



**FARMINGTON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
SERVICE OF DIVINE WORSHIP**

**First Sunday of Advent**

**November 28, 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 gather in expectation, waiting with hope that you are coming. Meet us here. Shed your light into the dark places of doubt and fear within us. Rouse us to prepare for your coming, making space in our lives for love to be born. Draw close and wrap us in your peace. May we receive the greatest gift, Emmanuel, with joy. Amen.

**WELCOME**

**PRELUDE "Creator of the Stars of Night"**

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP<sup>†</sup>**

The coming of our Lord is near,  
And we wait in joyful expectation,  
**Draw close, Lord Jesus Christ,**  
**Shed your light on all that is filled with darkness.**

The coming of our Lord is near,  
And we wait with hope filled hearts,  
**Draw close, God's beloved son,**  
**Teach us the wonder of your all-embracing love.**

The coming of our Lord is near,  
And we wait for God's redeeming presence,  
**Draw close, Savior of all creation,**  
**Our hearts ache for justice,**  
**our minds long for holiness,**  
**our spirits seek for unity.**

The coming of our Lord is near,  
And we wait for the fulfillment of God's promises,

**Draw close, reconciler and transformer of all things,  
Renew our world, restore your peace, display your  
righteousness.**

The coming of our Lord is near,

And we wait for God's light to shine over all the earth,

**Draw close, pain bearer, life giver, love sharer,**

**Shine through us, in us, around us, shine for the world to see.**

The coming of our Lord is near,

And we wait attentive to the signs of his coming,

**Draw close, Lord Jesus Christ,**

**God beyond imagining, fully God yet truly human, draw  
close**

HYMN OF PRAISE – No. 88

Verses 1, 6, & 7

“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

**O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that  
mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.**

**O come, thou Dayspring, come and cheer our spirits by thine  
advent here; disperse the gloomy clouds of night, and death's  
dark shadows put to flight. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall  
come to thee, O Israel.**

**O come, Desire of nations, bind all peoples in one heart and  
mind; bid envy, strife, and discord cease; fill the whole world  
with heaven's peace. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come  
to thee, O Israel.**

*(Please be seated.)*

LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH<sup>†</sup>

CALL TO RECONCILIATION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Gracious God, with joy and creativity you made the world  
and called it good, forming us in your image. Yet we have  
done much to quell that goodness and deform your image  
within us: we have fought with one another and failed to live  
in peace; we have shut out the stranger and disparaged the  
wandering; we have ignored the needy and judged the poor;  
we have not followed your command to love and to live as  
your beloved community.

Wrap us in your mercy, O God, forgive us, and bring us back  
to the joy we find in you.

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

We believe in Jesus Christ, born to us all so long ago in  
Bethlehem of Judea.

We believe in Him whose birth glorified Bethlehem, but for  
whom there was no room in the inn.

We believe in Him whose guiding star can bring together the  
humble and wise everywhere.

We believe in Him who walked among the common people,  
and was welcomed by those with open minds and yearning  
hearts.

We believe in Him whose life changed the course of history,  
over whom kings had no power, whose life humbled the  
proud, toppled the mighty, and elevated those of low degree.

We believe in Him whose love changed human hearts, and  
whose life and death on the cross proved that it is more  
important to serve than to be served.

We believe in Him who is the Prince of Peace, whose spirit  
makes for justice and peace among all peoples.

We believe in Him who is Emmanuel, whose presence  
changes the world through the power of love, faith and hope.

THROUGH CHILDREN'S EYES

Sandy Hilliard & Rebecca Hutchins

*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

Jeremiah 33:14-16

'The days are coming,' declares the LORD, 'when I will fulfill the  
good promise I made to the people of Israel and Judah. In those  
days and at that time I will make a righteous Branch sprout from  
David's line; he will do what is just and right in the land. In those

days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. This is the name by which it will be called: 'The LORD Our Righteous Savior.'

This is the Word of the Lord!

**Thanks be to God!**

#### SECOND READING

Luke 21:25-31

"There will be signs in the sun, moon and stars. On the earth, nations will be in anguish and perplexity at the roaring and tossing of the sea. People will faint from terror, apprehensive of what is coming on the world, for the heavenly bodies will be shaken. At that time they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. When these things begin to take place, stand up and lift up your heads, because your redemption is drawing near."

He told them this parable: "Look at the fig tree and all the trees. When they sprout leaves, you can see for yourselves and know that summer is near. Even so, when you see these things happening, you know that the kingdom of God is near."

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.**

#### SERMON

"Wrapped and Ready"

Rev. Rebecca Luter

#### 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

from Tennessee Harmony 1818

"Now the Heavens Start to Whisper"

Now the heavens start to whisper, as the veil is growing thin.  
Earth from slumber wakes to listen to the stirring, faint within;  
seed of promise, deeply planted, child to spring from Jesse's stem!

Heavy clouds that block the moonlight now begin to drift away. Diamond brilliance through the darkness shines the hope of coming day. Christ, the morning star of splendor, gleams within a world grown dim. Heaven's ember fans to fullness; hearts grow warm to welcome him. *(Mary Louise Bringle)*

**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.**

Emmanuel, shine your light and love upon these gifts and upon us. Dedicate them and us to bringing hope in this world. By your Holy Spirit, fill us, intertwine us, enwrap us with your power that is beyond this world and at the same time comes as close as our next breath. Then send us to do your will, Amen.

## “It Came Upon the Midnight Clear”

Yet with the woes of sin and strife the world has suffered long;  
beneath the heavenly hymn have rolled two thousand years of  
wrong; and we at war on earth hear not the tidings that they  
bring; O, hush the noise and cease the strife to hear the  
angels sing!

And you, beneath life's crushing load, whose forms are  
bending low, who toil along the climbing way with painful  
steps and slow, look now, for glad and golden hours come  
swiftly on the wing: O, rest beside the weary road, and hear  
the angels sing.

## Cesar Franck

\* Stand as able. **Bold Type** – congregation in unison

†Call to Worship by Christine Sine, “Advent Prayer”; Advent Wreath Liturgy  
by Rev. Ruth Lovell Bradham

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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  
Rebecca Hutchins, Liturgist  
Sandy Hilliard and Rebecca Hutchins, Children's Moment  
Jerry & Annette Hosier, Ushers  
Hadley Barr, 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 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 in loving memory of their son, Kevin.

**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 at 9:30am or a study with Rev. Rebecca in the East Room at 10am.

**Youth Fellowship** will not meet today, November 28<sup>th</sup>.

**Adult Sunday School** All men are invited to attend the Men's Bible Study in Fellowship Hall on Sunday mornings at 9:30am. The hybrid (Zoom and in-person) class taught by Rev. Rebecca Luter meets at 10am in the East Room.

**Advent in Plain Sight** Make plans to attend this six-week study, November 28<sup>th</sup>-January 2<sup>nd</sup> at 10am as we consider how God is at work in the ordinary stuff of life. The book, by Rev. Jill Duffield, is available on Amazon but not necessary for participation in the class. We will meet in the East Room and on Zoom Meeting ID 889 8485 9604; Passcode Farmington.

**Young Adult Bible Study** meets Mondays at 6:00pm in the Saddle Creek Starbucks for discussion on chapter 20 of Luke.

**Mid-Day Connection** Throughout Advent, every day at 11am you are invited to worship with the Farmington family! Monday through Saturday, you are invited to join a short time of devotion on Zoom. Sundays you are encouraged to worship either in person or on the livestream from our website. What is this new Mid-Day Connection? Rev. Rebecca will be facilitating a time of gathering that incorporates Scripture, a music video of a favorite Christmas song or carol sung by a variety of artists, a chance to respond, and a prayer for our day. You are encouraged to share the link with friends and family via email and social media! The devotions will also be available on our Facebook page if you can't attend at 11am. Go to [www.Zoom.com](http://www.Zoom.com) and enter Meeting ID: 862 7770 2431 with Passcode: Connect. If you have any trouble, please let Rev. Rebecca know.

**Advent Service of Healing and Wholeness** December 8<sup>th</sup> at 6pm we will gather for this quiet service of reflection. Have you lost someone you love? Lost your way? Is the cheery buzz of Christmas just too much after this year? Come light a candle and pray. Receive God's blessing. Christ was born for you.

**Women's Christmas Luncheon** December 16<sup>th</sup> at the Ivy Tea Room in Cedar Hall at 11am. The cost of lunch (with tip) is \$20, and we will have our own dining area. To RSVP, please email [virginiahart2@comcast.net](mailto:virginiahart2@comcast.net) or let Jinney Hart know.

**Caroling Caravan** Each year we visit those who are not able to come to worship at Christmastime and sing a few favorite carols together. You will not want to miss this time of fellowship and service that blesses both the givers and the receivers. Mark your calendars to meet in the back parking lot of the church to leave at 9:30am Saturday, December 18<sup>th</sup>! We will be finished by noon.

**Poinsettias** The sanctuary will be decorated with poinsettias this year. Please consider honoring or remembering a loved one. Poinsettias are \$10 each. Email [church@farmingtonpres.org](mailto:church@farmingtonpres.org) with your information.

**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. Unvaccinated individuals are required to continue to wear masks. Masks are recommended but not required for Vaccinated individuals and children 13 and under.

**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.

**Summer Mission Trip** Service Committee invites you to join the mission team traveling to Mexico June/July 2022 to build cisterns. We are in the process of setting the dates and want to include you if you are interested. For more info, contact Rev. Rebecca ([rluter@farmingtonpres.org](mailto:rluter@farmingtonpres.org)).

**This week at Farmington...**we welcomed our Confirmands – Lizzie Luter, Cole Ritchey, Jack Ritchey, Bailey Wann, and Kenny Williams – to the membership of Farmington Presbyterian Church.

**Remember in Prayer...**Our Farmington Family, Session and Staff; Daysi Alda, Ryan Andrews, Jack Arendt, Mary Lou Barrentine, Bonnie Blair, Bill Brown, Kenny Buckner, Renee Cantor, Ralph Carr, Jelena Colasurdo, Mary Lou Collins, D.J. Davis, Jane Egan, Ed Gallagher, Rev. Jim Hamilton, Bill Harrington, Mary Hasemeier, Martha Noble Hathcock, Gary Hutchins, Meredith Oest, Nancy & Dennis Palmer, Rit Pangburn, Bob Pointer, Jonathan Riley, Jimmy Robinson, Patti Simpkins, Williams Stevens, Susan St. John, Mary Thrash, Beth Tobey, Judy Tobey, Joan Wallace, Faye Woods, and from our Presbytery: First Presbyterian Church, Kennett, MO.

**Sympathies...**to the family and friends of Dennis Peeples, father of Lane Steen and to the family and friends of Rob Wentzel, friend of Charlie Smithers.

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8245 Farmington Blvd.

Germantown, TN 38139

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