



**FARMINGTON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
**SERVICE OF DIVINE WORSHIP**  
**Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost**  
**September 5, 2021**

Worship Online at 11:00am Sunday Mornings

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

Click "Worship Together"

**ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME**

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

Holy God, we praise you. Through your Word, you created all things. In the Word made flesh, Jesus Christ, you reveal your salvation in all the world. Through your Holy Spirit, you unite us in ministry and enable us to worship your divine majesty, so that with all the company of heaven we may glorify your name as we serve and praise you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, One God, forever and ever. Amen.

WELCOME

PRELUDE "The Little Shepherd"

Debussy

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

God's Holy Spirit has gathered us as a community;

**Let us be family to one another as we draw near.**

God's Beloved Son has redeemed us;

**Let us be reconciled with one another as we have been forgiven.**

God's love has been lavishly poured out;

**With joy we receive the Bread of Life and the Cup of Salvation as we remember our Lord.**

\*HYMN OF PRAISE – No. 515 "I Come with Joy" Verses 1, 2, & 3

**I come with joy, a child of God, forgiven, loved, and free, the life of Jesus to recall, in love laid down for me, in love laid down for me.**

I come with Christians far and near to find, as all are fed, a new community of love in Christ's communion bread, in Christ's communion bread.

As Christ breaks bread and bids us share, each proud division ends. The love that made us, makes us one, and strangers now are friends, and strangers now are friends.

#### CALL TO RECONCILIATION

#### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of grace, love, and communion, we confess that we have failed to love you with all our heart, soul, and mind; and to love our neighbor as ourselves. We ignore your commandments, stray from your way, and follow other gods. Have mercy on us. Forgive our sin and raise us to new life that we may serve you faithfully and give honor to your holy name.

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 on 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

Rachel Barr

*All children are invited to come to the Chancel steps.  
Afterward, young children may return to their seat.  
Worship bags are available beside the entrance to the Sanctuary.*

## PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

### PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

#### FIRST READING

Genesis 3:1-12

Now the serpent was more crafty than any of the wild animals the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God really say, 'You must not eat from any tree in the garden?'" The woman said to the serpent, "We may eat fruit from the trees in the garden, but God did say, 'You must not eat fruit from the tree that is in the middle of the garden, and you must not touch it, or you will die.'" "You will not certainly die," the serpent said to the woman. "For God knows that when you eat from it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil."

When the woman saw that the fruit of the tree was good for food and pleasing to the eye, and also desirable for gaining wisdom, she took some and ate it. She also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it. Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they realized they were naked; so they sewed fig leaves together and made coverings for themselves.

Then the man and his wife heard the sound of the LORD God as he was walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and they hid from the LORD God among the trees of the garden. But the LORD God called to the man, "Where are you?" He answered, "I heard you in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; so I hid." And he said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree that I commanded you not to eat from?" The man said, "The woman you put here with me—she gave me some fruit from the tree, and I ate it.

This is the Word of the Lord!

**Thanks be to God!**

#### SECOND READING

Luke 15:11-32

Jesus continued: "There was a man who had two sons. The younger one said to his father, 'Father, give me my share of the estate.' So he divided his property between them. Not long after that, the younger son got together all he had, set off for a distant country and there squandered his wealth in wild living. After he had spent everything, there was a severe famine in that whole country, and he began to be in need. So he went and hired himself out to a citizen of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed pigs. He

longed to fill his stomach with the pods that the pigs were eating, but no one gave him anything.

When he came to his senses, he said, ‘How many of my father’s hired servants have food to spare, and here I am starving to death! I will set out and go back to my father and say to him: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son; make me like one of your hired servants.’ So he got up and went to his father. But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion for him; he ran to his son, threw his arms around him and kissed him. The son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.’

But the father said to his servants, ‘Quick! Bring the best robe and put it on him. Put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. Bring the fattened calf and kill it. Let’s have a feast and celebrate. For this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.’ So they began to celebrate.

Meanwhile, the older son was in the field. When he came near the house, he heard music and dancing. So he called one of the servants and asked him what was going on. ‘Your brother has come,’ he replied, ‘and your father has killed the fattened calf because he has him back safe and sound.’ The older brother became angry and refused to go in. So his father went out and pleaded with him. But he answered his father, ‘Look! All these years I’ve been slaving for you and never disobeyed your orders. Yet you never gave me even a young goat so I could celebrate with my friends. But when this son of yours who has squandered your property with prostitutes comes home, you kill the fattened calf for him!’

‘My son,’ the father said, ‘you are always with me, and everything I have is yours. But we had to celebrate and be glad, because this brother of yours was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.’”

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 “I Believe: In the Forgiveness of Sins” Rev. Rebecca Luter

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

*Please remember those on our prayer list.*

## RESPOND TO GOD

### PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

As those who have experienced God's grace, those who follow Jesus offer their gratitude through gifts of self: caring for one another, supporting the ministries of the church, and providing for the needs of the poor with our tithes, offerings, and service.

For those who are worshiping in the Sanctuary, would the ushers please come forward? For those worshiping at home, you are invited to offer your gifts to God by clicking "Offering" on our website. Let us gather our gifts together and offer them to God in gratitude and praise.

### OFFERTORY ANTHEM "What Is the World Like" Sally Ann Morris

What is the world like when God's will is done? Witness the wandering child coming home; watch as the parent breaks into a run. This is how God longs for us when we roam.

What is the world like when God's will is done? No more is neighbor just ally or friend; peace thrives in places where once there was none, This is how God works when rivalries end.

What is the world like when God's will is done? Ready for feasting, we watch through the night, tending our lamps till the new day's begun. This is how God readies us for the light. (Adam Tice)

### \*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

**Almighty God, you are the giver of every blessing and good gift. In all things, make us wise for the right use of the resources you have entrusted to us. Give us such awareness of your unmerited grace and mercy that our hearts may be thankful, and let our whole lives be praise to you; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.**

### INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

### PRAYER OF GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.  
**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks for the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

SUNG RESPONSES – No. 552, 553, & 554

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.**

SHARING THE BREAD AND THE CUP

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

\*HYMN – No. 722 “Lord, Speak to Me” Verses 1, 2, & 5

**Lord, speak to me that I may speak in living echoes of your tone. As you have sought, so let me seek your erring children, lost and lone.**

**O lead me, Lord, that I may lead the wandering and the wavering feet. O feed me, Lord, that I may feed your hungering ones with manna sweet.**

**O use me, Lord, use even me, just as you will, and when, and where until your blessed face I see, your rest, your joy, your glory share.**

\*BENEDICTION

\*POSTLUDE Coronation March

Meyerbeer

\* Stand as able.

**Bold Type** – congregation in unison

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

### **Participating in the service today:**

Rev. Rebecca Luter, Pastor  
Doug Barr, Director of Christian Education  
Jim Thrash, Director of Music  
Tom Bryant, Accompanist  
Lance Palmer, Liturgist  
Rachel Barr, Children's Moment  
Jerry Hosier and Roland Mittag, Ushers  
Hadley Barr, Acolyte  
Chancel Choir

## Welcome IN THE NAME OF JESUS, THE CHRIST

We hope that you will sense 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.

**Need more information? Want to sign up for something? Looking for the livestream of worship?** Go to our website: [www.farmingtonpres.org](http://www.farmingtonpres.org)

**Need to give us information? Want to ask a question? Looking for assistance with signing up?** Email us at: [church@farmingtonpres.org](mailto:church@farmingtonpres.org)

## Happenings AT FARMINGTON PRESBYTERIAN

**Sanctuary Flowers** this morning are given to the glory of God by Annette & Jerry Hosier as a Happy Birthday to their son, Mark.

**Sunday School** All ages meet each Sunday morning at 10am for study and fellowship. Elementary in A6, youth in the Youth Room, and adults have the option of a Men's Bible Study in Fellowship Hall or a study with Rev. Rebecca in the East Room (Rev. Rebecca's study will begin on September 12).

**Youth Fellowship** not meeting today. Enjoy the Labor Day weekend.

**Young Adult Bible Study** will not meet on Monday, Sept 6<sup>th</sup> due to the Labor Day holiday.

**Room in the Inn** Wednesday lunches for guests will continue through September. Thank you to all who have volunteered!

**Half Truths: God Helps Those Who Help Themselves and Other Things the Bible Doesn't Say** Begins next Sunday, September 12th! This class meets Sunday mornings at 10am in the East Room AND via Zoom Meeting ID: 835 3196 2842 (no passcode needed). This study by Adam Hamilton is engaging and enlightening. While the book may be purchased for study, the class will begin with a video presentation and no homework is required! Rev. Rebecca Luter will be facilitating our discussions.

**Helping Flood Victims** If you would like to participate in the cleanup effort in Waverly, TN, a team from Farmington will be going this Tuesday (September 7<sup>th</sup>). Please let Rev. Rebecca know you are interested in going.

**Church-wide Picnic** The whole Farmington family (members, visitors, and friends) is encouraged to enjoy an evening outdoors at Johnson Road Park on Wednesday, September 29<sup>th</sup>. We will have hamburgers and hot dogs, fun and games, and fellowship with friends. Bring your lawn chairs to accommodate everyone and facilitate social distancing. We will begin to gather at 5:45pm. Dinner is \$8 for adults, \$4 for children, and the maximum cost for a family is \$25.

**Hiking at Pinecrest** Enjoy the beauty of the autumn leaves at Pinecrest on one of two hikes. 1) Wednesday, September 22, 10am-noon, \$5 per person, Follow this guided moderate, 1.5 mile hike to the Overlook. 2) Wednesday, November 17, 10am-1pm, \$5 per person, Catch some scenery into Mississippi on the ridgetops and varying forest community types on this moderate 3 mile hike around the Blue trail. Bring your own lunch. For either or both hikes, RSVP to [Charity@camppinecrest.org](mailto:Charity@camppinecrest.org) or 901-878-1247.

**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](mailto:hutchinsathome@gmail.com).

**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](mailto: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."

**Worshipping In the Sanctuary** Please be mindful of social distancing. Alternate pews are closed to assist in maintaining maximum capacity and distancing. Masks are required while inside the building of those 2 years of age and older.

**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** The Flower Calendar is located on our website and is posted on the bulletin board near Fellowship Hall. There are now only 3 open dates left for 2021: September 26, October 24, and November 28.

**This week at Farmington...**149 suitcases, backpacks, totes, and cosmetic cases were delivered for distribution to children moving from one house to another in the foster care system. Thank you for making their move more dignified. May we all pray that these children are welcomed home.

**Remember in Prayer...**Our Farmington Family, Session and Staff; Essential workers and all affected by Covid-19; those impacted by the floods of Waverly, TN and Hurricane Ida, Ryan Andrews, Jack Arendt, Larry Barr & family, Mary Lou Barrentine, Natalie Bergeron, Bill Brown, Kenny Buckner, Ralph Carr, Rev. Bruce Reyes-Chow, Jelena Colasurdo, Mary Lou Collins, D.J. Davis, Pat Rush Davis, Jane Egan, Ed Gallagher, Rev. Jim Hamilton, Bill Harrington, Martha Noble Hathcock, Johnny Hofrichter, Gary Hutchins, Carol Lovell, Harland Lovell, Nancy Palmer, Rit Pangburn, Dennis Peeples, Harley Patterson, Steve Patterson, Sue Patterson Pine, Bob Pointer, Bob Plotner, Jonathan Riley, Patti Simpkins, Williams Stevens, Susan St. John, Joan Wallace, Rob Wentzel, Faye Woods and from our Presbytery: Oakland Presbyterian Church, Oakland, TN and First Presbyterian Church, Paris, TN.

**Sympathies...**to the family and friends of Jean Vaughan, mother of Martha Jones, to the family and friends of Tim Struble, friend of Rachel Barr and to the family and friends of Kelly Stafford, friend of Paulette Bukauskas.

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