

Potsdam United Methodist Church



Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Lessons in Leadership
August 30, 2026

Celebrating the Gift of Christ's Resurrection in Potsdam United Methodist Church

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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS / SHARING OUR JOYS AND CONCERNS

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

L: Have you heard God's call in your life?

P: God, help us accept your call on our lives.

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

WE PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

L: In the quiet stillness, in the everyday noises of living,
God is calling to each one of us, telling us to trust in the gifts
with which God has bestowed on us.

You are beloved and blessed by God to be a blessing to others. Rejoice!

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

***HYMN** **Where He Leads Me** **UMH #338, verse 1**

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

READING FROM THE OLD TESTAMENT Exodus 3:1-15

READING FROM THE NEW TESTAMENT Romans 12:9-21

READING FROM THE GOSPELS Matthew 16:21-28

THE MESSAGE **Rev. Heidi R. Chamberlain**

Dolly Parton and the Gift of Belonging

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

***HYMN** **The Summons** **TFWS #2130**

BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS

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 *I Feel My Savior's Love ~ by Newell Dayley, arr. Kristeen Polhamus*

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

PRAYER OF DEDICATION (Exodus 3:1-15, Matthew 16:21-28)

L: Holy God, you call ordinary people from unexpected places and send them
into hard and holy work.
As you met Moses in the fire that did not consume,
and as you met Peter on the road of costly discipleship,
meet us now in these gifts we bring.
Shape us by your presence, not by fear; by service, not by power;
by love that risks itself for the sake of others.
Receive our offering as a sign that we trust your "I AM" to go with us
and that we are willing to follow Christ, even when the way is demanding.
Use what we give to bring freedom, healing, and hope to your world. **AMEN**

GOD SENDS US INTO THE WORLD

***HYMN OF BENEDICTION** **Let Us Now Depart in Thy Peace** **UMH #668**

BENEDICTION

L: Beloved, when the path is easy and when the path is rough,
when God calls through a burning bush or a still, small voice or a loving rebuke,
remember: you are not alone.
May God bless you with the courage and humility to accept God's call
and with the assurance that if God calls you, God will equip you. **AMEN**

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

POSTLUDE *A Poor Wayfaring Man of Grief ~ by George Coles, arr. Bonnie Heidenreich*

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

THOUGHT OF THE WEEK:



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.
- **Acapella North Chorus:** Rehearsal every Tuesday, 5-9pm.
- **SPPRC Meeting:** September 6, immediately following Fellowship Time.
- **Choir returns:** Sunday, September 13th.
- **Love Letters to the World:** Sunday, September 13th.
- **Super Church Sunday School:** Begins Sept. 13 and will be held the 2nd and 4th Sundays of each month.
- **Pastor Heidi on vacation:** Wednesday, September 9th - Saturday September 19th.
- **Potsdam Holiday Fund Meeting:** Tuesday, September 15th, 5-7pm, Carter Room.
- **Second Chance Scholars - Guest Speaker:** Sunday, September 20th.
- **Homemade strawberry-rhubarb jam:** Located near the fellowship table, \$4 each, all proceeds benefit the mission and ministry of the church.

Worship Participants

Microphone: Norm Gardner		Acolytes: Jordyn Fish, Ben Fish	
Counters		Readers	
Aug. 30:	Carrie Livernois, Debby Nikkari	Aug. 30:	Sharon Hutchinson
Sept. 6:	Tom Ortmeyer, Debby Nikkari	Sept. 6:	Sharon Hutchinson
Sept. 13:	Christa Carroll, Carrie Livernois	Sept. 13:	Nancy Matthews
Sept. 20:	Debby Nikkari, Robin Howard	Sept. 20:	Kathy Demo
Sept. 27:	Tom Ortmeyer, Christa Carroll	Sept. 27:	Collen Gondo
Greeters/Ushers		Fellowship Time Hosts	
Aug. 30:	Norm Gardner	Sept. 6:	Carrie Livernois
Sept. 6:	Carrie Livernois	Oct. 4:	Sue and John Loope
Sept. 13:	Kathy Demo	Nov. 1:	Carol Willmert
Sept. 20:	Norm Gardner	Nov. 22:	Greening of the Church: Pizza Party
Sept. 27:	Nancy Matthews	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://tinyurl>