

July 26, 2026: 9th Sunday after Pentecost

~~ *GATHERING BEFORE GOD* ~~

**GREETINGS ~ ANNOUNCEMENTS ~ JOYS ~ CONCERNS
~ GOD MOMENTS~ CELEBRATION SUNDAY ~**

† **HYMN “Let All Things Now Living”** TFWS #2008
The Light of Christ Enters

CALL TO WORSHIP (responsive) *by Dr. Lisa Hancock*
Beloved, this is the core of our faith: nothing can separate us
from the love of God in Christ Jesus.

Thanks be to God!

God’s never-ending love surrounds us and calls us, assuring
us that through God’s love, all things will work together for
God’s good purposes.

Thanks be to God!

God’s never-breaking love empowers us in the face of
temptation, distress, division, and scarcity to hold onto our
faith and work together for the flourishing of all God’s good
creation.

Thanks be to God!

Come, let us worship God who is Love, trusting that through
joy and sorrow, happiness and despair, contentment and
pain, Love will carry us through.

**Thanks be to God who forms, connects, and guides us
through Love. Amen.**

~~ *PROCLAIMING GOD’S WORD* ~~

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Genesis 29:15-28

RESPONSIVE READING: Psalm 105:1-11, 45b UMH #828

CHORAL HYMN “Seek Ye First” UMH #405

EPISTLE LESSON: Romans 8:26-39

GOSPEL LESSON: Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

INTERACTIVE TIME

† **HYMN “Cry of My Heart”** TFWS #2165

MESSAGE “More Than Conquerors”

~~ RESPONDING IN THE SPIRIT ~~

AFFIRMATION FROM ROMANS 8:35, 37-39 UMH #887

PRESENTATION OF OFFERING

† **Doxology**

UMH #95

OFFERTORY / PASTORAL PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER

UMH #895

"The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective." James 5:16

~~ SENDING FORTH ~~

† **HYMN "We've a Story to Tell to the Nations"** UMH #569

The Light of Christ Leads Us into the World

† **BENEDICTION**

† Postlude **"God Be with You till We Meet Again"** UMH #672

† *Standing as you are able to the glory of God*

Scriptures for August 2, 2026 (10th Sun after Pentecost):

Genesis 32:22-31; Psalm 17:1-7, 15; Romans 9:1-5;

Matthew 14:13-21

Thank you for joining us for worship.

~~ ANNOUNCEMENTS ~~

TODAY:

9:00 am Worship – Georgetown UMC

10:30 am Worship – South Otselic UMC

11:45(ish) South Otselic UMC Administrative Board

WEEKLY / BIWEEKLY / MONTHLY:

† **Pastor in the office** – Wed 11 am to 2 pm, Thurs 1-4 pm
no pastoral office hours Aug 5, 6, 19, 20

† **Administrative Board** – Georgetown, 3rd Sunday 8:15 am;
South Otselic, 4th Sunday 11:45(ish) am

† **Food Pantry** – 3rd Thursday each month 3-6 pm
Special requests call Kevin Grewe 607-337-8941

† **Sunshine Shop** Thu & Fri 10-4; Sat 9-noon
– For emergency clothing, call 315-653-7490.

† **Community Lunch** – 1st & 3rd Thursdays, noon, South Otselic UMC; *next date Aug 20 with NBT workshop 1pm*

UPCOMING EVENTS:

† **VBS** – August 3-7, South Otselic UMC

† **NBT workshop on electronic banking** – August 20, 1 pm, South Otselic UMC

PRAYER LIST: (Short Term):

[From 7/19](#) – Janet Coye, Nick D’Elia, family of Derek Smith, those without power/victims of storms

[From 7/12](#) – Diane Burgess, Fran Knickerbocker, family of Bill Haitian Sr.

[From 7/5](#) – Gary & Joan Hart, family of Henry Campbell, family of Norma Smith, all those housebound

[From 6/28](#) – Lonnie Hakes, Tim Smith, graduates, school staff & students & their families Venezuela earthquake victims, other fire/disaster victims

(Long Term): Jonna Bartlett, Richard Bishop, David Boyer, Ron Colasudo, Kaity Davis, Doug Evans, Linda Excell, Ted Gargas, Kevin Grewe, Roger Hakes, Chuck Hathaway, Fran Knickerbocker, Patti Lamandia, Diane MacGregor, Cassandra & Christopher Marquard, Chris Marquard, Maverick Mesko, Aaron Miller, Phil Mudge, Mitch Mullenax, Jenny Naber, Elaine Perkins, John & Carole Roalef, Kate Robinson, Justin Sheldon, Matt & Annette Sheldon, Cathy Silver, Jim Slocum, Harvey Stalker, Normajean Stark, Kenneth Sullivan, Angela (Graves) Szlamczynski, David Wentworth

Travel mercies for family and friends

Our men and women in the military

World leaders, our country, & the need for peace

UPCOMING BIRTHDAYS:

July: 26-Kellie Bishop

August: 7-Angela Harris; 11-Ann Parkhurst;

26-Lydia Newton; 29-Jaclyn Hakes; 31-Chuck Hathaway



MORE THAN
CONQUERORS

A photograph of the Methodist Church in New York, a white wooden building with a tall steeple and a red door. The church features a gabled roof, a circular stained-glass window in the gable, and several arched windows. A small portico with a pediment and columns covers the entrance, which has a bright red door. A set of concrete steps leads up to the entrance. A sign above the door reads "METHODIST CHURCH". To the left of the church, there is a red sign for "POTOMAC STATE UNIVERSITY" and a smaller sign for "BAPTIST CHURCH". The church is surrounded by green grass and trees.

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Psalm 105:1-11, 45b

UMH #828

- 1 O give thanks to the Lord, call on God's name,
make known God's deeds among the peoples!
- 2 **Sing to the Lord, sing praises!**
Tell of all God's wonderful works!
- 3 Glory in God's holy name;
let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice!
- 4 **Seek the Lord and his strength;**
seek God's presence continually!
- 5 Remember the wonderful works God has done,
the miracles and judgments God has uttered,
- 6 **O offspring of Abraham, God's servant,**
children of Jacob, God's chosen ones.
- 7 The Lord is our God, whose judgments are in all
the earth.
- 8 **The Lord is mindful of his everlasting**
covenant, of the word commanded for a
thousand generations,
- 9 the covenant made with Abraham, his promise
sworn to Isaac,
- 10 and confirmed to Jacob as a statute, to Israel as
an everlasting covenant, saying,
- 11 **"To you I will give the land of Canaan as your**
portion for an inheritance."
- 45b **Praise the Lord!**

Genesis 29:15-28

NRSV

- 15 Then Laban said to Jacob, "Because you are my
kinsman, should you therefore serve me for nothing?
Tell me, what shall your wages be?"
- 16 Now Laban had two daughters; the name of the

elder was Leah, and the name of the younger was Rachel.

¹⁷ Leah's eyes were lovely, and Rachel was graceful and beautiful.

¹⁸ Jacob loved Rachel; so he said, "I will serve you seven years for your younger daughter Rachel."

¹⁹ Laban said, "It is better that I give her to you than that I should give her to any other man; stay with me."

²⁰ So Jacob served seven years for Rachel, and they seemed to him but a few days because of the love he had for her.

²¹ Then Jacob said to Laban, "Give me my wife that I may go in to her, for my time is completed."

²² So Laban gathered together all the people of the place, and made a feast.

²³ But in the evening he took his daughter Leah and brought her to Jacob; and he went in to her.

²⁴ (Laban gave his maid Zilpah to his daughter Leah to be her maid.)

²⁵ When morning came, it was Leah! And Jacob said to Laban, "What is this you have done to me? Did I not serve with you for Rachel? Why then have you deceived me?"

²⁶ Laban said, "This is not done in our country-- giving the younger before the firstborn.

²⁷ Complete the week of this one, and we will give you the other also in return for serving me another seven years."

²⁸ Jacob did so, and completed her week; then Laban gave him his daughter Rachel as a wife.

Romans 8:26-39

NRSV

²⁶ Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words.

²⁷ And God, who searches the heart, knows what is

the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

²⁸ We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose.

²⁹ For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn within a large family.

³⁰ And those whom he predestined he also called; and those whom he called he also justified; and those whom he justified he also glorified.

³¹ What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us?

³² He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else?

³³ Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies.

³⁴ Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us.

³⁵ Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?

³⁶ As it is written, "For your sake we are being killed all day long; we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered."

³⁷ No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us.

³⁸ For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers,

³⁹ nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

NRSV

³¹ He put before them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field;

³² it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches."

³³ He told them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened."

⁴⁴ "The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

⁴⁵ "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls;

⁴⁶ on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it.

⁴⁷ "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind;

⁴⁸ when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad.

⁴⁹ So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous

⁵⁰ and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

⁵¹ "Have you understood all this?" They answered, "Yes."

⁵² And he said to them, "Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old."