

Potsdam United Methodist Church

Invited
to the BANQUET
MATTHEW 22:1-14

Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost
October 11, 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

River to River ~ by Adrienne Foster Potter

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

INTROIT

Together We Serve [TFWS 2175]

SCRIPTURAL FOUNDATION

Matthew 22:14

"For many are called, but few are chosen."

*CALL TO WORSHIP

L: We live in a world that entices us with influence, power, and accolades.

P: **We choose to press on toward the prize of the heavenly call.**

L: Sometimes we find ourselves wishing for heaven without working to bring heaven to earth.

P: **We choose to press on toward the prize of the heavenly call
to live righteously here and now.**

L: Other times, we find ourselves exhausted by working for the gospel,
wondering if anything we do is making a difference.

P: **We remind one another to press on toward the prize of the heavenly call,
leaning on Christ as the source of our perseverance and hope.**

L: Beloved, God calls us not to escape this world but to build the kingdom of God
in this place and in this time.

All: **We choose to press on toward the prize of the heavenly call
to embody God's mercy and justice as we build God's kingdom
on earth as it is in heaven. AMEN**

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

*OPENING PRAYER

L: Gracious God, when the world's political noise is turned up high,
we come not to escape, but to seek wisdom,
and to focus on things that are worthy.

Dial down the distractions in our minds.

Tune our senses to your word
and our hearts to your praise.

In your holy name we pray. **AMEN**

By Hans Holznagel, Ministry Matters, Worship Elements: October 15, 2017

*HYMN

Amazing Grace

UMH #378

WE PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

***PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION**

All: Open our hearts and our spirits to hear your healing words of peace and love, O God.
Help us be the people of service and justice that you have called us to be.
Make us ready to heal rather than harm; to serve rather than sever.
Give us hearts of joy and justice, for we offer this prayer in Jesus' Name. AMEN

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

CHOIR ANTHEM

Standin' in the Need of Prayer ~ arr. Jerry Woodward

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

READING FROM THE OLD TESTAMENT

Philippians 4:1–9

***HYMN**

Softly and Tenderly Jesus Is Calling

UMH #348, vss. 1 & 4

READING FROM THE GOSPELS

Matthew 22:1–14

MESSAGE

Don't Be A Wedding Crasher

Rev. Heidi Chamberlain

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

***HYMN**

Grace Alone

TFWS #2162

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

Come, Ye Disconsolate ~ by Samuel Webbe, arr. by Keith D Rowley

***THE DOXOLOGY**

Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow

UMH #94

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

(Philippians 4:1-9)

All: Mighty God, deserving of all honor and praise: we bring our gifts this morning,
remembering that the offering you truly seek is the offering of our whole lives.
Help us, we pray, to live a life that is worthy in your sight.
When we struggle and stumble, help us up and put us on the path.
On the advice of the apostle Paul, may our lives be focused on "whatever is true,
whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing,
whatever is commendable," so that our offering may be pleasing in your eyes.
In Christ, we pray. AMEN!

GOD SENDS US INTO THE WORLD

***HYMN OF BENEDICTION** *Grace Greater Than Our Sin*

UMH #365

*** BENEDICTION**

L: Beloved, as you go from this place,
may the peace of God that surpasses all understanding surround you,
centering your minds on whatever is true, honorable, just, pure, pleasing,
commendable, excellent, and worthy of praise
and empowering you to press on toward the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.
AMEN

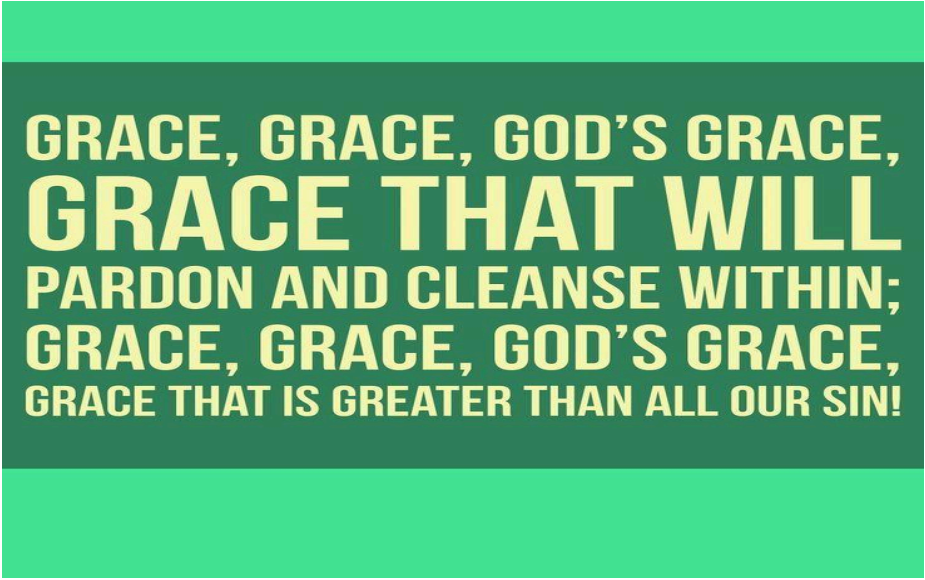
Written by Dr. Lisa Hancock, Discipleship Ministries, July 2026.

POSTLUDE

Echoes of Earth ~ by Adrienne Foster Potter

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 ©2017, 2020, 2023, & 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.
- **Cheery'Os:** Next meeting TBD.
- **Super Church Sunday School:** Will not meet in October.
- **Potsdam Holiday Fund:** Planning Meeting Tuesday, October 13th, 5-7pm in the Carter Room.
- **DCOM:** The district will use our church all day on Friday, October 16th.
- **Charge Conference:** Here in the Carter Room Saturday October 17th, 10am - 1pm. We are hosting several other churches and will need to provide lunch for 50 to 60 people. There is a sign up sheet on the piano if you would like to help provide food for the luncheon.
- **Church Council:** Will meet Tuesday, October 27th, at 10:30am.
- **Trunk Or Treat:** This event has been cancelled due to extenuating circumstances.

Worship Participants

Microphone: Norm Gardner		Acolytes: Jordyn Fish, Ben Fish	
Counters		Readers	
Oct. 11:	Robin Howard, Debby Nikkari	Oct.11 :	Christa Carroll
Oct. 18:	Christa Carroll, Carrie Livernois	Oct. 18:	Collen Gondo
Oct. 25:	Debby Nikkari, Robin Howard	Oct. 25:	Nancy Matthews
Greeters/Ushers		Fellowship Time Hosts	
Oct.11:	Carrie Livernois	Nov. 1:	Carol Willmert
Oct. 18:	Norm Gardner	Nov. 22:	Greening of the Church: Pizza Party
Oct. 25:	Kathy Demo	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://tinyurl.com/2s3mtnr5>