin.
- Please see your bulletin insert for details about the **Turkey Basket Project**. All donations must be received at church by tomorrow (November 15).
- The Deacons have received wish lists from Gateway Longview so we can help their residents have a Merry Christmas. The **Adopt an Angel** information and signup sheet can be found in the Narthex. Gifts need to be received at church by Tuesday, November 30.
- Thank you to everyone who participated in the virtual meeting this past week with Rev. Yohanna Tot to discuss the current situation in Sudan.
- This past Thursday (November 11) was Veterans Day. Thank you to all who serve or have served in our military to protect the many freedoms we enjoy.
- Please note that our Administrative Assistant, Jeanette, will be out of the office November 22-26. Pastor Amir will address any urgent emails or calls during this time, and Jeanette will respond to all others upon her return on November 29.

Next week — ***Sunday, November 21*** — **Christ the King Sunday**

Worship Service with Communion at ***10:30 AM***

### **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, Mel Palmer, Gail Trankle

Please observe the following safety guidelines for in-person worship:

- ◇ The congregation is asked to please follow CDC guidelines for masks, based on their vaccination status and overall health.
- ◇ If you haven't done so already, please sign the attendance sheet in the Narthex



### **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:** <https://amherstpreshurch.com>

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