



**FARMINGTON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
SERVICE OF DIVINE WORSHIP**

**Third Sunday of Easter
April 26, 2020**

ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

O God, the peace you provide our hearts is beyond our understanding. In loving you, we have joy that overshadows our trials. Pour into our hearts assurance of your promises, which exceed all that we can desire; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.

WELCOME

PRELUDE “Jesus, The Very Thought Of Thee” arr.Emma Lou Diemer

CALL TO WORSHIP

Where does our help come from?

We lift our eyes to the mountain.

Does our help come from the mountain?

Our help comes from the Lord, the maker of heaven and earth.

In the midst of the wilderness, God provided manna for God's people.

In the wilderness places of our lives, though the mountains shake and the hills are brought low, God's steadfast love for us will never be shaken.

And faith in God, even the size of a mustard seed, is enough to move the mountains in our lives.

Therefore, we come to worship and praise our God, who watches over us and keeps us from all harm.

PROCESSIONAL HYMN – No. 396

Verses 1&4

“Brethren, We Have Met to Worship”

Brethren we have met to worship and adore the Lord our God. Will you pray with all your power while we try to preach the word? All is vain unless the Spirit of the holy One comes down. Brethren, pray, and holy manna will be showered all around.

Let us love our God supremely; let us love each other, too. Let us love and pray for sinners till our God makes all things new. Christ will call us home to heaven; at his table we'll sit down. Christ will gird himself and serve us with sweet manna all around.

CALL TO RECONCILIATION

The proof of God's amazing love is this: While we were sinners Christ died for us. Because we have faith in him, we dare to approach God with confidence. In faith and penitence, let us confess our sin before God and one another.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

We confess, O God, that as we continue to shelter in our homes, we struggle in isolation against fears and worries that threaten to overwhelm. We long for a return to "normal" and fail to see the ways you are working to use even this time of trial to bring good changes that will further your Kingdom.

Forgive us, Lord. Forgive our lack of trust and resistance to change. Transform our lives by your power and love to live as your Easter people, declaring you do not cause death and evil and sin, but you are able to bring good out of them, for they do not have the last word. The last word is yours, O God, the last word is life.

KYRIE

**Lord, have mercy upon us.
Christ, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy upon us.**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Hear and believe the good news! Who is in a position to condemn? Only Christ, and Christ died for us, Christ rose for us, Christ reigns in power for us, Christ prays for us. Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation. The old life has gone; a new life has begun. In the name of the risen Christ you are forgiven! Thanks be to God! Amen.

GLORIA PATRI – No. 581

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost: as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

from A Brief Statement of Faith

In life and in death we belong to God. Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel, whom alone we worship and serve.

We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God. Jesus proclaimed the reign of God: preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives, teaching by word and deed and blessing the children, healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted, eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners, and calling all to repent and believe the gospel. Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition, Jesus was crucified, suffering the depths of human pain and giving his life for the sins of the world. God raised this Jesus from the dead, vindicating his sinless life, breaking the power of sin and evil, delivering us from death to life eternal.

With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

Living God, by your Holy Spirit, open our ears to hear your Word anew that our lips would be opened to tell of the empty tomb; our hearts opened to believe the good news of your love and our eyes opened to see your vision for the world, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

FIRST READING

Deuteronomy 4:10-14, 23, 27-31

Remember the day you stood before the LORD your God at Horeb, when he said to me, "Assemble the people before me to hear my words so that they may learn to revere me as long as they live in the land and may teach them to their children." You came near and stood at the foot of the mountain while it blazed with fire to the very heavens, with black clouds and deep darkness. Then the LORD spoke to you out of the fire. You heard the sound of

words but saw no form; there was only a voice. He declared to you his covenant, the Ten Commandments, which he commanded you to follow and then wrote them on two stone tablets. And the LORD directed me at that time to teach you the decrees and laws you are to follow in the land that you are crossing the Jordan to possess.

Be careful not to forget the covenant of the LORD your God that he made with you; do not make for yourselves an idol in the form of anything the LORD your God has forbidden.

The LORD will scatter you among the peoples, and only a few of you will survive among the nations to which the LORD will drive you. There you will worship man-made gods of wood and stone, which cannot see or hear or eat or smell. But if from there you seek the LORD your God, you will find him if you seek him with all your heart and with all your soul. When you are in distress and all these things have happened to you, then in later days you will return to the LORD your God and obey him. For the LORD your God is a merciful God; he will not abandon or destroy you or forget the covenant with your ancestors, which he confirmed to them by oath.

This is the Word of the Lord!

Thanks be to God!

SECOND READING

Philippians 1:12-26

Now I want you to know, brothers and sisters, that what has happened to me has actually served to advance the gospel. As a result, it has become clear throughout the whole palace guard and to everyone else that I am in chains for Christ. And because of my chains, most of the brothers and sisters have become confident in the Lord and dare all the more to proclaim the gospel without fear.

It is true that some preach Christ out of envy and rivalry, but others out of goodwill. The latter do so out of love, knowing that I am put here for the defense of the gospel. The former preach Christ out of selfish ambition, not sincerely, supposing that they can stir up trouble for me while I am in chains. But what does it matter? The important thing is that in every way, whether from false motives or true, Christ is preached. And because of this I rejoice.

Yes, and I will continue to rejoice, for I know that through your prayers and God's provision of the Spirit of Jesus Christ what has

happened to me will turn out for my deliverance. I eagerly expect and hope that I will in no way be ashamed, but will have sufficient courage so that now as always Christ will be exalted in my body, whether by life or by death. For to me, to live is Christ and to die is gain. If I am to go on living in the body, this will mean fruitful labor for me. Yet what shall I choose? I do not know! I am torn between the two: I desire to depart and be with Christ, which is better by far; but it is more necessary for you that I remain in the body. Convinced of this, I know that I will remain, and I will continue with all of you for your progress and joy in the faith, so that through my being with you again your boasting in Christ Jesus will abound on account of me.

This is the Word of the Lord!

Thanks be to God!

Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.

Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.

SERMON
Luter

“Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus”

Rev. Rebecca

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Please remember those on our prayer list.

THE LORD’S PRAYER

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

RESPOND TO GOD

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

God has given us life in the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. In gratitude, let us offer our hearts and the fruit of our labor to God’s service.

OFFERTORY “Jesu, Joy Of Man’s Desiring”

J.S. Bach

DOXOLOGY

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow.
Praise him all creatures here below.
Praise him above, ye heavenly host.**

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Generous God, we offer these gifts as our testimony to your glory and as our commitment to live as your disciples. Bless our gifts to your work in the world and to your reign here on earth for the sake of Jesus the Christ, who was dead and behold is alive forevermore. Amen.

HYMN – No. 432 “How Clear Is Our Vocation, Lord” Verses 1&4

How clear is our vocation, Lord, when once we heed your call to live according to your word and daily learn, refreshed, restored, that you are Lord of all and will not let us fall.

In what you give us, Lord, to do, together or alone, in old routines or ventures new, may we not cease to look to you: the cross you hung upon, all you endeavored, done.

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE “Festival March”

G.F. Handel

Bold Type – congregation in unison

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Participating in the service today:

Rev. Rebecca Luter, Pastor

Doug Barr, Director of Christian Education

Jim Thrash, Director of Music

Doug Barr & Vanessa Howard, Liturgists

Becky Hutchins & Tucker Williams, Choir

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