



**The First Presbyterian Church of Potsdam  
August 2, 2020  
Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**THOUGHT FOR REFLECTION**

“With the new day comes new strength and new thoughts.” - Eleanor Roosevelt

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**PRELUDE**

\*Please join in and speak in unison all **bolded** parts.

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

One: Life can sometimes be terribly difficult.

**Many: We look around and wonder, “Where is God?”**

One: In the midst of our trials and tribulations, God is with us.

**Many: God is often hiding there in plain sight,**

One: surrounding us with love and courage.

**Many: Gracious One, thank you for remaining with us, even in the moments we do not recognize your loving presence.**

**GATHERING PRAYER**

**O Lord, you bind us together in love— to learn, to be healed, to grow, to serve. Open our hearts this day to the hidden opportunities we have to help others through the gifts and talents we possess. With the joy of the Spirit we pray, Amen.**

**OPENING HYMN**

“Come! Live in the Light!”

#749(see PDF)

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**Too often we mistake our buildings for the Church, O God. We forget that your communal presence is not restricted by walls or a roof, because we *ourselves* are the Body of Christ, and the presence of your community is with us everywhere we go. In our hour of need, remind us of your indwelling within us, that we might be strengthened and fortified for the days to come. We pray these things in the name of the One who lives within, Amen.**

**ASSURANCE OF GRACE**

## **TIME WITH THE YOUNG AND THE YOUNG AT HEART**

### **ANTHEM**

**SCRIPTURE READING** Matthew 16:13-20 (NRSV)

**SERMON** with Rev. Katrina Hebb

**HYMN** “God of Grace and God of Glory” #307 (see PDF)

### **PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

#### **THE PRAYER OF OUR SAVIOR**

Ground of all being, Mother of Life,  
Father of the Universe,  
your name is sacred, beyond speaking.  
May we know your presence,  
may your longings be our longings in heart and in action.  
May there be food today for the human family  
and for the whole earth community.  
Forgive us the falseness of what we have done  
as we forgive those who are untrue to us.  
Do not forsake us in our times of conflict  
but lead us to new beginnings.  
For the light of life, the vitality of life  
and the glory of life are yours  
now and forever. Amen.

**CLOSING HYMN** “In the Midst of New Dimensions” #315(see PDF)

### **POSTLUDE**

Thank you very much for joining us in today’s remote service.  
May health and happiness find you in these uncertain times.

Worship Leader: Rev. Katrina Hebb  
Music Leaders: Dr. Guilherme Godoi and Dr. Feryal Qudourah

Clerk of Session: Suzanne Waters  
Session Members: Terry de la Vega, Alicia Newcombe, and Renee Stauffer

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