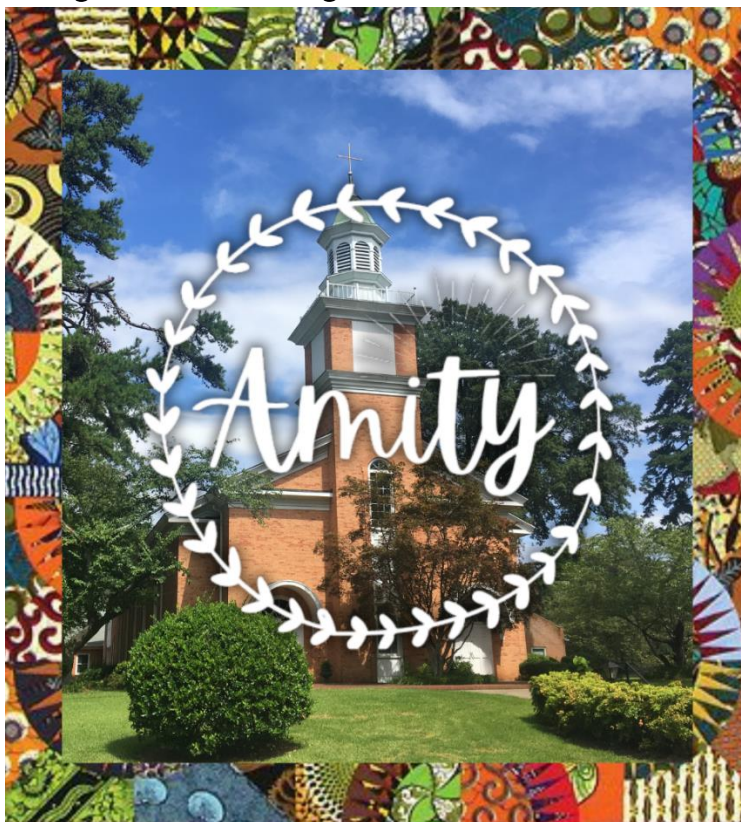


Amity Presbyterian Church



Sixth Sunday of Eastertide **May 5, 2024**

Glorifying Christ - Always Loving, Serving, & Growing

Welcome to worship! We're glad you're here. At Amity, we truly believe that each person is a loved child of God, so we seek to welcome everyone as fully as God does. We celebrate the presence of children of all ages in worship, along with their noise and wiggles. Please make yourself at home.

Pastor: Rev. Megan Argabrite
Worship Leader: Janice Johnston

Director of Music: Isaiah Cornelius
Accompanist: Shaun Koh

2831 N. Sharon Amity Rd. · Charlotte, NC 28205 · 704-537-3484 · www.amitypc.org

We Gather Around the Word

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER FOR THE DAY

*CALL TO WORSHIP (*The congregation speaks the words in **bold***)

We come with joy to this celebration of God's love!

Open our hearts, Lord, to receive your love.

We come with hope to this witness to God's power!

Challenge and encourage our spirits to serve you, Lord.

We come with a willingness to proclaim God's presence to all.

We thank God for this invitation to worship, witness and serve.

*SONG OF PRAISE *All Creatures of Our God and King* Hymn #15

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Singing together:

Music: #475

O, to grace how great a debtor daily I'm constrained to be!

Let that grace now like a fetter, bind my wandering heart to Thee.

Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it; prone to leave the God I love;

Here's my heart, O take and seal it; seal it for Thy courts above.

Together we make our confession:

Tender God,

forgive us for our half-hearted faith

that only wants to love when it's easy,

and too often chooses comfort over discipleship.

We confess our role in the brokenness of things,

whether it comes from our own choices

or our being part of bigger systems that harm and exclude.

We confess our tendency toward apathy and hopelessness.

Spark our holy imaginations

and teach us to trust in Christ's redeeming love,

as we tell you the truth of our lives...

Silent prayer

ASSURANCE OF GRACE

One: ...Hear and believe the good news of the gospel!

Many: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Alleluia, amen!

We Proclaim the Word

THE GOSPEL IN OTHER WORDS

Children of all ages are invited to come to the front.

GOSPEL READING *John 15:12-17* Page 1677 in Pew Bible

NEW TESTAMENT READING *Acts 10:34-47* Page 1708 in Pew Bible

*SUNG RESPONSE *Glory Be to the Father* Hymn #581

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen, amen.**

MESSAGE

Pastor Megan

We Respond to the Word

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH from the *Belhar Confession*

We believe in the triune God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
who gathers, protects and cares for the church through Word and Spirit.
This, God has done since the beginning of the world and will do to the end.

**We believe that Christ's work of reconciliation is made manifest in
the Church, as the community of believers who have been reconciled
with God and with one another; that unity is, therefore, both a gift
and an obligation for the Church of Jesus Christ.**

We believe that this unity of the people of God must be manifested and be
active in a variety of ways: in that we love one another, and that we
experience, practice and pursue community with one another.

We believe that the variety of spiritual gifts, opportunities, backgrounds, convictions, as well as the various languages and cultures, are by virtue of the reconciliation in Christ, opportunities for mutual service and enrichment within the one visible people of God. Jesus is Lord. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND 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.

INVITATION TO GIVE

We Follow the Word Into the World

*SONG OF PRAISE *How Clear Is Our Vocation, Lord* Hymn #432

*BENEDICTION

*BENEDICTION RESPONSE *Amen* Hymn #600

*POSTLUDE

*You are invited to stand, if able

Presbyterian Women's Night Circle meets Monday evening at 5:30 p.m. in the Amity Room. **PW Morning Circle** meets Tuesday morning at 10:00 a.m. in the Library.

The Congregational Life Team will meet Wednesday, May 8th, at 1:00 p.m. in the Amity Room.

We will celebrate Communion next Sunday, May 12th. At Amity, everyone is welcome at the Lord's Table. Yes, that means you too.

We give thanks to God for the life and witness of
Penny Mills
who entered the church triumphant on Wednesday, April 26.
Please keep her family in your prayers.

*"Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted."
(Matt. 5:4)*