



FARMINGTON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
SERVICE OF DIVINE WORSHIP
Twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost
October 25, 2020

Worship Online at 11:00am Sunday Mornings

www.farmingtonpres.org

Click "Worship with Us!"

ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

God of community, we gather with praise and thanksgiving for who you are and for all that you have done for us. You know us better than we know ourselves—all our thoughts and actions—and yet you love us, gently leading and guiding and blessing us. May your Spirit move in our hearts and minds as we worship —examine our attitudes and actions, lay bare the things we need to confess, challenge us with your Word, and guide us on to paths that lead to life. For we are your people, called by your name. Amen.

WELCOME

PRELUDE "Truth Divine"

Haydn

CALL TO WORSHIP

The Scriptures affirm that "God is love, and those who abide in love, abide in God, and God abides in them."

As we gather, we celebrate God's gift of love and its presence among us.

The Psalmist declares "How good and pleasant it is when God's people live together in unity"

We praise God for the ways our lives have been touched with a variety of loving relationships.

The Gospel truth is that God's unwavering, unconditional love took on human form when our love failed.

As God loves and welcomes us, may we love and welcome our neighbors.

As God reaches out and does not abandon us, may we reach out and not abandon our neighbors.

As God listens and responds to our needs, may we listen and respond to the needs of our neighbors.

We gather in worship, Loving God, coming into your presence with praise and thanksgiving!

Pour out your Holy Spirit upon us, and heal us with you love.

HYMN OF PRAISE – No. 693 “Though I May Speak”

Though I may speak with bravest fire, and have the gift to all inspire, and have not love, my words are vain, as sounding brass, and hopeless gain.

Though I may give all I possess, and striving so my love profess, but not be given by love within, the profit soon turns strangely thin.

Come, Spirit, come, our hearts control; our spirits long to be made whole. Let inward love guide every deed; by this we worship, and are freed.

CALL TO RECONCILIATION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of Covenant and Promise, we want to be a people of peace, reconciliation, and healing of the spirit, yet we know we often fall short of what you would have us to be. Be patient with us. You call us to reflect your grace and generosity, yet we know we often fail to live up to our call as disciples. Help us see your image in each person we meet with fresh eyes.

You blessed each person with skills, talents, and opportunities to minister, yet we know we often fall short of what you would have us do. Be patient with us. You call us to reflect your love and sacrifice, yet we know we often fail to live up to our call as disciples. Help us use our gifts for service and ministry in our congregation, our neighborhood, our city...and wherever we have opportunity.

Forgive us, we pray. Free us to be joyfully obedient disciples, transforming the world around us to match your vision of life abundant.

KYRIE

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Christ, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

**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

**We belong to God, maker of all that is and all that is to come,
abundant provider of all things, who loves all people. It is God
alone who gives life, who is generous beyond measure with
grace and blessing.**

**We follow Christ, who loved and served humbly, healed the
broken and included the outcast, chose to suffer rather than
harm, gave his life for our redemption, and was raised by God
to new life.**

**In his teaching and healing, his death and resurrection, and
in his presence with us in all circumstances, he reveals God to
us. Christ calls us to serve him for the sake of proclaiming
God's grace and grants his spirit to us to guide, heal, and
empower us.**

**We live by that Holy Spirit, flowing through us, uniting us for
the sake of the healing of the world. As members of the
church, the Body of Christ, we devote ourselves to lives of
love, rejoicing in the power of forgiveness, the reality of
resurrection, and the mystery of eternal life. Amen.**

THROUGH CHILDREN'S EYES

Julia and Natalie Lively

PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING

Genesis 50:15, 19-21

When Joseph's brothers saw that their father was dead, they said,
"What if Joseph holds a grudge against us and pays us back for all
the wrongs we did to him?" But Joseph said to them, "Don't be
afraid. Am I in the place of God? You intended to harm me, but
God intended it for good to accomplish what is now being done,
the saving of many lives. So then, don't be afraid. I will provide for
you and your children." And he reassured them and spoke kindly to
them.

This is the Word of the Lord!

Thanks be to God!

The end of all things is near. Therefore be alert and of sober mind so that you may pray. Above all, love each other deeply, because love covers over a multitude of sins. Offer hospitality to one another without grumbling. Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms. If anyone speaks, they should do so as one who speaks the very words of God. If anyone serves, they should do so with the strength God provides, so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ. To him be the glory and the power for ever and ever. Amen.

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

Rev. Rebecca Luter

Please, Won't You Be My Neighbor?

The More You Love Someone

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

OFFERTORY ANTHEM "Jesus Loves Me"

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

God of Power and Glory, we come to your altar this morning, offering our gifts and praying for your presence in a world that is hurting and divided. Much of what we see is chaos, confusion, and anxiety – a world that desperately needs to glimpse your presence and your glory. Help us to be people who restore relationships. Use us and our offerings to be a window into your love and compassion for our neighbors and the world. Amen.

HYMN – No. 306 “Blest Be the Tie That Binds” Verses 1, 2 & 5

Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love. The fellowship of kindred minds is like to that above.

Before our Father’s throne we pour our ardent prayers. Our fears, our hopes, our aims are one, our comforts and our cares.

From sorrow, toil, and pain, and sin we shall be free; and perfect love and friendship reign through all eternity.

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Tom Bryant

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
Tom Bryant, Accompanist
Sandy Wann, Liturgist
Julia and Natalie Lively, Children’s Moment
Chancel Choir

Welcome IN THE NAME OF JESUS, THE CHRIST

We hope that you have sensed the presence of the Holy Spirit in this place and find here a place that feels like home. If you are interested in more information about the life of our congregation or in becoming a member, please speak with our pastor, Rev. Rebecca Luter. You may reach her by email at rluter@farmingtonpres.org or by phone in the church office, 901-754-2794.

New members are received by the Session in one of three ways: Profession of Faith for those who have not previously joined a church, Transfer of Membership for those who are moving their membership from another congregation, or Reaffirmation of Faith for those who have been inactive for some time in church or who wish to rededicate themselves to Christ and his ministry in the world through the church.

Happenings AT FARMINGTON PRESBYTERIAN

A Message from Session While we are not able to worship together, the church is still carrying out the work and mission of God in the world. And, while we are not gathering on Sunday, the expenses of the church continue. If you have kept your pledge current, thank you. If you are able to bring your pledge current or make an offering at this time, your gift is critical. If you are not able to give in this time, we understand. You can make your offering through the website, using a checking account, at www.farmingtonpres.org or mail your offering to Farmington Presbyterian Church, 8245 Farmington Boulevard, Germantown, TN 38139.

Trunk or Treat is tonight! Sunday, October 25th from 3:30 – 5:30pm. Sign up to host a trunk or sign up for your time to bring the family here: <https://www.farmingtonpres.org/trunk-or-treat-2020/>. It will be a fun, safe, and festive event.

Halloween Caring Caravan We are reverse trick or treating! We have 13 young children in the Farmington family who will be eagerly waiting for us to stop by, wish them a Happy Halloween, and leave a bucket of treats! We will meet in the church parking lot at 10:30am on October 31st. Costumes are welcome – masks required! We will socially distance at all times.

Youth will not meet today (October 25th) Dress up in a non-scary costume and come help direct families at Trunk or Treat!

Monday Morning Bible Study will meet at 9am on Monday, October 26th. Rev. Rebecca will lead the study of Chapter 4 of William Barclay's Discovering Jesus on Jesus' trial and crucifixion. Books are available from the church office. Go to zoom.com and enter the Meeting ID 869 8138 8088. The password is Bible.

Worship on Wednesdays Wednesday evenings from 5:15-5:45pm, bring your lawn chair as we worship together outdoors. Come a bit early to get set up so that we are all social distancing and wear your mask. In response to current advice of the CDC, we will not be singing. We will be gathered, we

will hear the Word of God, and we will respond in praise! If it is raining, we will not gather.

Wednesday Night Dinners Scott and Becky Hutchins (Firehutch Fine Foods) are now catering to-go orders for dinner to be picked up on Wednesday evenings at the church at 5:45pm. They are donating 10% back to Farmington. If you would like to order, please contact them at hutchinsathome@gmail.com.

Saturday Morning Small Group It's time to join us! We will begin studying Luke's Gospel on November 7 at 9am. Ann Erickson and Jinney Hart lead this group in discussion and study. If you would like to participate, let Ann know, and she'll order a book for you.

Presbyterian Women will meet this afternoon, Sunday, October 25th at 2pm on Zoom.com to reflect together on Lesson 3 of Lament to Hope, led by Kirsten King. If you need help learning how to Zoom, please contact Rev. Rebecca and we will get you connected! The Meeting ID is 527 795 3657 and the Passcode is grace.

FPDS is open! We are thankful to be able to serve our community as parents return to work. **Unless you are a staff member or a student, you will not be admitted into the building.** Members are strongly encouraged not to enter the building even if they have keys. It is important that we ensure that all surfaces that have been touched are clean. If you would like to meet with Rev. Rebecca, please call and make an appointment to meet off campus.

Virtual Preschool FPDS is offering virtual preschool classes for 3's and 4's beginning September 8th. If you have friends or family who have a 3 or 4 year-old who is not going to preschool in-person, this is an excellent option no matter where they live! More information is in New Vision – please share!

This week at Farmington...16 of our youth gathered to play kickball with a giant soccer ball on the parking lot. It was a joy to see their smiling faces, even under their masks!

Remember in Prayer...Our Farmington Family, Session and Staff; Essential workers and all affected by Covid-19, and by the wildfires in the Western United States; the Junn Family in Asia; Jack Arendt, Mary Lou Barrentine, Bo Bradham, Kenny Buckner, Jeremy Bukauskas, Jelena Colasurdo, Jim Collins, D.J. Davis, Lisa Dick, Jane Egan, Ed Gallagher, Rev. Jim Hamilton, Bill Harrington, John Hazen, Gary Hutchins, Kenneth Jack, Lori Kent, Joe Knittig, Ashley & Kevin Lewis, Harland Lovell, Jane and David Mayo, Greg McKenna, Lori Millar, Jim Mitchell, Beverly Ryan, Patti Simpkins, Williams Stevens, Susan St. John, Joan Wallace, Michael Wann, Mary Webb, Jean Wiseman, Faye Woods and from our Presbytery: First Presbyterian Church, Somerville, TN.

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