



Hamburg Presbyterian Church

**Hamburg Presbyterian Church is striving to become a spiritually
passionate congregation that lives out Christ's teachings;
through love-filled relationship building, we prayerfully seek
to share our lives and resources with the community and the world.**

177 Main Street, Hamburg, New York 14075
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Rev. Rachel N. Brown, Pastor

Jesse Bonaventura, Minister of Music

Hollis Bahruth, Church Secretary

Wendy Zimmerman, Pastoral Care

Jim Sampson, Treasurer Katie Gertner, Financial Secretary

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[HPC YouTube Channel](#)

THE 16TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
SEPTEMBER 13TH, 2026

* Please stand as you are able.

Gathering Music

Jesse Bonaventura

Chimes

Welcome and Announcements

Pastor Lisa Elkington

Moment for Ministry

Tony Cimorelli

Prelude

Jesse B

***Responsive Call to Worship** (Please stand.)

Bill Brodie

Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me.

Bless God's holy name.

God forgives. God heals. God transforms with steadfast love.

Bless God's holy name.

***Opening Hymn #32 "I Sing the Mighty Power of God "**

***Passing the Peace**

Bill B.

The peace of the Lord be with you

And also, with you

Let us pass the peace to one another

***Doxology Hymn #606**

Call to Confession

Bill B.

Jesus calls us to enter the joy of discipleship, the joy of following in his way. But sin clings closely, and we struggle to respond fully to Christ's invitation. Let us seek God's forgiveness so that we may know more deeply the joy God intends.

Unison Prayer of Confession (Please be seated.)

Bill B.

Merciful God, in Jesus, our risen Lord, we have seen your glory. Yet our sinfulness often blocks out the light of Christ. We are quick to accuse and slow to confess. We find faults easily in others while ignoring our own shortcomings. We have squandered your gifts. We have turned from your ways. We have ignored your Word. Have mercy on us, compassionate God. Pour out your Holy Spirit on our sinful lives. Wash us with your love and cleanse us with your grace that day by day we might move closer to the people you would us be. Amen

Assurance of Pardon

Relentlessly, God seeks us out. With abundant grace and boundless mercy, God seeks us out. This is good news! In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Pastor Elkington

Gracious God, illumine these words by your Spirit that we might hear what you would have us hear and be who you would have us be, for the sake of Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh. Amen

Moment of Silent Confession

Words of Assurance

Pastor Elkington

Christ died for our sins. He made a full atonement for us. We are forgiven, and we have the promise of eternal life. Feel that forgiveness in your heart. **Amen.**

Response Hymn # 817 *“We Walk By Faith and Not By Sight”*

First Reading Exodus 12: 1-14

Bill B.

Introduction: Exodus 12 includes the institution of the Passover festival, which commemorates how the Lord spared the Israelites and did not destroy them when the land of Egypt suffered the tenth and final plague. Linguistically, the Hebrew word for Passover, pesach, means to “leave or spare by passing over.” The word comes from a verbal root meaning “to spare” or “to pass over.”¹ The Hebrew word points to the physical “passing over” when the angel of the Lord destroyed the Egyptians. Hear our word today.

¹² The Lord said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt, ² “This month shall mark for you the beginning of months; it shall be the first month of the year for you. ³ Tell the whole congregation of Israel that on the tenth of this month they are to take a lamb for each family, a lamb for each household. ⁴ If a household is too small for a whole lamb, it shall join its closest neighbor in obtaining one; the lamb shall be divided in proportion to the number of people who eat of it. ⁵ Your lamb shall be without blemish, a year-old male; you may take it from the sheep or from the goats. ⁶ You shall keep it until the fourteenth day of this month; then the whole assembled congregation of Israel shall slaughter it at twilight. ⁷ They shall take some of the blood and put it on the two doorposts and the lintel of the houses in which they eat it. ⁸ They shall eat the lamb that same night; they shall eat it roasted over the fire with unleavened bread and bitter herbs. ⁹ Do not eat any of it raw or boiled in water but roasted over the fire, with its head, legs, and inner organs. ¹⁰ You shall let none of it remain until the morning; anything that remains until the morning you shall burn with fire. ¹¹ This is how you shall eat it: your loins girded, your sandals on your feet, and your staff in your hand, and you shall eat it hurriedly. It is the Passover of the Lord. ¹² I will pass through the land of Egypt that night, and I will strike down every firstborn in the land of Egypt, from human to animal, and on all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgments: I am the Lord. ¹³ The blood shall be a sign for you on the houses where you live: when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and no plague shall destroy you when I strike the land of Egypt.

¹⁴ “This day shall be a day of remembrance for you. You shall celebrate it as a festival to the Lord; throughout your generations you shall observe it as a perpetual ordinance.
This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

Special Music I

“His Name is Wonderful”

Chancel Choir

Second Reading Matthew 18:15-20

Pastor Elkington

¹⁵ “If your brother or sister sins against you,^[a] go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If you are listened to, you have regained that one. ¹⁶ But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses. ¹⁷ If that person refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church, and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a gentile and a tax collector. ¹⁸ Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. ¹⁹ Again, truly I tell you, if

two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. ²⁰ For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them.”
This is the Gospel of our Lord. **Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.**

Sermon “Where Two or Three are Gathered”

Pastor Elkington

Special Music II The Eastern Gate

Chancel Choir

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Pastor Elkington

Merciful God, powerful and wonderful, eternally present and graciously close, we are grateful for what you have given us in Jesus Christ, life and love without end. Prompted by your Spirit and encouraged by your faithfulness, we lift to you the cares and concerns of our hearts, the burdens and the worries of our lives.

We pray that the sick would be healed, that the broken would be mended, that the mournful would be comforted. We pray that warriors would yield to peace, that leaders would gain wisdom, that the forsaken would be gathered in. We pray that the sorrowful would be consoled, that the poor would be lifted up, that the anxious would be released.

We pray for children in their growing and for youth in their seeking. We pray for those making new starts and for those nearing a journey’s end. We pray for those facing hard choices and for those enduring painful consequences.

We pray for those filled with bitterness and for those who are just empty. We pray that your church might claim its potential, that the body of Christ might be strengthened by its many parts, that the work of ministry might be done with joy and thanksgiving.

We pray for the courage to follow Jesus, for the faith to trust your promises to us, for the vision to see your kingdom among us even now. We pray for all that you would have us pray. We pray for those for whom no one prays. We pray all of these things in the name of the one ceaselessly praying for us, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. AMEN

CELEBRATION OF THE LORD’S SUPPER

Pastor Elkington

Lord, we hear our call but some of us carry heavy burdens that pull us in other directions, away from you. Lord we feel the Holy Spirit is leading us home in this sacrament. Here at this Table all people are invited—no matter what you have done or left undone. Rich, poor, sinner or saint – all of us come as we are. Here at this table we are free to tell God the truths of our lives—where it hurts, what we need, where we’re from, and where we hope to go. And here at this Table we are not alone. We are surrounded by community, surrounded by connection. So come to this Table—as we seek the light of God together. God is here. There is a seat saved for you.

THEN LET ALL WHO LOVE HIM COME TO THIS TABLE.

The Prayer of Celebration

Pastor Elkington

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

For what do we offer thanks to God at this table?

You formed us in your image and set us in this world to love and serve you.

When we were captives in slavery, you delivered us to freedom, and made a covenant to be our sovereign God. When we were stubborn, you spoke to us through prophets who looked for that day when justice shall triumph and peace shall reign over the earth.

When we were in the wilderness, terrified, timid, you were there, your word was there, with manna just enough for today, with water even from the driest rock, with the abundant grace upon which our story always rests. And when we fell short, slaves to power and greed, you were there, your word was there, on the lips of prophets, and in the hearts of servants, in stories of revolution and revelation and liberation, calling us even now to acts of courage and witness and peace.

What do we remember at this table?

We remember that Jesus, knowing the suffering he would endure, still gave his life to break walls that divide us from God and from each other.

And because, O God, you gave us the gift of your only Son:

We remember his death, we proclaim his resurrection, we claim his strength.

Now, by your presence, O God, make sacred this feast in memory of Jesus Christ. As this broken bread was scattered like grain on the hillsides, and then, when gathered together from the ends of the earth into your eternal realm, like Christ, who was offered up to you that we might live, and like this wine, which was poured out that all might share in the signs of new life, so may the lives of your people be poured out in compassion, and in solidarity with the poor, the oppressed, and the hungry of this world. We ask that you would be among us in this meal. Allow this bread and cup to remind us of your home for us. Allow this meal to fill us to the brim so that when we leave this space we carry bits of you with us. Allow this meal to nourish us in the way only you can. We are inviting you in. Amen.

Hymn #525 "Let Us Break Bread Together"

Words of the Institution

Pastor Elkington

We give you thanks that on the night before he died, the Lord took bread in his hands; and, after giving thanks to you, he broke it, saying: This is my body given for you; do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way, after supper he took the cup, saying: This cup is the new covenant sealed in my blood. Every time you drink it, do this in remembrance of me. In this way we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes again.

Remembering the grace of your son Jesus Christ, we take from your creation this bread and this wine, and joyfully celebrate his dying and rising as we await the day of his coming, proclaiming the mystery of faith:

Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

Celebration of the Eucharist (All people are invited to come forward to receive Holy Communion)

***THE PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION** (Please stand if you are able)

Lord God, in deep gratitude for this moment, this meal, these people, we give ourselves to you

Take us out to live as changed people because we have shared the living bread and cannot remain the same. Ask much of us, expect much from us, enable much by us, encourage many through us.

So, Lord, may we live to your glory, both as inhabitants of earth and citizens of the commonwealth of heaven with whom we join in these sacraments.

Sending Message

Bill B.

***Closing Hymn #340** "This Is My Nation"

***Postlude: "The Lord's Prayer"** (The congregation may stand and hold hands as they feel comfortable)

***Benediction**

Sending Music

Jesse B

Thank You Volunteers!

Liturgist: Bill Brodie

Head Usher: Pat Catalino

In Our Prayers

Joys: The message from Mark Aquino last week was well received.. Thankful for Pastor Lisa Elkington for filling in for Pastor Rachel.

Concerns: Rachel is recovering at her family home. She appreciates all of the cards, prayers, phone calls, and well wishes

Announcements

Pastor Rachel's 20th Anniversary of her Ordination. Will be rescheduled when Rachel recovers.

Calling all potential singers and ringers It's not too late to join us!! We welcome you>. You don't need much musical background; we will help you as we go!

The Bells of Praise began practicing on September 1 at 6:30 pm but we still need you to join us. We will join the worship service on September 20th. We will teach you what you need to know

Baptism: Colton Ferraro, grandson of Melissa Ferraro will be postponed.

Coffee Hour: Meet in the lounge after the service for a time of fellowship.

Sept 20 Personnel

Sept 27 Adult Bell Choir

Oct 4 Church Life and Worship & Music

Sept. 20th; Sunday School program for children

ages 5-12 at 9am in the CE classroom upstairs followed by the Blessing of the Backpacks, children, teachers, school staff at 10 AM in the sanctuary. There will be a Confirmation class 2026-2027.

Adult Sunday School: Tony Cimorelli will be leading the adult class at 9am in the Amy Low Room. His topic will be: "Community Building, Love--filled Relationships: The Church, Local Community, and the World.

The Blessing Box located on the Main St. lawn. We need canned soups/stews/pasta, peanut butter, jelly and packaged dry goods (no expired/close to expiration date items can be accepted

Return recyclable cans and bottles to the Can Bottle Return at 4255 Clark Street in Hamburg. At the register tell them that you would like the money to go to the Hamburg Presbyterian Church, The money benefits the Blessing Box.

CIA and our Mission Team collecting new or gently used bath towels, hand towels, washcloths, as well as new plastic shower curtain liners, shower curtain rods, and shower curtain hooks

Sandwich Sunday: the third Sunday of every month. Please bring wrapped sandwiches to church and put them in the coolers in the coat room. HPC is working to provide these sandwiches to community members. HPC will deliver sandwiches to the Hamburg Hotels. Please sign up in the Narthex if you are able to aid in the delivery.

Undie Sunday is coming!!!! For September please donate new underwear (Men's, Women's, and Children's) You can donate in several ways:

- 1) Donate a check or cash
- 2) Order underwear, socks, or bras online from your favorite site or from our Amazon Wishlist

<https://a.co/3BEHKpQ>

QR code for wishlist



- 3) Drop items into the marked bin in the Narthex
- 4) Group order or pick up from WalMart or Target

HPC is pleased to offer the option of electronic giving. The Tithely program provides a safe, convenient option for those not wanting to use checks or cash. Scan the QR code in your bulletin, newsletter, on the website or in the Narthex. You will be directed to the Tithely donation page to set up your payment. You can also download their app for your phone.



Flower sign-up Sheet is on the bulletin board in the Narthex

MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE WEEK OF

Mon Sept 14	6:00pm	Deacons& Session(L)
	7:00pm	Session (L)
	7:00 pm	AlAnon (FH)
Tues Sept 15	11:00am	Worship Planning
	5:30pm	Chancel Choir
	6:30 pm	Bells of Praise
Wed Sept 16	7:30pm	AA (FH)
Thurs Sept 17	6:30 pm	Deacons
	7:00pm	Yoga Faith (FH)
Fri Sept 18		Homeschool Enrichment
Sat Sept19	9:30 am	UCG

Liturgists		Ushers
Sept 20	Shirley Hines	Pat Catalino Sue Almond
27	Kris McGuire	
Oct 4	Anna Robinson	
11	Holly Bahruth	
18	Hal Lewis	

Daily Devotionals for the Week of September 14

- **Monday, September 14, 2026:**
Semi-continuous: Psalm 77; Joshua 3:1-17; Hebrews 11:23-29;
Complementary: Psalm 133; Genesis 48:8-22; Hebrews 11:23-29;
- **Monday, September 14, 2026: Holy Cross**
- **Tuesday, September 15, 2026:**
Semi-continuous: Psalm 77; Nehemiah 9:9-15; Romans 14:13-15:2;
Complementary: Psalm 133; Genesis 49:29-50:14; Romans 14:13-15:2;
- **Wednesday, September 16, 2026:**
Semi-continuous: Psalm 77; 2 Kings 2:1-18; Mark 11:20-25;
Complementary: Psalm 133; Genesis 50:22-26; Mark 11:20-25;
- **Thursday, September 17, 2026:**
Semi-continuous: Psalm 105:1-6, 37-45; Exodus 15:22-27; 2 Corinthians 13:1-4;
Complementary: Psalm 145:1-8; Nahum 1:1, 14-2:2; 2 Corinthians 13:1-4;
- **Friday, September 18, 2026:**
Semi-continuous: Psalm 105:1-6, 37-45; Exodus 16:1-21; 2 Corinthians 13:5-10;
Complementary: Psalm 145:1-8; Nahum 2:3-13; 2 Corinthians 13:5-10;
- **Saturday, September 19, 2026:**
Semi-continuous: Psalm 105:1-6, 37-45; Exodus 16:22-30; Matthew 19:23-30;
Complementary: Psalm 145:1-8; Zephaniah 2:13-15; Matthew 19:23-30;

Thank you for joining us this morning!