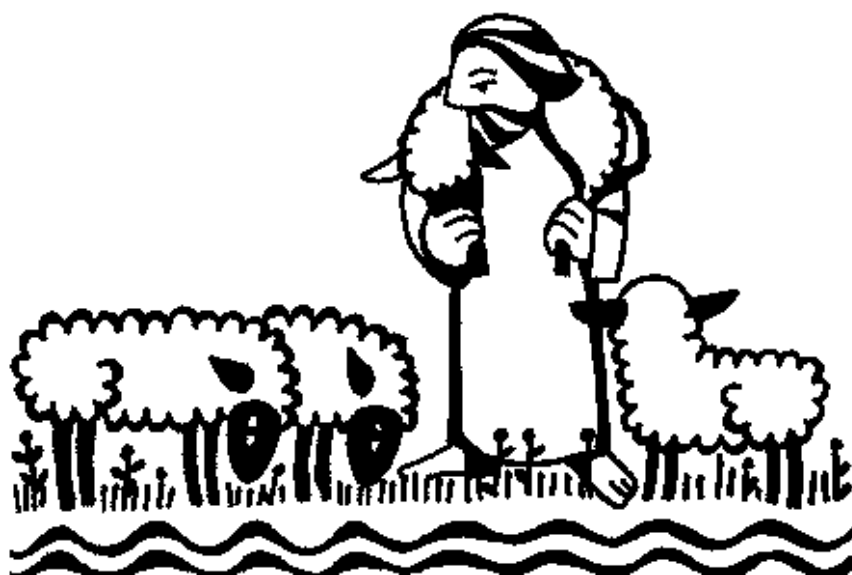


Potsdam United Methodist Church



Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost *September 14, 2025*

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 ♦ Church email: info@potsdamumc.org

Website: www.potsdamumc.org ♦ Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/PotsdamUMCNY>

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

Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost ~ September 14, 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

Light music, by Tiffany Hobson

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

INTROIT

By The Babylonian Rivers

[TFWS #2217]

*CALL TO WORSHIP

(Jeremiah 4, Luke 15)

L: God of abundant grace,

may your Holy Spirit be with us now as we worship you this day.

P: Open our eyes to truly see one another,

that we might discover your presence in the smile of a neighbor.

L: Open our ears to the needs of the world,

that we might hear your wisdom in the words spoken around us.

All: And open our hearts to your grace and love,

that we might find guidance and strength for the journey,

for ourselves and for one another. AMEN

*WORDS OF ASSURANCE

All: Caring Lord, like Paul who writes to Timothy, like the sheep who wanders away from the care and guidance of his shepherd, we have all been lost.

We thank you that you do not leave us in that state but pursue us out of your compelling love and your sense of justice.

Grant us a measure of participation in your love and justice that we may pursue all things lost with that same sense of urgency.

Written by Scott W. Bullard

L: My friends, when we are lost, all is not lost.

God is seeking us, ready to turn our lives around, gathering us in to the people of God. Let us rejoice in God's mercy!

All: AMEN

Written by Henrietta Stith Andrews, in From Despair to Rejoicing: Service Prayers for the 17th Sunday after Pentecost.

*HYMN

Praise, My Soul, The King of Heaven

UMH #66

WE PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

All: Holy God, you sent your Son to be baptized among sinners, to seek and save the lost. May we, who have been baptized in his name, never turn away from the world but reach out in love to rescue the wayward, by the mercy of Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. AMEN

THERE IS A TIME TO PRAISE GOD WITH SONG...
CHOIR ANTHEM *Standin' in the Need of Prayer*; Arr: Jerry Woodward
... AND THERE IS A TIME TO PRAISE GOD WITH WORD!
GOD'S WORD - THE EPISTLES 1 Timothy 1:12-17
*HYMN *Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us* UMH #381, vss 1-2
GOD'S WORD –THE GOSPELS Luke 15:1-10
MESSAGE OF THE MORNING *Lost & Found* Rev. Heidi Chamberlain

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD
*HYMN *Amazing Grace* UMH#378, vss 1-4
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 *Truth Reflects upon Our Senses,*
music by Charles Davis Tillman, arr. By Dale McAllister
*THE DOXOLOGY UMH #94
Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise God, the source of all our gifts! Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION
All: Steadfast and sheltering God, you are our refuge in every age,
our hope when foolishness abounds and justice seems far off.
Even when the world disappoints, you call us to faithfulness,
to community, to generosity that reflects your own heart.
Receive these offerings as signs of our trust in you and our desire to
live differently, to live redemptively, and to live hopefully.
Use them — and us — for the good that ripples outward,
for the healing of hearts and the strengthening of your people.
We give not because all is well but because you are good. AMEN

GOD SENDS US INTO THE WORLD
*HYMN *O Day of God, Draw Night* UMH #730
*BENEDICTION (1 Timothy 1 & Luke 15)
L: May God bless you with the clarity to recognize the world as it is,
the hope to dream God's dream together,
and the power to make God's dream a reality here and now.
My Beloveds, go forth like a shepherd:
Seek the lost. Seek the fallen. Welcome the sinner. Bring them home.
Always remember that our eternal dwelling is the very presence of God.
All: Rejoice, for our God has found us and carries us home – to Christ
Jesus, our Lord,
who loves us and will not let us go: Glory, glory! Hallelujah!
AMEN!

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

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

The will of God will never take you
where the Grace of God will not protect you.



Worship & Prayer resources for this week: Used by permission
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MEETINGS, EVENTS & SPECIAL SERVICES

- **Cheery Os:** will meet on Tuesday, September 16th at 11:30 in Fellowship Hall. Bring your lunch if you'd like. Cookies and beverages will be provided.
- **Potsdam Holiday Fund:** Planning Meeting, Wednesday, September 17, 5–7:30pm, Downstairs.
- **Interfaith Picnic:** Thursday, September 18th, 5:30 - 7:30pm at Sandstoner Park.



MONTHLY: New Crafting Groups!

Bring your best ideas and willing hearts and hands!

Join Pastor Heidi in the new craft room at the Parsonage, on the **first and third Thursday of each month, 2-4 pm**. Learn something new, or share a craft you're passionate about. **Group 1 meets the 1st Thursday** of each month; **Group 2 meets the 3rd Thursday** of each

month. You are welcome to attend both groups as space permits. Sign-up sheet on the piano in Fellowship Hall, or contact Pastor Heidi at pastorheidi@potsdamumc.org

WEEKLY: The GOOD Cup – Wednesdays at NOON at Jernabi Coffeehouse
Conversation with Pastors Heidi and Carl. The first cuppa' is always on us!



MONTHLY: 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.**

Worship Participants

Microphone: Norm Gardner		Acolytes: Jordyn Fish, Ben Fish	
Counters		Readers	
Sept. 14:	Christa Carroll, Carrie L.	Sept. 14:	Nancy Matthews
Sept. 21:	Debby Nikkari, Robin Howard	Sept. 21:	Sharon Hutchinson
Sept 28:	Tom Ortmeyer, Christa Carroll	Sept. 28:	Collen Gondo
Greeters/Ushers		Fellowship Time Hosts	
Sept. 14:	Norm Gardner	Oct. 5:	Sue and John Loope
Sept. 21:	Robin Howard, Judy Haer	Nov. 2:	Carol Willmert
Sept. 28:	Nancy Matthews	Dec. 7:	Ashley Fish and Family