

Potsdam United Methodist Church



Thanksgiving Sunday
November 23, 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

We Gather Together

Wilbur Held

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

INTROIT

Goodness Is Stronger Than Evil [TFWS #2219]

*CALL TO WORSHIP

L: As God has given us such great abundance, let us share with others.

P: **Open our hearts and our hands today, Lord, to help others in need.**

L: As God has blessed each of our lives, let us be a blessing to others.

P: **Prepare us for ministries of hope and healing, gracious God.**

L: The harvest time has come!

P: **Let us gather up our resources, the abundance with which God has blessed us, and let us use these gifts to help all in need. AMEN**

*HYMN

We Gather Together

UMH #131

WE PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

GOD'S WORD – THE PSALMS Psalm 126

UMH #847

OPENING PRAYER

L: Holy One, there is no God like you.

In praise and thanksgiving, we come before you,
ready to learn of your power,
ready to follow your path for our lives.

Through days of jubilation as well as dejection,
help us realize your influence in the world.

We ask simply for ears to hear, eyes to see, and minds to
comprehend the blessings you bestow. **AMEN**

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

All: **Lord, open our eyes and our hearts this day to feel your presence and to see the wondrous gifts you have given to each person. Enable us to grow in our love and service to you. AMEN**

THERE IS A TIME TO PRAISE GOD WITH SONG...
CHOIR ANTHEM *Thanksgiving Canticle* arr. Mark Hayes

... AND THERE IS A TIME TO PRAISE GOD WITH WORD!
GOD’S WORD – THE EPISTLE 1 Timothy 2:1-7
GOD’S WORD – THE GOSPEL Matthew 6:25-33

HYMN *Let All Things Now Living* **TFWS #2008, vs 1**

THE MESSAGE Rev. Heidi Chamberlain
Thanking God for hard times... and A Time to Share Our Thankfulness

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

***HYMN** *Lord of the Dance* **UMH #261**

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 *Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing* **Alessandra Ward**

***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** *Come Ye Thankful People, Come* **UMH #694**

***THE BENEDICTION**

L: Blessing upon blessing has been poured into your lives.
Go now into the world to offer help, healing, and hope to others in the name of God.
Go in peace and may God’s peace always be with you. **AMEN**

POSTLUDE *The Lord Reigns, Alleluia!* **Gerald Peterson**
Go forward, to live the church, in ministry to all the world!

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK



Reflect upon your blessings, of which every man has plenty,
not on your past misfortunes, of which all men have some.
~ Charles Dickens

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: 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. 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. 23:	Norm Gardner	Nov 23:	Pizza Party (Greening the Church)
Nov. 30:	Robin Howard, Judy Haer	Dec. 7:	Ashley Fish and Family
		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 ~ Debby Nikkari
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://tinyurl.com/2s3mtnr5>