



FARMINGTON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
SERVICE OF DIVINE WORSHIP
Sixth Sunday of Easter
May 9, 2021

Worship Online at 11:00am Sunday Mornings
www.farmingtonpres.org
Click "Worship Together"

ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

Resurrecting God, we gather this morning digitally and in person, brought together by your Holy Spirit as a community of believers, to be the Body of Christ in the world. We come with joy for Christ is risen! Love has won victory over death! May our singing and proclaiming be a testimony of praise. May our praying and our listening unite us with you and with one another. Redeem and sustain us, O Lord, individually and as a community. In the name of the Risen Christ. Amen.

WELCOME

PRELUDE "Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee" Beethoven

*CALL TO WORSHIP

We gather with joy to adore the God of glory and Lord of Love.
**Field and forest, blooming meadows and rushing waterfalls,
all call us to rejoice in God.**

In God's presence, our hearts open like flowers turning toward the sun;

**The dark of doubt is dispelled, the fog of sadness and clouds
of sin disperse.**

Joyful music leads us sunward and we join the chorus of all thy works,

**For divine love is reigning over us, triumphantly joining all in
the glorious vision of God.**

CALL TO RECONCILIATION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Word of God, your Word spoke creation into being. Your Word incarnate redeemed. We confess that we use a lot of words, but we often fail to turn them into action. Instead of loving with your sacrificial love, we are infatuated with ourselves. Forgive us, God of love. Restore us, and place your word in our hearts, on our lips, and in our actions.

KYRIE

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

ASSURANCE OF RESTORATION

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** adapted from the French Confession of 1559

We believe and confess only one God, who can do all things, is all-wise, all-good, all-just, and all-merciful.

We believe that everything required for our salvation has been offered and communicated to us in Jesus Christ, the wisdom of God and God's eternal Son. Jesus Christ clothed himself in our flesh: God and human in one person.

We believe that we are illuminated in faith by the unfathomable grace of the Holy Spirit. God imparts this gracious gift. By faith we receive grace to live holy lives in awe and reverence for God, for we receive what the gospel promises when God gives us the Holy Spirit. Faith does not cool our desire for good and holy living, but rather engenders and excites it in us, leading naturally to good works.

We believe that the sacraments are joined to the Word in order that the Word may be more fully confirmed. Baptism is given to us as the pledge of our adoption, in which we are grafted into the body of Christ, and renewed in holiness of life by his Spirit. The holy Supper of our Lord is a testimony of our unity with Jesus Christ, who died only once and was raised for our sake. The body and blood of Jesus Christ are food and drink for the soul just as bread and wine are nourishment for the body.

As for the true Church we believe that it ought to be governed in accordance with the order established by our Lord Jesus Christ. In this way, pure doctrine can be maintained, the poor and afflicted can be helped in their need, assemblies can be gathered in the name of God, and both great and small can be edified.

A LITANY FOR MOTHER'S DAY

Like a mother hen brooding over her young, like a mama bear protecting her cubs, or an eagle stirring up the nest to teach the young to fly, God is mother of us all and gives us earthly mothers to bear, nurture, teach, and protect. So to all who are mothers in flesh and spirit,

we honor you.

To those who are pregnant, however anticipated, expected, or surprising, and those who gave birth this year,

we celebrate new life with you.

To those who are in the trenches with little ones every day and wear the badges of food stains and spit up,

we appreciate you.

To those who lost a child this year,

we mourn with you.

To those who walk the hard path of infertility, fraught with pokes, prods, disappointment and tears,

we walk with you.

To those who are foster moms, mentor moms, and spiritual moms,

we thank you.

To those who have warm and close relationships with your children,

we rejoice with you.

To those who have disappointment, heart ache, and distance with your children,

we sit and ache with you.

To those who lost their mothers this year,

we grieve with you.

To those who experienced abuse at the hands of your own mother,

we minister to your pain.

To those who miss your mothers,

we sympathize with you.

To those who lived through driving tests, medical tests, and the overall testing of motherhood,

we are better for having you in our midst.

Forgive us when we fail to support you, when we say or do foolish things. We don't mean to make your job harder than it is. Mothering is not for the faint-hearted; your love has revealed God's love for us in the Spirit of Jesus Christ. For this we are grateful. Thanks be to God!

PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING

Psalm 22:25-31

From you comes the theme of my praise in the great assembly; before those who fear you I will fulfill my vows. The poor will eat and be satisfied; those who seek the Lord will praise him—may your hearts live forever!

All the ends of the earth will remember and turn to the Lord, and all the families of the nations will bow down before him, for dominion belongs to the Lord and he rules over the nations. All the rich of the earth will feast and worship; all who go down to the dust will kneel before him—those who cannot keep themselves alive. Posterity will serve him; future generations will be told about the Lord. They will proclaim his righteousness, declaring to a people yet unborn: He has done it!

This is the Word of the Lord!

Thanks be to God!

SECOND READING

John 15:9-17

“As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in my love. If you keep my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father’s commands and remain in his love. I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete. My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one’s life for one’s friends. You are my friends if you do what I command. I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master’s business. Instead, I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you. You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you so that you might go and bear fruit—fruit that will last—and so that whatever you ask in my name the Father will give you. This is my command: Love each other.

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.

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SERMON

Rev. Rebecca Luter

“Remain in My Love”

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 “Where Charity and Love Prevail” Lucius Chapin

Where charity and love prevail, there God is ever found; brought here together by Christ's love, by love we thus are bound.

Let us recall that in our midst dwells Christ, God's holy Son. As members of each body joined, in him we are made one.

Let strife among us be unknown; let all contentions cease. Be God's the glory that we seek; be his our only peace.

Love can exclude no race or creed if honored be God's name; our common life embraces all whose Maker is the same. (Latin, 8th century)

*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

Living God, we know that Easter is not just a story about something that happened thousands of years ago. Let the resurrection of your Son transform our lives. Make us bold to use your blessings of time, talent, and treasure to serve others in your name. Amen.

*HYMN – No. 462 “I Love to Tell the Story”

Verse 1

I love to tell the story of unseen things above, of Jesus and his glory, of Jesus and his love. I love to tell the story, because I know 'tis true; it satisfies my longings as nothing else could do.

I love to tell the story; 'twill be my theme in glory to tell the old, old story of Jesus and his love.

*BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE Rondeau in D

Mouret

* Stand as able.

Bold Type – congregation in unison

Litany for Mother's Day is adapted from a litany by Teresa Lockhart Stricklen, based on a blog post, "An Open Letter to Pastors: A Non-Mom Speaks Out about Mothers Day," by Amy Young, on her blog The Messy Middle Where Grace and Truth Reside, May 5, 2012, accessed at <http://messymiddle.com/2012/05/10/an-open-letter-to-pastors-a-non-mom-speaks-aboutmothers-day/>

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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
Jennifer Young, Liturgist
Doug Barr, Children's Moment
Elizabeth Demaree and Suzanne Thomas, Ushers
Hadley Barr, Acolyte
Chancel Choir



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.

Need more information, want to sign up for something, worship on the livestream? Go to our website: www.farmingtonpres.org. Need to give us information, ask a question, or get assistance with signing up? Email us at church@farmingtonpres.org.

Happenings AT FARMINGTON PRESBYTERIAN

Sanctuary Flowers are given to the glory of God, in honor of Carol Lovell and in memory of Nancy Bradham and our grandmothers by Bo and Rev. Ruth Lovell Bradham.

No Youth Group this afternoon. Happy Mother's Day!

Farmington Graduates If you know a member of the Farmington family who is graduating this spring, please email and let us know. We would like to recognize our graduates in worship on May 16th.

Farmington Presbyterian Women will enjoy a Brown Bag Lunch in the Outdoor Chapel at 12:15pm next Sunday, May 16th. All women are invited. Water and dessert provided. Don't forget your lunch and your lawn chair!

Room in the Inn Prepare a lunch for our guests! Each Wednesday, Farmington is providing lunch for persons who are residing in the Recuperative Care Center and the Family Inn of RITI. For more info, contact Jinney Hart at virginiahart2@comcast.net. Sign up on our website.

Do You Know My Story? Join us May 10th as we study the stories of Rebekah and Rachel. Participants are encouraged to purchase a copy of *The Storyteller's Companion to the Bible Volume 4* edited by Michael E. Williams. We meet on Zoom each Monday morning from 9-10am with Meeting ID: 811 5596 9116 Passcode: Bible. All are welcome!

Wednesday Night Service We are now gathering in the lower parking lot on Wednesday nights at 5:30pm and not livestreaming. 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 to 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.

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 the Happenings email each week and would like to, please email and let us know. We also send text reminders about upcoming Farmington events. You can get those by texting “@farmpres” to “81010.”

Regathering for Worship in the Sanctuary If you wish to attend worship in person, please register by Saturday night. Seating in the Sanctuary will be assigned and limited so that 6’ distancing is maintained. Masks are required while inside the building.

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, 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.

This week at Farmington... our FPDS preschoolers raised \$10,780 for St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital in their Trike-a-thon!

Remember in Prayer...Our Farmington Family, Session and Staff; Essential workers and all affected by Covid-19; Jack Arendt, Mary Lou Barrentine, Katrin Beeson, Kenny Buckner, Jelena Colasurdo, Mary Lou Collins, D.J. Davis, Pat Rush Davis, Javida Donley, Jane Egan, Ed Gallagher, Rev. Jim Hamilton, Bill Harrington, Martha Noble Hathcock, Donna Hoover, Gary Hutchins, Harland Lovell, Gail and Andra Nickerson, Dennis Peeples, Jonathan Riley, Patti Simpkins, Martha Sorce, Williams Stevens, Susan St. John, Joan Wallace, Mary Webb, Faye Woods and from our Presbytery: First Presbyterian Church, Jackson, TN.

Pentecost Sunday is May 23rd!

Worship – Wear red to worship in person or online (links at farmingtonpres.org).

Celebrate – Come have cupcakes from noon-1pm in the backyard and bring your lawn chairs and masks so you can stay to visit.

Serve – Participate in packing Gift of Heart Hygiene Kits for Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (outside from noon-1pm or bring your kit(s) already complete).

***See May’s New Vision for more information!**

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