

# *Potsdam United Methodist Church*



***Pentecost Sunday***

***May 24, 2026***

# Ascension of the Lord Sunday ~ May 24, 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** *Choose the Right* ~ by Henry A. Tuckett, arr. by Summer Decker Nelson

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

### **INTROIT**

*Come, Share the Lord* ~ [UMH 2269]

### **\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

L: Sometimes our hearts are shut up like the doors that imprisoned the disciples.

P: **Come, Holy Spirit, with your mighty wind of justice,  
blow open these doors and release us!**

L: Darkness floods our souls and we wonder if we will ever see the light again.

P: **Come, Holy Spirit, let the flames of fire touch our hearts and  
our spirits and burn away our fears and frustrations.**

L: We sit, huddled in our own worlds of alienation.

When will we ever feel the power of your love again, O God?

P: **Come, Holy Spirit, fill our lives with your love  
and free us to reach out to others with the good news of your eternal presence.**

All: **Come, Holy Spirit, come! AMEN**

## WE PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

### **\*OPENING PRAYER**

L: Spirit of wind and fire, come to us this day, freeing us from our fears.

Lift us up when we have fallen.

Dust us off and set us squarely on the path to hope you have set before us.

Remind us that we are never far from your presence.

Get us ready for the great adventure and opportunities that lie before us.

Help us to be good and willing workers for you.

In Christ's Name, we pray. **AMEN**

### **\*HYMN**

**Breathe on Me, Breath of God**

**UMH #420**

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

### **CHOIR ANTHEM**

***Great is the Lord* ~ by: Michael W. Smith & Deborah D. Smith**

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

READING FROM THE NEW TESTAMENT

Acts 2:1-21

READING FROM THE GOSPEL

John 7:37-39

John 20:19-23

THE MESSAGE

Another Miracle of Understanding

Rev. Heidi Chamberlain

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

\*HYMN

Spirit of God

TFWS #2117

HONORING OUR 2026 GRADUATES

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

*More Holiness Give Me ~ by Philip Paul Bliss,  
arr. by Dale McAllister*

\*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

(Numbers 11:24-30)

L: Empowering God, you are the one who pours out your Spirit on sons and daughters, on young and old, on leaders and servants alike. You have not withheld your gifts, but have shared them freely: truth, empathy, vision, and power.

As your Spirit-filled people, we now offer our gifts — not out of fear or obligation, but in response to your boundless generosity.

Use these offerings to fuel the prophetic witness of your church, to bless those still yearning for hope, and to build a community where all are seen, heard, and loved.

All: May our giving, like your Spirit, be poured out without limit. AMEN

GOD SENDS US INTO THE WORLD

\*HYMN

As a Fire Is Meant for Burning

TFWS #2237

\*THE BENEDICTION

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

L: Family of God, go now in the blessing of the Spirit who inspires you to seek God's truth, empowers you to share God's love with empathy and compassion, and emboldens you to live in the freedom of the Spirit who binds us to God and one another that we may be truly free. AMEN!

POSTLUDE

*Lord, Dismiss Us with Thy Blessing ~ by Jean-Jacques Rousseau,  
arr. by Terri Hutchings*

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

# THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK



Worship & Prayer resources for this week: Used by permission – excerpted from MinistryMatters.com ©2011, 2017, 2020 & 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.



**+ More Coffee & Jesus!: A Guided Bible Study for Women - I am Enough**  
Wednesdays at 10:00 am. June 3, 10, 17, 24, and July 1. There is a signup sheet on the piano.

- **Super Church Sunday School:** Today, May 24th.
- **Cheery’Os:** will meet on Tuesday, May 26th at 11:30. We will meet downstairs. Bring your lunch if you choose, cookies and beverages will be provided.

### Worship Participants

<b>Microphone:</b> Norm Gardner	<b>Acolytes:</b> Jordyn Fish, Ben Fish
<b>Counters</b>	<b>Readers</b>
May 24: Robin Howard, Carrie Livernois	May 24: Christa Carroll
May 31: Debby Nikkari, Robin Howard	May 31: Kathy Demo
<b>Greeters/Ushers</b>	<b>Fellowship Time Hosts</b>
May 24: Norm Gardner	June 7: Sue and John Loope
May 31: Carrie Livernois	July 5: Ashley Fish and Family
	Aug. 2: Carrie Livernois
	Sept. 6: Robin Howard & Judy Haer
	Oct. 4: Sue and John Loope

**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

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