



FARMINGTON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
SERVICE OF DIVINE WORSHIP
Gifts of Women Sunday
April 11, 2021

Worship Online at 11:00am Sunday Mornings

www.farmingtonpres.org

Click "Worship Together"

ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

O God most mighty, O God most merciful, all creation sings your praises. You formed all things in your goodness and sustain everything by your compassion. Assure us again of your steadfast watchfulness over heaven and earth and the seas. Fashion us anew as caretakers in your dominion that we may tend to the neediest in our midst. And turn our hearts to praise you in song, word and deed this day and forevermore. Amen.

WELCOME

PRELUDE

Tom Bryant

*CALL TO WORSHIP

from Psalm 146

I will praise the Lord as long as I live.

I will sing praises to my God while I have my being.

Happy are they whose hope is in the Lord their God; who made heaven and earth, the seas, and all that is in them; who keeps promises forever;

Who gives justice to those who are oppressed and food to those who hunger. The Lord sets the captive free.

The Lord cares for the stranger; the Lord sustains the orphan and widow, but frustrates the way of the wicked.

The Lord shall reign forever, your God, O Zion, through all generations!

*HYMN OF PRAISE – No. 231

Verses 1 & 2

“Christ Has Risen While Earth Slumbers”

Christ has risen while earth slumbers; Christ has risen where hope died, as he said and as he promised, as we doubted and denied. Let the moon embrace the blessing; let the sun sustain the cheer; let the world confirm the rumor: Christ is risen, God is here!

Christ has risen for the people whom he died to love and save; Christ has risen for the women bringing flowers to grace his grave. Christ has risen for disciples huddled in an upstairs room. He whose word inspired creation can't be silenced by the tomb.

CALL TO RECONCILIATION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of glory and righteousness, we confess that we do not live as citizens of your kingdom. We give allegiance to worldly thrones. We ignore the neediest in our midst. We discount our own worth. We forsake your just rule and the rules of your kingdom. Take from us the spirit of isolation, greed, lust for power and false pride. Give us instead the spirit of interdependency, generosity, humility and love. In all things grant us time for amendment of life that we may serve you all the length of our days. Through Christ Jesus we pray.

ASSURANCE OF RESTORATION

KYRIE

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

*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.

PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING

Ezekiel 34:1-6, 11-16

The word of the LORD came to me: “Son of man, prophesy against the shepherds of Israel; prophesy and say to them: ‘This is what the Sovereign LORD says: Woe to you shepherds of Israel who only take care of yourselves! Should not shepherds take care of the flock? You eat the curds, clothe yourselves with the wool and slaughter the choice animals, but you do not take care of the flock. You have not strengthened the weak or healed the sick or bound up the injured. You have not brought back the strays or searched for the lost. You have ruled them harshly and brutally. So they were scattered because there was no shepherd, and when they were scattered they became food for all the wild animals. My sheep wandered over all the mountains and on every high hill. They were scattered over the whole earth, and no one searched or looked for them.

“For this is what the Sovereign LORD says: I myself will search for my sheep and look after them. As a shepherd looks after his scattered flock when he is with them, so will I look after my sheep. I will rescue them from all the places where they were scattered on a day of clouds and darkness. I will bring them out from the nations and gather them from the countries, and I will bring them into their own land. I will pasture them on the mountains of Israel, in the ravines and in all the settlements in the land. I will tend them in a good pasture, and the mountain heights of Israel will be their grazing land. There they will lie down in good grazing land, and there they will feed in a rich pasture on the mountains of Israel. I myself will tend my sheep and have them lie down, declares the Sovereign LORD. I will search for the lost and bring back the strays. I will bind up the injured and strengthen the weak, but the sleek and the strong I will destroy. I will shepherd the flock with justice.

This is the Word of the Lord!

Thanks be to God!

SECOND READING

Matthew 25:31-46

“When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, he will sit on his glorious throne. All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate the people one from

another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. He will put the sheep on his right and the goats on his left.

“Then the King will say to those on his right, ‘Come, you who are blessed by my Father; take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world. For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.’

“Then the righteous will answer him, ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink? When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you? When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?’

“The King will reply, ‘Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.’

“Then he will say to those on his left, ‘Depart from me, you who are cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels. For I was hungry and you gave me nothing to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, I was a stranger and you did not invite me in, I needed clothes and you did not clothe me, I was sick and in prison and you did not look after me.’

“They also will answer, ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or needing clothes or sick or in prison, and did not help you?’

“He will reply, ‘Truly I tell you, whatever you did not do for one of the least of these, you did not do for me.’

“Then they will go away to eternal punishment, but the righteous to eternal life.”

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

“Poverty and Justice”

Rebecca Hutchins

PRESENTATION OF HONORARY LIFE MEMBERSHIP PIN

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 "Hymn of Promise"

Natalie Sleeth

*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

Creator God, we thank you and praise your holy name. We have been blessed beyond measure and today we ask you to bless these gifts and the lives that they touch that they would provide opportunities for transformation, second chances, and new hope. In your Holy name we pray. Amen.

HYMN – No. 730 "I Sing a Song of the Saints of God" Verses 1 & 3

I sing a song of the saints of God, patient and brave and true, who toiled and fought and lived and died for the Lord they loved and knew. And one was a doctor, and one was a queen, and one was a shepherdess on the green: they were all of them saints of God, and I mean, God helping, to be one too.

They lived not only in ages past; there are hundreds of thousands still; the world is bright with the joyous saints who love to do Jesus' will. You can meet them in school, or in lands, or at sea, in church, or in trains, or in shops, or at tea; for the saints of God are just folk like me, and I mean to be one too.

*BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE Prelude in C

Bach

* Stand as able.

Bold Type – congregation in unison

Liturgy this morning is taken from the resources for Gifts of Women Sunday and the Birthday Offering, prepared by Rev. Dr. Jennifer L. Lord and Sue Mummert.

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
Rebecca Hutchins, Preaching
Kirsten King, Liturgist
Rev. Rebecca Luter, Children's Moment
Jinney Hart and Shelley Wann, Ushers
Bailey Wann, Acolyte



THIS SERVICE IS BEING LIVE-STREAMED
AND RECORDED. ATTENDEES
IMPLICITLY AGREE THAT THEY, AND
ANY CHILDREN ACCOMPANYING
THEM, MAY BE ON CAMERA.

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

The flowers in the Sanctuary are given to the glory of God and in honor of Presbyterian Women by Ann Erickson and Jinney Hart.

Regathering for Worship in the Sanctuary If you wish to attend worship, please register on our website www.farmingtonpres.org by Saturday night. The registration becomes available on Sunday morning for the next week. Seating in the Sanctuary will be assigned and limited so that 6' distancing is maintained. Masks will be required while inside the building. If you are at home, there will be no change in how you receive the online service.

Gathered to Worship...Sent to Serve 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.

Flowers for Worship as we regather for worship, we will once again have the opportunity to give flowers to grace the Sanctuary in honor or memory of our loved ones. The Flower Calendar is posted on the bulletin board near Fellowship Hall or you may email the date you would like to give flowers to church@farmingtonpres.org.

Youth Fellowship will meet this afternoon (Sunday, April 11th) from 2-3pm. Please wear your mask & remember social distancing.

Monday Morning Zoom Bible Study Join us tomorrow morning, April 12th, at 9am as we discuss Chapter 12, "The Practice of Pronouncing Blessings: Benediction" 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 We gather 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 will meet Thursdays at 7:00pm via Zoom. Contact Doug Barr for more information, doug@farmingtonpres.org.

Mark your calendars! Saturday, April 24th, from 9am-12pm we will gather to beautify the front yard! Bring your rake, spade, and smile. If you have a power washer, please let Roland know. We will have plants, donuts, and coffee!

Farmington Presbyterian Women will conclude its study of [Into the Light Finding Hope Through Prayers of Lament](#) Sunday, April 25. At this time, we are planning on having the meeting through Zoom at 1:00PM. We have had wonderful fellowship during this study. Thanks to all who participated and to our PW coordinating team.

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.

Bulletin Mailing List While we were all worshipping on YouTube Premier, we sent a bulletin weekly to every household. If you are returning to worship in the Sanctuary and would like to be removed from the weekly mailing, please email us at church@farmingtonpres.org and let us know.

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...the azaleas are in full bloom, and they are beautiful. Pause to remember with thanks those who planted them for us to enjoy.

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, Joe Knittig, Harland Lovell, Dennis Peeples, Jonathan Riley, Patti Simpkins, Martha Sorce, Williams Stevens, Susan St. John, Joan Wallace, Mary Webb, Faye Woods and from our Presbytery: Farmington Presbyterian Church, Germantown, TN.

FARMINGTON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

8245 Farmington Blvd.

Germantown, TN 38139

901-754-2794 www.farmingtonpres.org