

Potsdam United Methodist Church



Twenty-third Sunday after Pentecost
November 16, 2025

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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

Our Guest Musician, Cherie Baker

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

INTROIT *This is a Day of New Beginnings* [UMH #383 verses 2 & 5]

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: God is creating something new: a new heaven and a new earth.

Group 1: Throughout all of life there has been struggle, toil, and turmoil. We have worked hard and often wondered if God really cares for us.

Group 2: God has sent many messengers to give us the word of Love, yet we have turned our backs on them. Is it too late to turn again to God, seeking forgiveness and restoration?

Leader: Oh, that we could fly away from our fears and difficulties and rest in the arms of God.

Group 1: Holy God, come now and free us from our self-imposed prisons of doubt, selfishness, and greed.

Group 2: Receive us and restore us, we pray.

Leader: The time is coming when God will make all things new.

Group 1: Lord, open our eyes to see the newness of your creation.

Group 2: Lord, open our hearts and spirits to see the newness that you continually create, each and every day.

Leader: Oh, that we could fly away from our fears and difficulties and rest in the arms of God.

All: AMEN

*HYMN

Joy in the Morning

TFWS #2284

*WORDS OF ASSURANCE:

All: Even though we have turned away from God, yet God is faithful to us. We are beloved of God and recipients of God's love and blessings. Rejoice, children of God! For God's mercies are ever before us. **AMEN**

WE PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

All: Living God, help us to hear your holy Word with open hearts
so that we may truly understand; and, understanding, that we may believe;
and, believing, that we may follow in all faithfulness and obedience,
seeking your honor and glory in all that we do. AMEN

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

CHOIR ANTHEM *The Light of the Lord; written by John F. Crowe*

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

GOD'S WORD - THE EPISTLE 2 Thessalonians 3:6-13

GOD'S WORD – THE GOSPEL Luke 21:5-19

THE MESSAGE It's a Great Time... to Speak Life! Rev. Heidi Chamberlain

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

***HYMN** *Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above* **UMH #126**

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 *Our Guest Musician, Cherie Baker*

***THE DOXOLOGY** *Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow* **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: God, our Father, with these gifts we offer you our lives to do your work in the world.
Take our bodies and our minds, our work and our leisure,
our relationships with other people, our friendships and our family life,
our dreams and our doubts, our faith and our plans for the future.
In the name of Jesus Christ, we bring them to you. AMEN

GOD SENDS US INTO THE WORLD

***HYMN** *Forth in Thy Name, O Lord* **UMH #438**

*BENEDICTION

L: In the midst of continual change, God remains steadfast in God's love for us.
God is creating something new, a new heaven and a new earth.
Each day offers newness of hope and faith.

All: Let us open our hearts and spirits to God's creative word for us that we may
learn, grow, and serve as effective witnesses to God's love and power. AMEN

POSTLUDE *Our Guest Musician, Cherie Baker*

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

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK



*Invite Someone to “Fall” into Church with You.
Perhaps They Will Find
A Place Full of Friends and Family too!*

Worship & Prayer resources for this week: Used by permission – excerpted from *MinistryMatters.com* ©2022

MEETINGS, EVENTS & SPECIAL SERVICES

- **The Good Cup:** Enjoy conversation and a “cuppa” with Pastor Heidi & Pastor Carl, **Wednesdays at noon** at Jernabi Coffee House.
- **Super Church - Sunday School:** Will be held every other Sunday. Nov. 16th, Dec. 7th & 21st.
- **Greening of the Church:** Sunday, November 23rd, immediately following Worship. Stay to help us decorate our church and enjoy a pizza party.
- **Hearts and Hands on a Mission Craft Group:** meets at the Parsonage the first Thursday of each month, 2-4pm. The next meeting is **December 4th**.
- **Elf and Cookies:** December 6th, from 1:00-3:00pm. Public event for children and their grown-ups. There is a signup sheet on the piano if you would like to help by baking cookies or providing other supplies. Contact Kathy Demo (315-212-9283) if you would like to volunteer at this event.
- **Potsdam Holiday Fund Set-up:** Sunday, December 7th 2:00pm, entire basement.
- **Potsdam Holiday Fund:** December 8th-20th all day everyday, entire basement.
- **Cherry'Os:** will meet Tuesday, **December 9th**. We will meet at church at 11:30. Cookies and beverages will be provided. Please bring your lunch if you would like.
- **A Journey Through Grief:** 2nd Thursday of each month, 4-6pm, Fellowship Hall. Next meeting, **December 11th**.

Worship Participants			
Microphone: Norm Gardner		Acolytes: Jordyn Fish, Ben Fish	
Counters		Readers	
Nov. 16:	Robin Howard, Carrie L.	Nov. 16:	Tom Ortmeyer
Nov. 23:	Debby N., Carrie Livernois	Nov. 23:	Christa Carroll
Nov. 30:	Christa Carroll, Robin Howard	Nov. 30:	Kathy Demo
Greeters/Ushers		Fellowship Time Hosts	
Nov. 16:	Carrie Livernois	Nov 23:	Pizza Party (Greening the Church)
Nov. 23:	Norm Gardner	Dec. 7:	Ashley Fish and Family
Nov. 30:	Robin Howard, Judy Haer	Jan. 4:	Robin Howard & Judy Haer
		Jan. 11:	Pizza Party (Un-Greening the Church)

Pastor: Heidi Chamberlain
Musician: Dr. Risa Okina ♦ Choir Director: Anthony Steen
Guest Musician ~ Cherie Baker
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>