



*Potsdam United Methodist Church*  
**Baptism of the Lord Sunday**

January 11, 2026

# Baptism of the Lord Sunday ~ January 11, 2026

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

Guest Musician ~ Debby Nikkari

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

#### INTROIT

*I'm So Glad Jesus Lifted Me*

[TFWS #215]

#### \*CALL TO WORSHIP

L: Father in heaven, At the baptism of Jesus in the River Jordan, You proclaimed him your beloved Son and anointed him with the Holy Spirit.

P: Grant that all who are baptized into his name may keep the covenant they have made, and boldly confess him as Lord and Savior, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting.

All: AMEN

#### \*GOD'S WORD

Praise Sentences based on Psalm 29

#### All: What can compare to the strength of our God?

God's power to create beats our power to destroy.

God's power to forgive beats our power to condemn.

God's power to love beats our power to hate.

God's power to invite beats our power to exclude.

God's power to heal beats our power to hurt.

God's power to transform beats our power to stagnate.

What can compare to the strength of our God?

#### \*HYMN

*Fairest Lord Jesus*

UMH #189

## WE PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

#### \*PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

L: Lord God, as your Spirit descended upon Jesus in the form of a dove, may we also feel the powerful presence of your transforming love, calling us from darkness to bright light. Be with us and guide our steps so that we may truly follow you in all our ways. AMEN!

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

#### CHOIR ANTHEM

*Saw You Never, in the Twilight* written by Joseph M. Martin

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

GOD'S WORD - THE OLD TESTAMENT

Isaiah 42:1-9

GOD'S WORD - THE NEW TESTAMENT

Acts 10:34-43

**HYMN**

**Spirit of the Living God**

**UMH #393**

**GOD'S WORD - THE GOSPEL**

**Matthew 3:13-17**

**THE MESSAGE**

**Defining Moments**

**Rev. Heidi Chamberlain**

**WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD**

**\*HYMN**

**When Jesus Came to Jordan**

**UMH #252**

**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**

**Guest Musician ~ Debby Nikkari**

**\*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: Faithful and Calling God, continue to draw us into community, into covenant, and into new life through waters of grace and acts of justice.

Just as Jesus stepped into the river to stand with us and for us, we bring these gifts today to stand with others —

to serve, to uplift, and to proclaim your kingdom.

Use these offerings to fulfill your righteousness among us.

Help us, your baptized people, to be instruments of healing, hope, and holy change in a world longing for good news.

In Christ's name we pray, AMEN (Matthew 3:13-17)

**GOD SENDS US INTO THE WORLD**

**\*HYMN**

**Spirit of God**

**TFWS #2117**

**\*THE BENEDICTION**

*(Beloveds, as we engage in this season following Christmas, let us be ever mindful of the work we are called to fulfill as written in this prayer by Howard Thurman)*

L: When the song of the angels is stilled, when the star in the sky is gone, when kings and princes are home, when the shepherds are back

with their flock, the work of Christmas begins:

to find the lost, to heal the broken, to feed the hungry,

to release the prisoner, to rebuild the nations,

to bring peace among brothers and sisters,

to make music in the heart.

All: Lord bless us in this holy work! AMEN

**POSTLUDE**

**Guest Musician ~ Debby Nikkari**

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

# THOUGHTS FOR THE WEEK

**coddiwomple** – written by Rev. Thom M. Shuman © 2017

drenched  
in your grace,  
dried off  
with your tears,  
we slip our  
feet into the  
sandals finely crafted  
by Spirit, and

begin our stumbling,  
hesitant  
walk with you,  
not sure  
where  
or why  
or how,  
for it's even  
a mystery to you.

Worship & Prayer resources for this week: Used by permission – excerpted from *MinistryMatters.com* ©2026

## MEETINGS, EVENTS, AND 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:** January 11th and 25th.
- **Un-Greening of the Church:** Today, immediately following Worship. Stay to help us UN-decorate our church and enjoy a pizza party.
- **Hearts and Hands on a Mission Craft Group:** 1st Thursday of each month, 2-4pm at the Parsonage, the next meeting is February 5th.
- **A Journey Through Grief:** 2nd Thursday of each month, 4-6pm in Fellowship Hall. The next meeting is February 12th.

Worship Participants	
<b>Microphone:</b> Norm Gardner	<b>Acolytes:</b> Jordyn Fish, Ben Fish
<b>Counters</b>	<b>Readers</b>
Jan. 11: Debby Nikkari, Robin Howard	Jan. 11: Tom Ortmeyer
Jan. 18: Tom Ortmeyer, Christa Carroll	Jan. 18: Christa Carroll
Jan. 25: Carrie Livernois, Tom Ortmeyer	Jan. 25: Kathy Demo
<b>Greeters/Ushers</b>	<b>Fellowship Time Hosts</b>
Jan. 11: Robin Howard, Judy Haer	Jan. 11: Pizza Party (Un-Greening the Church)
Jan. 18: Nancy Matthews	Feb. 1: Carol Willmert
Jan. 25: Kathy Demo	March 1: Carrie Livernois
	April 5: Robin Howard & Judy Haer

**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](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) - <https://tinyurl.com/2s3mtnr5>