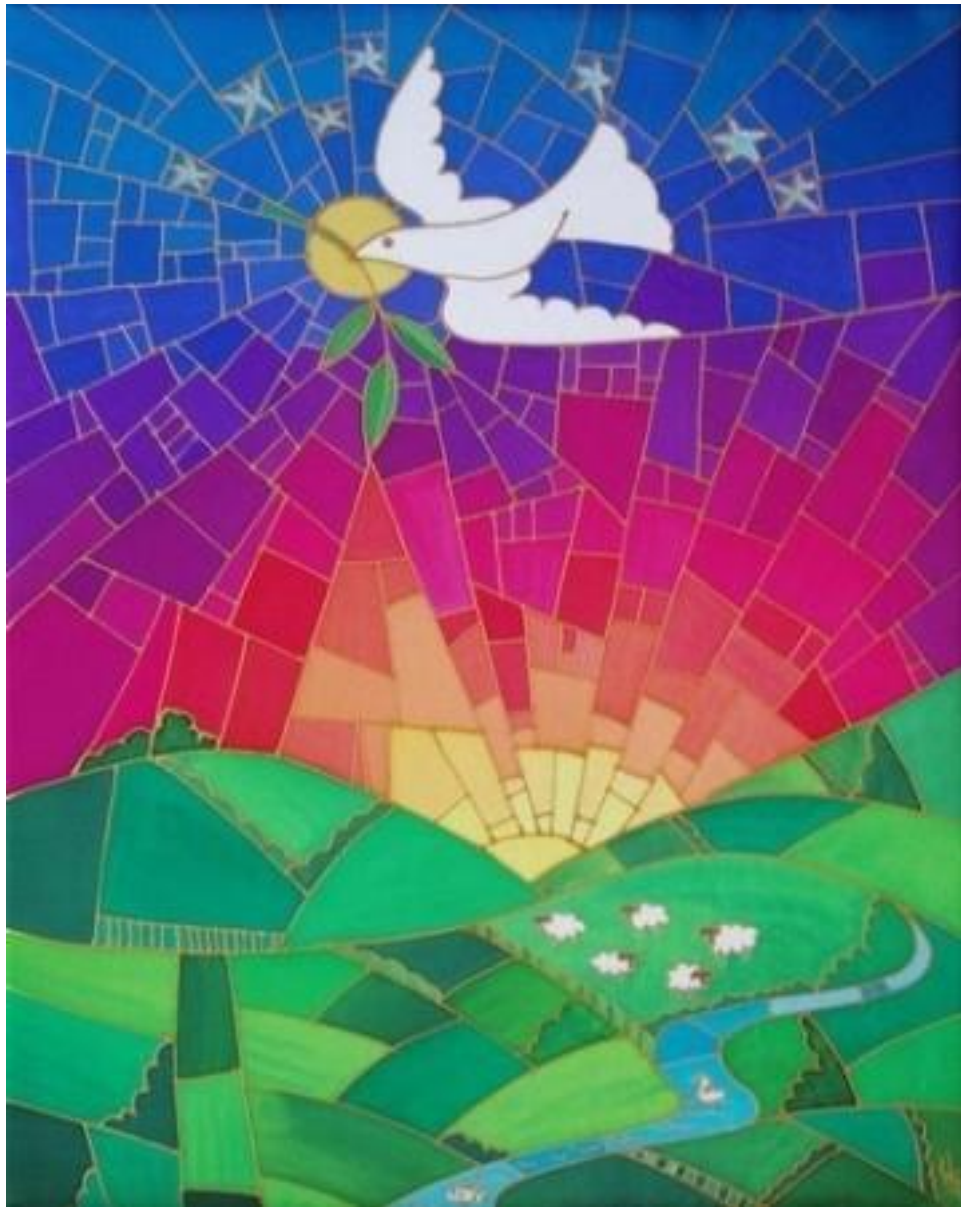


# *Potsdam United Methodist Church*



*Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost*  
*August 31, 2025*

# Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost ~ August 31, 2025

Celebrating the Gift of Christ's Resurrection in Potsdam United Methodist Church

Large print bulletins and listening assistive devices are available, \*Please stand, whether in body or in spirit.

*At Potsdam UMC, all persons are welcome and celebrated regardless of gender, culture, nationality, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation or gender identity, economic circumstance, age, physical and mental ability, marital status or family structure.*

## WE GATHER IN THE NAME OF JESUS CHRIST

### ANNOUNCEMENTS / SHARING OUR JOYS AND CONCERNS

#### PRELUDE

*Beautiful Summer Day* music by Connie Stauffer

*As you listen to the prelude, take time for quiet contemplation and prayer*

#### \*CALL TO WORSHIP

L: Children of God, when we witness the needs of strangers  
and listen to the struggles of our friends, remember:

**P: Let mutual love continue.**

L: When we hear the struggles of those in prison and recognize the  
suffering of people near and far, remember:

**P: Let mutual love continue.**

L: When temptations to hoard more money, more power, and more  
influence surround us on every side, remember:

**P: Let mutual love continue.**

L: As we gather for worship, remember: God is here among us, surrounding us  
with love and forming us to live in love everywhere we go.

**All: We choose to cooperate with God's love today and every day so that  
mutual love will continue wherever we go and whatever we do. AMEN**

*Written by Dr. Lisa Hancock, Discipleship Ministries, March 2024.*

#### PRAYER FOR THE DAY

L: In the face of all our realities:  
We are the people who heal each other,  
who grow strong together,  
who name the truth,  
who know what it means to live in community,  
moving toward a common dream  
for a new heaven and a new earth.

In the power of the love of God our Creator,  
The company of Jesus Christ,  
and the leading of the Holy Spirit. **AMEN**

*Adapted from the people of Pitt Street Uniting Church (Sydney, Australia), Prayers Encircling the World:  
An International Anthology (Louisville: Westminster John Knox Press, 1998), 212.*

#### \*HYMN

**Gather Us In**

**TFWS #2236**

# WE PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION

L: Knowing that our God journeys with us in our confusion, our doubts, our failings, our struggles, we now come humbly before God to ask for mercy.  
For the times we fail to offer hospitality to those in our world who suffer injustice, oppression, and poverty, we pray:

P: **God, have mercy on us and your people**

L: For the times we lack courage to address the causes of injustice, oppression, and poverty, we pray to our God:

P: **God, have mercy on us and on your people.**

L: For the times we give in to despair and resignation when confronted with the injustice of our world, we pray to our God:

P: **God, have mercy on us and on your people.**

L: For the times we allow our fears to triumph over the call to solidarity, we pray to our God:

All: **God, have mercy on us and on your people. Merciful God, receive our petitions. Heal the brokenness in our hearts and in our world caused by injustice, indifference, selfishness, and fear. Open our hearts to hear the cries of your suffering people. Support us as we seek to respond in mutual love and hospitality. AMEN**

*Adapted from Offering Hospitality to Refugees, compiled by Loreto Conroy. Posted on <https://www.crcna.org/>.*

## THERE IS A TIME TO PRAISE GOD WITH SONG...

... AND THERE IS A TIME TO PRAISE GOD WITH WORD!

Reading from the Psalms

Psalms 81:1, 10-16

Reading from the New Testament

Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16

Reading from the Gospel

Luke 14:1, 7-14

## MESSAGE OF THE MORNING

Rev. Heidi Chamberlain

*The Paradox that is the Kin-dom of God*

## WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

\*HYMN

**Praise the Lord Who Reigns Above**

**UMH #96**

THE PRAYER OF GOD'S PEOPLE & THE LORD'S PRAYER (UMH #270)

*Responding to God's invitation, in joy, we offer our gifts*

OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY MUSIC

*The Day Dawn is Breaking*  
music by William Clayson arr. By Keith D Rowley

\*THE DOXOLOGY

**UMH #94**

\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

All: Faithful and Unchanging God, in a world that shifts and sways, you remain our firm foundation. You have called us into a life of mutual love, teaching us to serve, to welcome, and to give with generous hearts. Bless these gifts we offer today, that they may extend your love to those who hunger, who seek justice, and who long for hope. Shape us into a people whose generosity reflects your own, that through our giving, we may proclaim your unshakable kingdom. In the name of Jesus Christ, our constant and faithful guide. AMEN. (Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16)

GOD SENDS US INTO THE WORLD

\*BENEDICTION

L: Children of God, go from this place in the blessing of the Triune God, our Helper and our Friend, offering your sacrifice of praise and sharing what you have as you spread the love of God in mutuality and care to the ends of the earth and back again. **AMEN**

*Written by Dr. Lisa Hancock, Discipleship Ministries, March 2025.*

POSTLUDE *I feel My Savior's Love / I am a child of God* arr. Krista Baer

*Go forward, to live the church, in ministry to all the world!*

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

HOLY GOD, Breathing in Your Grace,  
Breathing out Your Praise!

Worship & Prayer resources for this week: Used by permission – excerpted from  
*Ministry Matters.com* ©2022 & *Discipleship Ministries* ©2025

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **The GOOD Cup – Wednesdays at NOON at Jernaby Coffeehouse.**
- **Acapella North Chorus Rehearsal:** Tuesdays, 5:30-9pm, Beginning May 27th, and throughout the summer.
- **A Journey Through Grief** ~ Potsdam United Methodist Church as part of the Potsdam Interfaith Community is sponsoring a once-a-month peer-lead bereavement support group for adults. Our aim is to offer a space for sharing and caring for those who are grieving the loss of a loved one. We will share a time for “Community, Conversation, and Comfort” while taking a shared journey: the road to life after grief. All are welcome, join when you are ready, stay as there is need. **Second Thursday of each Month, 4:00 - 6:00 pm beginning September 11<sup>th</sup> in the upstairs Fellowship Room.**
- **Choir resumes:** Sunday, September 7<sup>th</sup>. All are welcome to “make a joyful noise!”
- **SPPRC Meeting:** Sunday, September 21<sup>st</sup>, in the tile room following Worship.
- **Worship Meeting:** Sunday, September 28<sup>th</sup>, in the tile room following Worship.

Worship Participants			
Microphone: Norm Gardner		Acolytes: Jordyn Fish, Ben Fish	
Counters		Readers	
Aug. 31:	Carrie Livernois, Tom O.	Aug. 31:	Christa Carroll
Greeters/Ushers		Fellowship Time Hosts	
Aug. 31:	Kathy Demo	Sept. 7:	Carrie Livernois
		Oct. 5:	Sue and John Loope
		Nov. 2:	Carol Willmert
		Dec. 7:	Ashley Fish and Family

**Pastor: Heidi Chamberlain**  
**Musician: Dr. Risa Okina ♦ Choir Director: Anthony Steen**  
**Potsdam United Methodist Church ♦ 26 Main Street, Potsdam NY 13676**  
Pastor’s Office Hours as scheduled with Pastor Heidi Chamberlain

To schedule a pastoral conversation please call: 315-528-4709 (cell) **OR** the Church office: 315-265-7474  
Pastor Heidi: [pastorheidi@potsdamumc.org](mailto:pastorheidi@potsdamumc.org) ♦ Church email: [info@potsdamumc.org](mailto:info@potsdamumc.org)  
Website: [www.potsdamumc.org](http://www.potsdamumc.org) ♦ Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/PotsdamUMCNY>

If you prefer to make your offering electronically you can contribute via [PayPal](#) - <https://tinyurl.com/2s3mtnr5>