



FARMINGTON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
SERVICE OF DIVINE WORSHIP
Fifth Sunday in Lent
March 21, 2021

Worship Online at 11:00am Sunday Mornings

www.farmingtonpres.org

Click "Worship with Us!"

ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

Lord, you have heard our voices. Whether we cry to you from Ramah or Germantown, you listen and console. You turn mourning into joy, comfort us and fill our hearts with gladness. As your prophet Jeremiah reminds us, you desire for your word to become a part of our lives, as close as our own heartbeats. You yearn for all to take joy in your presence in our lives. Even amid our own grief, uncertainty, and physical separation give us awareness, too, of the comfort and courage you give to every generation. Enable us to see the world through your eyes, a world that reflects justice, goodness, and hope. You satisfy the weary, replenish the faint and journey alongside the lost. You are grace in the wilderness of our lives. You are worthy to be praised. Amen.

Welcome

PRELUDE Elegy

William Walton

CALL TO WORSHIP

based on Psalm 42 and 43

Come, all who thirst for the living God.

We come in search of help and hope.

Come, you who are acquainted with grief or oppression.

We come bearing our doubts, our wounds, and our fears.

Come, you who are in need of Good News.

We come in search of joy, truth, and light.

Come and find refuge in God your rock.

Let us praise God who is our help and our hope.

Here in this place the new light is streaming; now is the darkness vanished away; see in this space our fears and our dreamings brought here to you in the light of this day. Gather us in, the lost and forsaken; gather us in, the blind and the lame; call to us now, and we shall awaken; we shall arise at the sound of our name.

Not in the dark of buildings confining, not in some heaven, light years away: here in this place the new light is shining; now is the kingdom, and now is the day. Gather us in and hold us forever; gather us in and make us your own; gather us in, all peoples together, fire of love in our flesh and our bone.

CALL TO RECONCILIATION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

We confess, O God, that we sometimes treat you as though you are out of sight, out of mind, and out of reach. We act as though we could hide from you, keep you out, or stray from you; as though you would give up on us just as we at times give up on you. Loving God, do not give up on us. Forgive us. Seek us. Find us. Rejoice in us. Whether we recognize it or not, you teach us by word and deed: we are precious in your sight. In Jesus name we pray. Amen.

KYRIE

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

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

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

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

Madison Lewis

PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING

Luke 1:26-38

In the sixth month of Elizabeth's pregnancy, God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a town in Galilee, to a virgin pledged to be married to a man named Joseph, a descendant of David. The virgin's name was Mary. The angel went to her and said, "Greetings, you who are highly favored! The Lord is with you."

Mary was greatly troubled at his words and wondered what kind of greeting this might be. But the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary; you have found favor with God. You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you are to call him Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over Jacob's descendants forever; his kingdom will never end."

"How will this be," Mary asked the angel, "since I am a virgin?"

The angel answered, "The Holy Spirit will come on you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God. Even Elizabeth your relative is going to have a child in her old age, and she who was said to be unable to conceive is in her sixth month. For no word from God will ever fail."

"I am the Lord's servant," Mary answered. "May your word to me be fulfilled." Then the angel left her.

This is the Word of the Lord!

Thanks be to God!

SECOND READING

Jeremiah 31, selected verses

"At that time," declares the LORD, "I will be the God of all the families of Israel, and they will be my people." This is what the LORD says: "The people who survive the sword will find favor in the wilderness; I will come to give rest to Israel."

The LORD appeared to us in the past, saying: "I have loved you with an everlasting love; I have drawn you with unfailing kindness.

“Hear the word of the LORD, you nations; proclaim it in distant coastlands: ‘He who scattered Israel will gather them and will watch over his flock like a shepherd.’ For the LORD will deliver Jacob and redeem them from the hand of those stronger than they. They will come and shout for joy on the heights of Zion; they will rejoice in the bounty of the LORD—the grain, the new wine and the olive oil, the young of the flocks and herds. They will be like a well-watered garden, and they will sorrow no more. Then young women will dance and be glad, young men and old as well. I will turn their mourning into gladness; I will give them comfort and joy instead of sorrow. This is what the LORD says: “A voice is heard in Ramah, mourning and great weeping, Rachel weeping for her children and refusing to be comforted, because they are no more.” This is what the LORD says: “Restrain your voice from weeping and your eyes from tears, for your work will be rewarded,” declares the LORD. “They will return from the land of the enemy. So there is hope for your descendants,” declares the LORD. “Your children will return to their own land. “The days are coming,” declares the LORD, “when I will make a new covenant with the people of Israel and with the people of Judah. It will not be like the covenant I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to lead them out of Egypt, because they broke my covenant, though I was a husband to them,” declares the LORD. “This is the covenant I will make with the people of Israel after that time,” declares the LORD. “I will put my law in their minds and write it on their hearts. I will be their God, and they will be my people. No longer will they teach their neighbor, or say to one another, ‘Know the LORD,’ because they will all know me, from the least of them to the greatest,” declares the LORD. “For I will forgive their wickedness and will remember their sins no more.”

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. Ruth Lovell Bradham

“God’s Unfolding Story”

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 “At the Name of Jesus” Ralph Vaughn Williams

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

Holy God, we rejoice in the gift of your Holy Spirit, that ignites the desire in our hearts to seek you, that draws us together to live as your hands and feet in the world, that fills us with compassion, grace, and love. We dedicate ourselves and our offerings to your purposes in the world through Farmington's mission by the power of your Holy Spirit. Amen.

HYMN – No. 697 “Take My Life” Verses 1 & 6

**Take my life and let it be consecrated, Lord, to thee; take my moments and my days; let them flow in ceaseless praise; let them flow in ceaseless praise.
Take my love; my Lord, I pour at thy feet its treasure store; take myself and I will be ever, only, all for thee, ever, only all for thee.**

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE Psalm 19 Marcello

Bold Type – congregation in unison

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Participating in the service today:

Rev. Rebecca Luter, Pastor

Rev. Ruth Lovell Bradham

Doug Barr, Director of Christian Education

Jim Thrash, Director of Music

Tom Bryant, Accompanist

John Hazen, Liturgist

Madison Lewis, 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

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 or mail your offering to Farmington Presbyterian Church, 8245 Farmington Boulevard, Germantown, TN 38139.

Easter Egg Hunt is on! Saturday April 3rd at 10am. Join us in the parking lot, bring a picnic lunch, get your picture with the Easter Bunny, hear the resurrection story, and join in the hunt! Candy for the hunt can be donated at the west doors under the porte cochere. Individually wrapped candies only.

Save the Date! Presbyterian Women Spring Gathering April 10th on Zoom with Synod Moderator Jan Albert.

Regathering for Worship in the Sanctuary! As we regather, we need persons willing to help with set up and clean up. If you are willing to help, please email church@farmingtonpres.org.

Palm Sunday worship either in person or online. If you are at home, there will be no change in how you receive the online service. Seating in the Sanctuary will be assigned and limited so that 6' distancing is maintained. Masks will be required while inside the building. You may register for worship at www.farmingtonpres.org.

Youth Fellowship will meet from 2 - 3:30 this Sunday, March 21, in the Sanctuary. Bring your phone for a game! Wear your mask and keep your distance.

Monday Morning Zoom Bible Study Join us tomorrow morning, March 22nd, at 9am as we discuss Chapter 10, "The Practice of Feeling Pain: Break Through" 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!

Wednesday Night Service has moved. We are gathering in the Outdoor Chapel on Wednesday nights at 5:30pm. The service will also be live-streamed on our Facebook page. Bring your lawn chair and set up early to enjoy some fellowship before the service! If the weather is inclement, an email with a link will be sent and we will worship on Zoom at 6pm.

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 between 5:00-5:30pm. They are donating 10% back to Farmington. If you would like to order, please contact them at 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.

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.

Communications from the Church If you do not get emails weekly with the Happenings and reminders about Worship and Bible study,

please email church@farmingtonpres.org and let us know. We will research and ensure that you are included! We also send text reminders about upcoming Farmington events. You can get those by texting “@farmpres” to “81010.”

This week at Farmington...we welcome Rev. Ruth Lovell Bradham to the pulpit. Ruth served Farmington as Associate Pastor several years ago and now provides crisis and grief support for families of organ and tissue donors. She is part of the Farmington family along with her family who are members of Farmington - her husband, Bo Bradham, and parents, Harland and Carol Lovell.

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, Jane Egan, Sandy Franks, Ed Gallagher, Rev. Jim Hamilton, Bill Harrington, Donna Hoover, Gary Hutchins, Anna Leigh Jenkins, Joe Knittig, Harland Lovell, Dennis Peeples, Jonathan Riley, Beverly Ryan, Patti Simpkins, Martha Sorce, Williams Stevens, Susan St. John, Joan Wallace, Mary Webb, Faye Woods and from our Presbytery: Cordova Presbyterian Church, Cordova, TN.

Sympathy...to the family and friends of Brittany Connolly, granddaughter of Loyd and Mary Hudson.

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Germantown, TN 38139

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