

Potsdam United Methodist Church

The Parable of the Sower



*Seventh Sunday after Pentecost
Core Faith
July 12, 2026*

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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

Beautiful Savior ~ (Silesian folk song) arr. Terri Hutchings

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

*CALL TO WORSHIP

L: God has abundantly cast God's seeds of love and hope upon us.

P: **May we be fruitful soil for the planting and growing of hope and peace.**

L: Come, let us praise God who is so generous with us.

P: **Let us sing songs of joy to God.**

L: Hallelujah!

P: **Hallelujah!**

*HYMN

Hymn of Promise

UMH #707

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH Companion Litany to the Social Creed Response [Insert]

*PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

All: God of abundant love, we come to you this day in the midst of a season
of great growth and coming harvest.

All around us are signs of growth, in our earth, in our families, in our world.

We come on this day seeking your healing love and abounding mercy.

Open our hearts to receive all that you offer that we may become fruitful workers...
... for you. AMEN

WE PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

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

SPECIAL MUSIC

In the Garden [UMH #314]

Sung by Mittie Theobald Quinn

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

READING FROM THE NEW TESTAMENT

Romans 8:1-11

READING FROM THE GOSPELS

Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

Jesus explains that the seed is the message of the Kingdom, and the soils represent the condition of the human heart



WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

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

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 ***Behold the Great Redeemer Die ~ by George Careless,
arr. Laurel Hunt Pedersen***

***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 has abundantly cast His seeds of love and hope upon us.
May we be fruitful soil for the planting and growing of hope and peace.
Come, let us praise God who is so generous with us.
May our giving today express our devotion to Him, by bearing
an ever-deepening harvest of love. **AMEN, AMEN!**

GOD SENDS US INTO THE WORLD

***HYMN** **Sois la Semilla (You Are the Seed)** **UMH #583, vs. 1**

***THE BENEDICTION**

All: God has placed the seed of love and forgiveness in your heart.
Go into God's world with joy, telling of the good news of God's abundant,
lavish love for all creation.
Go to be a witness to all the miraculous possibilities for hope and peace.
AMEN

POSTLUDE ***For the Strength of the Hills ~ by Evan Stephens arr. Terry Hutchings***

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

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK:

*"Don't judge each day by the harvest you reap,
but by the seeds you plant."*

~Robert Louis Stevenson

Worship & Prayer resources for this week: Used by permission – excerpted from MinistryMatters.com ©2011, 2017, 2020 & 2026

ANNOUNCEMENTS, MEETINGS, EVENTS, AND SPECIAL SERVICES

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ALL I NEED
TODAY
IS A LITTLE BIT OF
COFFEE
AND A WHOLE LOT OF
JESUS
- + **The Good Cup:** Enjoy conversation and a “cuppa” with Pastor Heidi & Pastor Carl, Wednesdays at noon at Jernabi Coffee House.
 - + **More Coffee & Jesus!**
Wednesday Mornings at 10:00 am ~ July 15 - 2026
Potsdam UMC (Downstairs)
Led by Pastor Heidi Chamberlain
 - + **PRIDE** is celebrated in June... but lived all year through!
Support our siblings... be present, be inclusive, be loving!
- **Grace Smith’s Service:** Funeral services honoring and celebrating Grace’s life will be held Tuesday, July 14th at 1:00 pm. Her family will greet friends prior to the service beginning at 11:00 am at the church. Burial will follow her service at Bayside Cemetery, Potsdam.
 - **Worship Services:** Are moving downstairs for the summer, beginning next Sunday, July 19th.
 - **Special music:** Our Choir Director Anthony Steen is looking for talented folks to help with special music. If you would like to be a part of our music ministry, please contact Anthony choirdirector@potsdamumc.org.
 - **Acapella North Chorus:** Rehearsal every Tuesday, upstairs 5-9pm.
 - **Super Church Sunday School:** Recognizing our youth, Sunday July 19th.
 - **Annual Youth Car Wash:** The Fish family & friends will host a car wash **July 18th, 1-3pm** in the church parking lot. Proceeds will help restore the Bill and Trish Lewis Meditation Bench near our handicapped entrance.
 - **Blessings In A Bag Beach Lunch Program:** Mondays and Thursdays, July 9th - Aug. 13th, 10:30 - 11:30am.

Worship Participants

Microphone: Norm Gardner		Acolytes: Jordyn Fish, Ben Fish	
Counters		Readers	
July 12:	Debby Nikkari, Robin Howard	July 12:	Tom Ortmeyer
July 19:	Tom Ortmeyer, Christa Carroll	July 19:	Christa Carroll
July 26:	Carrie Livernois, Tom Ortmeyer	July 26:	Kathy Demo
Greeters/Ushers		Fellowship Time Hosts	
July 12:	Nancy Matthews	Aug. 2:	Carrie Livernois
July 19:	Carrie Livernois	Sept. 6:	Robin Howard & Judy Haer
July 26:	Kathy Demo	Oct. 4:	Sue and John Loope
		Nov. 1:	Carol Willmert
		Nov. 22:	Greening of the Church: Pizza Party
		Dec. 6:	Ashley Fish and Family

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>

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