

Potsdam United Methodist Church



Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

Core Faith

July 19, 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

Amazing Grace ~ arr.by Terri Hutchings

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

*CALL TO WORSHIP

L: Weeds and seeds, growing together.

P: **Each will influence the other.**

L: What will we learn from the weeds?

P: **Trials and tribulations, choices that have not always worked out.**

Weeds can teach us about perseverance —

consider the tough dandelion plant

pushing its way up through the pavement —

for some it's just a weed,

but for others there are lessons to be learned.

L: What will be gained from seeds?

P: **Inside each one of us is a special person,**

waiting to be nurtured to wholeness.

Each seed is unique; each has its own gifts to offer.

L: In God's garden, God's love extends to both — asking both to consider what each has to offer to a hurting world.

P: **Lord, help us to be good seeds,**

bearing fruits of kindness, justice and compassion.

Keep us mindful of those for whom life has been difficult

and yet they persist in trying to make each day better.

Be in our hearts, O Lord, and in our lives. AMEN

WE PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

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

*OPENING PRAYER WITH SUNG RESPONSE

L: I stand here, needing your healing presence. Come, O Spirit, Come.

P: **Enter my life, take root in my heart.**

All: HYMN Spirit of the Living God [Sung one time through]

UMH #393

L: Give me courage and strength for all the times to come.

P: **Bring joy to my heart!**

All: HYMN Spirit of the Living God [Sung one time through]

UMH #393

L: As we quiet our hearts this day, make us ready to receive your grace and power

P: **Empower us to proclaim your good news everywhere!**

All: HYMN Spirit of the Living God [Sung one time through]

UMH #393

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

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

Written by Moira Laidlaw, Liturgies

L: Merciful God,
You plant each of us like seeds in the same field
and together we are nourished and nurtured by the sun.
We sway in the wind and are refreshed by the rain.
We are blessed by the knowledge that you want us
to grow towards what you call us to be.

All: So, we pray that you will help us to hear and understand
your word: to reach out to the uprooted and rejected,
the lonely and the outcast, and to develop and grow
the good in ourselves, in others, and in the world.
This we pray in Jesus' name. AMEN

READING FROM THE NEW TESTAMENT Romans 8:12-25

READING FROM THE GOSPELS Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

THE MESSAGE *Maybe...* Rev. Heidi Chamberlain

The Parable of the Wheat and the Tares teaches that both good and evil coexist in the world.

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

*HYMN All Things Bright and Beautiful UMH #146

THE PRAYER OF GOD'S PEOPLE & THE LORD'S PRAYER (UMH #270)

Responding to God's invitation, in joy, we offer our gifts

HONORING OUR YOUNG CHRISTIANS *Super Church ~ Director, Carrie Livernois*

OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY MUSIC *Prayer is the Soul's Sincere Desire ~ by George Careless,
arr. By Laurel Hunt Pedersen*

*THE DOXOLOGY Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow UMH #94

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

L: Gardener God, thank you for all the blessings you have poured into our lives.
Receive these gifts that they may become seeds of hope, love, and reconciliation
with all of your beloved children. AMEN

GOD SENDS US INTO THE WORLD

*HYMN For the Beauty of the Earth UMH #92, vss. 1-4

* BENEDICTION

L: Go into the world to be those who are patient and willing to work with the wheat,
as well as the weeds.
Bring the Good News of God's love wherever you go.
Beloveds, may God's people and love go with you always. AMEN

POSTLUDE *Each Life That Touches Ours For Good ~ Music by A. Laurence Lyon
arr. by AnnMarie Murdock*

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

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK:

What a poor, impoverished world it would be that had no weeds
to defy man's narrow idea of order
or to suggest new possibilities to our too-limited minds.

Who can calculate the strength we receive when we see and identify
with a dandelion growing from a crack in the sidewalk to bloom brightly amid
adversity? It makes me feel that I should be capable of just a bit more,
when I see what weeds accomplish on what little they receive.

~ Kay Haugaard

Worship & Prayer resources for this week:

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ANNOUNCEMENTS, 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.
- **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 today, July 19th.
- **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 19:	Robin Howard, Christa Carroll	July 19:	Christa Carroll
July 26:	Carrie Livernois, Tom Ortmeyer	July 26:	Kathy Demo
Greeters/Ushers		Fellowship Time Hosts	
July 19:	Carrie Livernois	Aug. 2:	Carrie Livernois
July 26:	Kathy Demo	Sept. 6:	Robin Howard & Judy Haer
		Oct. 4:	Sue and John Loope
		Nov. 1:	Carol Willmert
		Nov. 22:	Greening of the Church: Pizza Party
		Dec. 6:	Ashley Fish and Family

PRIDE is celebrated in June... but lived all year through!
Support our siblings... be present, be inclusive, be loving!

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>

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