



**FARMINGTON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
SERVICE OF DIVINE WORSHIP**

**First Sunday in Lent  
February 21, 2021**

Worship Online at 11:00am Sunday Mornings

[www.farmingtonpres.org](http://www.farmingtonpres.org)

Click "Worship with Us!"

**ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME**

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

Holy God, we see your fingerprints in the predictability and variety of creation. We come in awe to worship you. Help us in this time to look and listen for your presence and your voice. Remind us of your faithfulness to your covenant, a covenant made not only with people named in Scripture, but with us. As we sing and speak, listen and pray in our worship, may these actions become more than tasks of our bodies and our minds; may they be expressions of the seeking of our souls for you. And as we long for you, O God, may we realize that you lovingly hold us in the palm of your hand. Amen.

Welcome

PRELUDE Serenade

Schubert

CALL TO WORSHIP

Lent is an invitation to journey, to follow where Jesus leads us.

**We are invited to the place where God covenants with us saying, "I will be your God, and you shall be my people."**

Lent is an invitation to journey, to follow our ancestors in faith.

**We are invited, like Abram and Sarai, to receive a new name, to be called "disciple."**

Lent is an invitation to journey, to see Christ in others.

**We are invited to practice justice and bring God's hope to all people.**

Lent is an invitation to journey, to live lives of faith.

**We are invited to take up our cross and trust the One who bears it with us.**

Lent is an invitation to journey, to walk with God.

**We are invited to join with all creation and worship God with our lips and our lives!**

HYMN OF PRAISE – No. 22

Verses 1–3

“God of the Sparrow”

**God of the sparrow  
God of the whale  
God of the swirling stars  
How does the creature say Awe  
How does the creature say Praise  
God of the earthquake  
God of the storm  
God of the trumpet blast  
How does the creature cry Woe  
How does the creature cry Save  
God of the rainbow  
God of the cross  
God of the empty grace  
How does the creature say Grace  
How does the creature say Thanks**

CALL TO RECONCILIATION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Forgiving Lord, we have fallen short time and time again. You have given us your Word, both in Scripture and in Son, you have promised us your presence, both in Spirit and in community, and you have graced us with your kingdom, both in teaching and in service. Even so, we neglect, ignore, and reject your purposes for us. We do not love what you love. We do not embrace what you embrace. We do not defend what you have called us to defend. Have mercy on us, O God of all ages past and all hope for years to come. Forgive us for what we do and what we fail to do. And with your gifts, promises, and grace, continue working in our lives that we might receive full life in Jesus Christ, now and forevermore.**

**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

Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and  
earth;**

**And in Jesus Christ, His Only Son, our Lord, Who was  
conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and  
buried. He descended into hell; the third day He rose again  
from the dead. He ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the  
right hand of God the Father Almighty, from thence He shall  
come to judge the quick and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Ghost, the holy catholic church, the  
communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection  
of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

THROUGH CHILDREN'S EYES

Liv Palmer

### PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING

I Peter 3:18-22

For Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring you to God. He was put to death in the body but made alive in the Spirit. After being made alive, he went and made proclamation to the imprisoned spirits—to those who were disobedient long ago when God waited patiently in the days of Noah while the ark was being built. In it only a few people, eight in all, were saved through water, and this water symbolizes baptism that now saves you also—not the removal of dirt from the body but the pledge of a clear conscience toward God. It saves you by the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has gone into heaven and is at God's right hand—with angels, authorities and powers in submission to him.

This is the Word of the Lord!

**Thanks be to God!**

SECOND READING

Genesis 9:8-17

Then God said to Noah and to his sons with him: "I now establish my covenant with you and with your descendants after you and

with every living creature that was with you—the birds, the livestock and all the wild animals, all those that came out of the ark with you—every living creature on earth. I establish my covenant with you: Never again will all life be destroyed by the waters of a flood; never again will there be a flood to destroy the earth.”

And God said, “This is the sign of the covenant I am making between me and you and every living creature with you, a covenant for all generations to come: I have set my rainbow in the clouds, and it will be the sign of the covenant between me and the earth. Whenever I bring clouds over the earth and the rainbow appears in the clouds, I will remember my covenant between me and you and all living creatures of every kind. Never again will the waters become a flood to destroy all life. Whenever the rainbow appears in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and all living creatures of every kind on the earth.”

So God said to Noah, “This is the sign of the covenant I have established between me and all life on the earth.”

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 “Promises, Promises: Never Again” Rev. Rebecca Luter

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

John D. Horman

“Down Galilee’s Slow Roadways”

Down Galilee’s slow roadways a stranger traveled on from Nazareth to Jordan to be baptized by John. He went down to the waters like soldier, scribe and slave, But there within the river the sign was birth and grave.

Arising from the river he saw the heavens torn; it seemed the sky so open revealed the Spirit’s form. The holy dove descended amid a glorious voice: “You are my own beloved, my child, my heart, my choice.”

We too have found a roadway; it led us to this place. We all have had to travel in search of hope and grace. But now beside this water again a voice is heard. “You are my own, my chosen, beloved of your Lord.” (Sylvia G. Dunstan)

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

**Eternal God, we give our tithes and offerings with thanksgiving that your covenant with us is everlasting; your faithfulness is never-ending. You are bringing about your Kingdom - this world living in community with justice, peace, and righteousness. As your people, you call us to follow the example of your Son, who was so filled with compassion for those in need, even us, that he sacrificed to bring the healing and wholeness necessary to bring about your Kingdom. Bless and dedicate our offerings and our lives to your purposes in the world, in Christ’s name. Amen.**

HYMN – No. 634      “To God Be the Glory”

**To God be the glory; great things he has done! So loved he the world that he gave us his Son, who yielded his life an atonement for sin, and opened the life-gate that all may go in.**

***Praise the Lord, praise the Lord; let the earth hear his voice!  
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord; let the people rejoice! O  
Come to the Father through Jesus the Son, and give him the  
glory: great things he has done!***

**Great things he has taught us; great things he has done, and great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son; but purer and**

**higher and greater will be our wonder, our transport, when  
Jesus we see. *Refrain.***

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE Fugue in g minor

J. S. Bach

**Bold Type** – congregation in unison

\*Prayer of Confession from [faithward.org](http://faithward.org), copyright Reformed Church Press

Reprinted with permission under One License #731533-A. All rights reserved.

**Participating in the service today:**

Rev. Rebecca Luter, Pastor

Doug Barr, Director of Christian Education

Jim Thrash, Director of Music

Tom Bryant, Accompanist

Roland Mittag, Liturgist

Liv Palmer, 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](mailto: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

**Gathered to Worship...Sent to Serve** While we are not able to worship together in person, the church is still worshipping and carrying out the work and mission of God in the world. In response to God's

blessings and to support what God is doing through the Farmington family, you can make your offering through the website, using a checking account, at [www.farmingtonpres.org](http://www.farmingtonpres.org) or mail your offering to Farmington Presbyterian Church, 8245 Farmington Boulevard, Germantown, TN 38139.

**Congregational Meeting** has been called for 12pm noon on Zoom (February 21), for the purposes of receiving the 2020 Annual Report and electing the 2021 Nominating Committee. All members are encouraged to attend and should have received an email with the link to sign in. You can also open zoom and join the meeting with the code 901 754 2794, password "Farmington". If you are having trouble, please text Rev. Rebecca at 901-674-8000.

**Youth Group** will meet on Zoom (Sunday, Feb. 21<sup>st</sup>) at 2pm for Stump the Pastor. Bring your questions for the Rev. if you have not submitted them already.

**Monday Morning Zoom Bible Study** Join us tomorrow morning, February 22<sup>nd</sup>, at 9am as we discuss Chapter 6, "The Practice of Encountering Others: Community" of [An Altar in the World: A Geography of Faith](#) by Rev. Dr. Barbara Brown Taylor. We meet on Zoom with Meeting ID: 811 5596 9116 Passcode: Bible. All are welcome!

**Worship on Wednesdays** We are grateful for the technology of Zoom that allows us to connect with one another on Wednesday evenings. If you have internet or a smart phone, you can Zoom! It is free and easy! Go to our homepage at [www.farmingtonpres.org](http://www.farmingtonpres.org) and click to register for Weekday Worship. Fill in your name and email address and a link will be sent to your email for you to click at 6pm on Wednesday. Come see your friends and share in a brief service of worship with Scripture and prayer.

**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 5:30pm. They are donating 10% back to Farmington. If you would like to order, please contact them at [hutchinsathome@gmail.com](mailto:hutchinsathome@gmail.com).

**Presbyterian Women** will meet next Sunday, February 28th, at 2pm on Zoom. The Meeting ID is 527 795 3657 and the password is grace. All women are encouraged to participate as we discuss how laments lead us to find hope.

**Young Adult Bible Study** Each week a group of young people gather for a drop in Bible Study. No prep is necessary. It is a time to check in, chill out, and see how the book of Mark speaks to our current events.

6:00pm on Thursday evenings via Zoom. Contact Doug Barr for more information, [doug@farmingtonpres.org](mailto:doug@farmingtonpres.org).

**Summer Camp and 2021-22 FPDS Registration** is open to the community. Be sure and share our website with your friends, family, and neighbors with children and encourage them to consider entrusting their family's children to the care of the Farmington family.

**Text** "@farmpres" to "81010" to receive text messages about upcoming Farmington events.

**FPDS is open and offers a Virtual Preschool Option!** 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 without an appointment.** If you would like to meet with Rev. Rebecca, please call and make an appointment.

**This week at Farmington...**the weather kept us home, but it could not keep us from gathering! While it snowed outside, we were able to connect in the chat during worship Sunday morning, have Bible study and a meeting of Session on Monday, and 28 gathered and observed Ash Wednesday with a service on Zoom.

**Remember in Prayer...**Our Farmington Family, Session and Staff; Essential workers and all affected by Covid-19; Jack Arendt, Mary Lou Barrentine, Kenny Buckner, Jelena Colasurdo, Mary Lou Collins, D.J. Davis, Lisa Dick, Jane Egan, Sandy Franks, Ed Gallagher, Rev. Jim Hamilton, Bill Harrington, Martha Hart, Donna Hoover, Gary Hutchins, Anna Leigh Jenkins, Joe Knittig, Harland Lovell, Faye McKenzie, Dennis Peebles, Jonathan Riley, Beverly Ryan, Patti Simpkins, Williams Stevens, Susan St. John, Joan Wallace, Mary Webb, Faye Woods and from our Presbytery: Purdy Presbyterian Church, Bethel Springs, TN.

**FARMINGTON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

8245 Farmington Blvd.

Germantown, TN 38139

901-754-2794 [www.farmingtonpres.org](http://www.farmingtonpres.org)