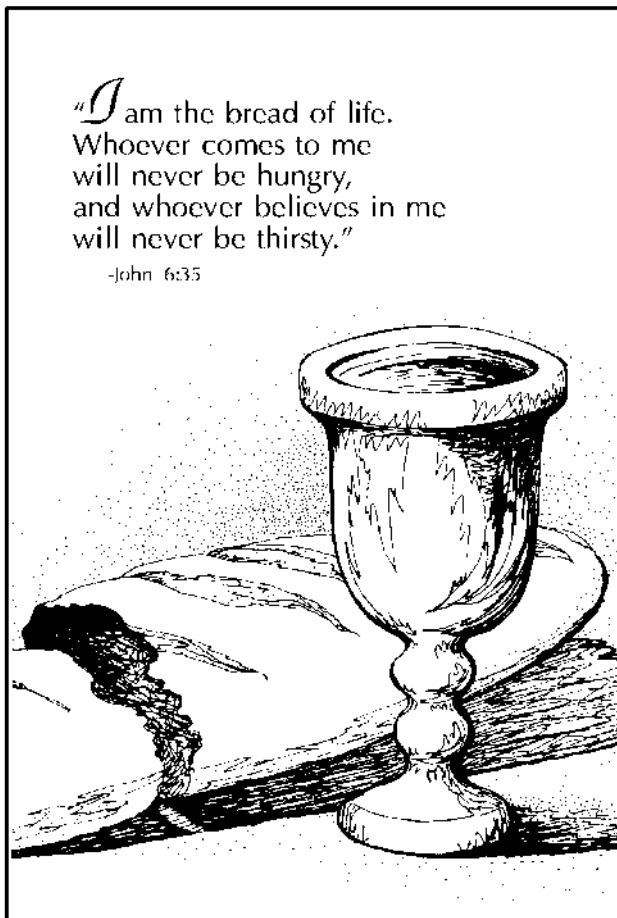


Welcome to *Amherst Presbyterian Church*. We are one of the visible churches for the invisible church that shall be gathered into one, under Christ, the head thereof; and is the spouse, the body, the fullness of Christ that fills all in all.

You are so welcome to our worship every Sunday.



11th Sunday after Pentecost

August 4, 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: Air Handel

OPENING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Liturgist

* **INTROIT:** Give Thanks # 2036 (*Sing the Faith*)

CALL TO WORSHIP

Liturgist: Draw near to God, who hears your prayers.
Come in the name of Jesus, who understands your needs.

People: **We have received manna in the wilderness.**
We have been offered the bread of life.

Liturgist: Open your selves to God's steadfast love.
Be honest before the Holy One who knows all you do.

People: **We are judged according to our deeds.**
Our secret sins are known to our God.

Liturgist: The Holy Spirit has come to restore your joy.
God's presence is real to those who accept God's gift.

People: **Whoever comes to Jesus will not be hungry.**
Whoever trusts in Christ will never be thirsty.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

(in unison)

O God, our transgressions are many. We have sinned against you and done evil in your sight. We have wandered far from your truth. You alone know the extent of our guilt. You are justified to pass judgment and sentence us. We are crushed by the wrong we have allowed and the good we have avoided. We plead for mercy. Wash us thoroughly and cleanse us deep within. Put a new and right spirit in us and restore to us the joy of your salvation. Help us to lead lives worthy of your call to us, in Jesus' name. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

(in unison)

By God's grace, we are forgiven. In Christ, we are drawn together and entrusted with gifts for the good of all. We are knit into one body for mutual support, encouragement, and growth. Some of us are apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors, and some teachers. All of us have a part in building up the body of Christ and equipping the saints for the work of ministry. Give thanks for this opportunity!

PASSING OF PEACE

Pastor

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

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

* **HYMN:** Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken # 81 (purple)

FIRST READING

Psalm 78:23-29

Liturgist

²³ Yet he commanded the skies above,
and opened the doors of heaven;
²⁴ he rained down on them manna to eat,
and gave them the grain of heaven.
²⁵ Mortals ate of the bread of angels;
he sent them food in abundance.
²⁶ He caused the east wind to blow in the heavens,
and by his power he led out the south wind;
²⁷ he rained flesh upon them like dust,
winged birds like the sand of the seas;
²⁸ he let them fall within their camp,
all around their dwellings.
²⁹ And they ate and were well filled,
for he gave them what they craved.

SECOND READING

John 6:24-35

Pastor

²⁴ So when the crowd saw that neither Jesus nor his disciples were there, they themselves got into the boats and went to Capernaum looking for Jesus.

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²⁵ When they found him on the other side of the sea, they said to him, “Rabbi, when did you come here?” ²⁶ Jesus answered them, “Very truly, I tell you, you are looking for me, not because you saw signs, but because you ate your fill of the loaves. ²⁷ Do not work for the food that perishes, but for the food that endures for eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you. For it is on him that God the Father has set his seal.” ²⁸ Then they said to him, “What must we do to perform the works of God?” ²⁹ Jesus answered them, “This is the work of God, that you believe in him whom he has sent.” ³⁰ So they said to him, “What sign are you going to give us then, so that we may see it and believe you? What work are you performing? ³¹ Our ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness; as it is written, ‘He gave them bread from heaven to eat.’ ” ³² Then Jesus said to them, “Very truly, I tell you, it was not Moses who gave you the bread from heaven, but it is my Father who gives you the true bread from heaven. ³³ For the bread of God is that which comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.” ³⁴ They said to him, “Sir, give us this bread always.” ³⁵ Jesus said to them, “I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.”

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

People: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

“The Other Side of the Lake”

Pastor

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

INVITATION TO THE LORD’S TABLE

Follow Insert

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

From Colossians 1:15-20

(in unison)

[Jesus Christ] is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation; for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers—all things have been created through him and for him. He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything.

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For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross.

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

From the abundance of our land, we have much to share. Yet often we benefit from economic policies that favor us over the poor of the world, whose meager resources put food on our tables and clothes on our backs. The church seeks to bring justice amid the world's inequities.

OFFERTORY: Beautiful Saviour Anon.

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

*** OFFERTORY PRAYER**

(in unison)

We dedicate our offerings, not alone for the good they can accomplish and the mission they will support, but also because giving helps us to gain perspective on what really matters. We would stop working only for food that perishes, seeking for all the food that endures for eternal life. May our lives and all we give perform the works of God. Build us up in love for one another and for all your children everywhere.

*** COMMISSION AND BLESSING**

Pastor: Christ, the bread of life, sends you out to feed others.
Whoever comes to Christ will not be hungry or thirsty.

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**People: We will share our lives with brothers and sisters.
 We seek to offer them the bread from heaven.**

Pastor: Join the saints in building up the body of Christ.
 Seek to equip others for the work of ministry.

**People: We find unity in our relationship with God.
 We seek to grow toward the full stature of Christ.**

Pastor: The Spirit will go with you and dwell with you.
 Receive with joy the salvation Christ offers each day.

**People: We are being healed even as we serve.
 We are empowered daily as we share love.**

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: Thanks Be to Thee Richolson

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 — August 4, 2024

- We will have a brief Congregational Meeting on Sunday, August 25 after the service to vote on the new slate of officers presented by the Nominating Committee.
- Pastor Amir will be on vacation Monday, August 5 through Sunday, August 18. Please contact the church office if you need pastoral care during this time.
- If you have photos we could use in an updated APC brochure (services, events, or activities from the past five years), please leave them in Mary Scheeder's mail slot. Be sure to include your name with the pictures so they can be returned to you. Digital images can be emailed to amherstpc@verizon.net.
- The new church directory is slowly coming together and will include contact information for members and friends of the congregation alike. Jeanette from the church office will be contacting each family to confirm their information, so keep an eye/ear open for an email or phone call from her.

Next week — **Sunday, August 11** — Worship Service at 10:30 AM

Devotion of the Week

Let us read **John 6:24–35**.

Questions for your meditation:

What does it mean for you to meet Jesus “on the other side of the Lake”?

What connections do you make when you reflect on Jesus as the bread of life?

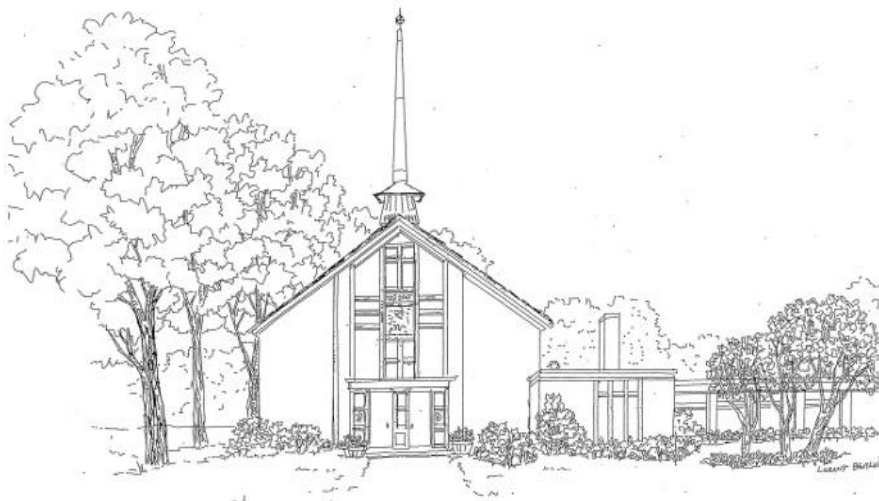
What are the hungers he can satisfy?

How can we avoid being preoccupied with “the wrong stuff”?

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: <https://amherstpreshurch.com>

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