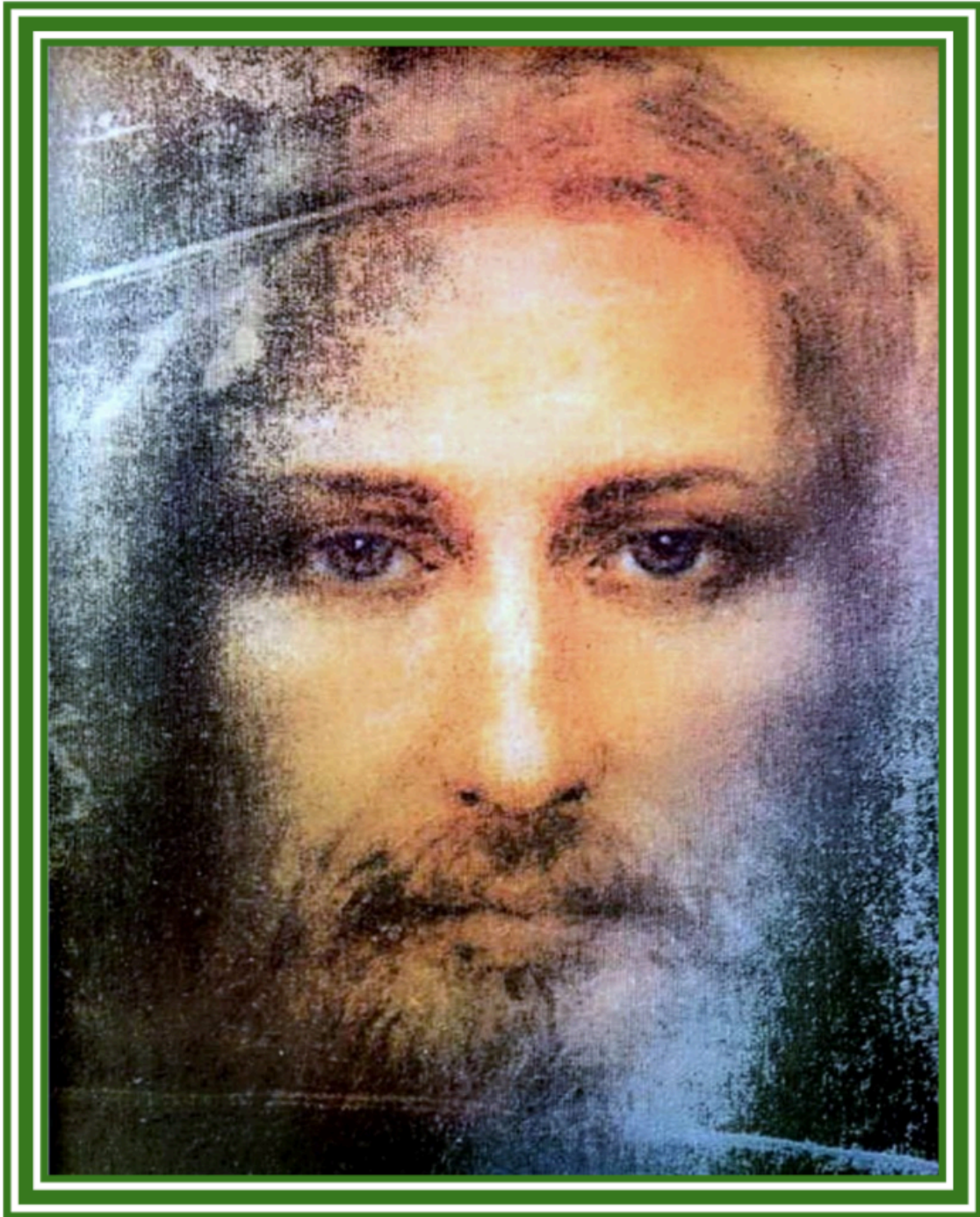


Potsdam United Methodist Church



Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Core Faith
August 23, 2026

Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost ~ August 23, 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

Diane Romlein ~ Guest Pianist

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

CALL TO WORSHIP *Written by Dr. Lisa Hancock, Discipleship Ministries, March 2023.*

L: Family of God, as we gather today, Jesus asks us,
"Who do you say that I am?"

P: You are our Messiah, the Son of the living God!

L: Family of God, as we gather today, the Holy Spirit asks us,
"Who do you say that I am?"

P: You are our Comforter, Advocate, and Sustainer!

L: Family of God, as we gather today, God the Father asks us,
"Who do you say that I am?"

P: You are our Creator, Provider, and Healer!

L: Family of God, as we gather today, the Triune God asks us,
"Who do you say that I am?"

All: You are Love that creates, saves, and enfolds us into the family of God! May we be instruments of Love in all that we are and all that we do. AMEN

***HYMN At the Name of Jesus Every Knee Shall Bow UMH #168**

WE PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

CALL TO RECONCILIATION

Written by Rev. Thom Shuman

L: While we may yearn to be like Jesus, we know that in our hotheaded choices,
our frantic lives, our impetuous words... we are too often like Peter.
But like him, we can confess Christ as our Lord,
speaking of our need for your saving presence in our lives.

**All: We look for you in all the wrong places, God of the lost,
and wonder why we cannot find you.
We wander the corridors of power,
while you are on the sidewalks, beside the homeless.**

We sit at the head tables of the world,
while you are handing out soup to the hungry at the kitchen's backdoor.
We applaud those who win the race,
while you are cheering on those in last place.
In forgiving us, God of new life,
you would transform our cold hearts
into those melted in service to others.
In granting us mercy,
you challenge us to think of all those we have ignored.
In gifting us with grace,
you enable us to proclaim Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior,
as the hope, the joy, the peace the world seeks! AMEN

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

***HYMN** **God of Love and God of Power** **UMH #578, verses 1 & 4**

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

READING FROM THE NEW TESTAMENT **Romans 12:1-8**
READING FROM THE GOSPELS **Matthew 16:13-20**

THE MESSAGE ***Who Do YOU Say That I Am?*** **Rev. Heidi R. Chamberlain**

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

***HYMN** **Lord Whose Love in Humble Service** **UMH #581**

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

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

OFFERTORY MUSIC **Diane Romlein ~ Guest Pianist**

***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 (Matthew 16:13-20)

L: Faithful God, you reveal true power not through fear or force, but through love
that gives life and builds community.
You call us to know who we are because we know whose we are —
your people, shaped by Christ and sent for the sake of the world.
Receive these gifts as signs of our trust in your way of life over the ways of death,
of courage over control, of welcome over exclusion.
Use what we offer to strengthen your church as a living witness to your grace,
that through our sharing and our serving, others may discover
the identity of Christ and the hope found in him. **AMEN**

GOD SENDS US INTO THE WORLD

BENEDICTION

Written by Dr. Lisa Hancock, Discipleship Ministries, May 2026

L: Beloved, God calls us to use our power wisely and in the service of those the world has disempowered.
May God bless you with the courage to notice injustices in the world and the perseverance to keep showing up with God and one another as we empower one another to set the world aright. **AMEN**

POSTLUDE

Diane Romlein ~ Guest Pianist

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

THOUGHT OF THE WEEK

Who do YOU say that I am?

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

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:** If you would like to be a part of our music ministry, please contact Anthony choirdirector@potsgdamumc.org.
- **Acapella North Chorus:** Rehearsal every Tuesday, 5-9pm.
- **Back to School Ice Cream Social:** Saturday, August 22, 1-3pm, rain or shine.
- **Rain location for SLC Arts Porchfest:** Saturday, August 29th, 11am-5:30pm.

Worship Participants			
Microphone: Norm Gardner		Acolytes: Jordyn Fish, Ben Fish	
Counters		Readers	
Aug. 23:	Tom Ortmeier, Carrie Livernois	Aug. 23:	Kathy Demo
Aug. 30:	Carrie Livernois, Debby Nikkari	Aug. 30:	Sharon Hutchinson
Greeters/Ushers		Fellowship Time Hosts	
Aug. 23:	Nancy Matthews	Sept. 6:	Carrie Livernois
Aug. 30:	Norm Gardner	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
Diane Romlein ~ Guest Pianist

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@potsgdamumc.org ♦ Church email: info@potsgdamumc.org

Website: www.potsgdamumc.org ♦ Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/PotsdamUMCNY>

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