



**FARMINGTON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
**SERVICE OF DIVINE WORSHIP**  
**Second Sunday in Lent**  
**February 28, 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

Tom Bryant

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. 39 “Great Is Thy Faithfulness”

**Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father; there is no shadow of turning with thee. Thou changest not; thy compassions they fail not. As thou hast been thou forever wilt be.**

*Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness! Morning by morning new mercies I see. All I have needed thy hand hath provided. Great is thy faithfulness, Lord unto me!*

Summer and winter, and springtime and harvest, sun, moon, and stars in their courses above join with all nature in manifold witness to thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love.

*Refrain.*

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth, thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide, strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow: blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside! *Refrain.*

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

Christian Barlow

### **PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD**

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING

Mark 8:31-35

He then began to teach them that the Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests and the teachers of the law, and that he must be killed and after three days rise again. He spoke plainly about this, and Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him.

But when Jesus turned and looked at his disciples, he rebuked Peter. "Get behind me, Satan!" he said. "You do not have in mind the concerns of God, but merely human concerns."

Then he called the crowd to him along with his disciples and said: "Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me and for the gospel will save it.

This is the Word of the Lord!

**Thanks be to God!**

When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the LORD appeared to him and said, “I am God Almighty; walk before me faithfully and be blameless. Then I will make my covenant between me and you and will greatly increase your numbers.”

Abram fell facedown, and God said to him, “As for me, this is my covenant with you: You will be the father of many nations. No longer will you be called Abram; your name will be Abraham, for I have made you a father of many nations. I will make you very fruitful; I will make nations of you, and kings will come from you. I will establish my covenant as an everlasting covenant between me and you and your descendants after you for the generations to come, to be your God and the God of your descendants after you. The whole land of Canaan, where you now reside as a foreigner, I will give as an everlasting possession to you and your descendants after you; and I will be their God.”

Then God said to Abraham, “As for you, you must keep my covenant, you and your descendants after you for the generations to come. This is my covenant with you and your descendants after you, the covenant you are to keep: Every male among you shall be circumcised. You are to undergo circumcision, and it will be the sign of the covenant between me and you. For the generations to come every male among you who is eight days old must be circumcised, including those born in your household or bought with money from a foreigner—those who are not your offspring. Whether born in your household or bought with your money, they must be circumcised. My covenant in your flesh is to be an everlasting covenant. Any uncircumcised male, who has not been circumcised in the flesh, will be cut off from his people; he has broken my covenant.”

God also said to Abraham, “As for Sarai your wife, you are no longer to call her Sarai; her name will be Sarah. I will bless her and will surely give you a son by her. I will bless her so that she will be the mother of nations; kings of peoples will come from her.”

Abraham fell facedown; he laughed and said to himself, “Will a son be born to a man a hundred years old? Will Sarah bear a child at the age of ninety?”

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.**

**“Promises, Promises: When It Seems Impossible”**

## 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 “In the Presence” Brent Sinclair Chambers

In the presence of your people I will praise your name, for alone you are holy, enthroned on the praises of Israel.

Let us celebrate your goodness and your steadfast love; may your name be exalted here on earth and in heaven above.

All who love you sing your praises and proclaim your power, for alone you are holy, enthroned on the praises of Israel.

You have not ignored our suffering but have heard our cry; may your name be exalted here on earth and in heaven above.

## 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. 51

“To Abraham and Sarah”

Verses 1 & 2

**To Abraham and Sarah the call of God was clear: “Go forth and I will show you a country rich and fair. You need not fear the journey, for I have pledged my word that you shall be my people and I will be your God.”**

**From Abraham and Sarah arose a pilgrim race, dependent for their journey on God’s abundant grace; and in their heart was written by God this saving word, “That you shall be my people and I will be your God.”**

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE Deo Gracias

John Dunstable

**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

Rev. Ruth Lovell Bradham, Liturgist

Christian Barlow, 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.

**Presbyterian Women** will meet 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.

**Youth Group** will not be meeting on Sunday, Feb. 28<sup>th</sup>.

**Monday Morning Zoom Bible Study** Join us, February 29<sup>th</sup>, at 9am as we discuss Chapter 7, "The Practice of Living with Purpose: Vocation" 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).

**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...**a group of us started reimagining a Covid-conscious Children's Easter Event. Stay tuned for more information and to volunteer to distribute eggs safely!

**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, Martha Sorce, Williams Stevens, Susan St. John, Joan Wallace, Mary Webb, Faye Woods and from our Presbytery: Pleasant Ridge Presbyterian Church, Big Sandy, TN.

**Sympathy...**to the family and friends of Sharon Thrash, wife of Jim Thrash, passed away on February 25.

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