



**FARMINGTON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
SERVICE OF DIVINE WORSHIP**

First Sunday of Christmas

December 26, 2021

Worship Online at 11:00am Sunday Mornings

www.farmingtonpres.org

Click "Worship Together"

ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

WELCOME

PRELUDE "Angel of Peace"

LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH†

THE LIVELY FAMILY

*CALL TO WORSHIP

from Psalm 148

Hallelujah! Let all the earth praise the Lord!

May our songs of praise resound from the highest heights to the deepest depths!

Hallelujah! Let all creation praise the Lord!

May nature's songs of praise resound from the howling of the wind to the rushing of the waters, from the roar of the lion to the call of the dolphin, through the silence of the forest and the expanse of the universe.

God, our God, is worthy of love and adoration,

The glory of the Lord towers over heaven and earth.

God's splendor covers heaven and earth,

And is born for us. Let everything, everywhere, rejoice!

*HYMN OF PRAISE – No. 134 "Joy to the World"

**Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth receive her king;
let every heart prepare him room, and heaven and nature sing,
and heaven and nature sing, and heaven, and heaven and
nature sing.**

**Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns! Let all their songs employ,
while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains repeat the**

sounding joy, repeat the sounding joy, repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

No more let sins and sorrows grow, nor thorns infest the ground; he comes to make his blessings flow far as the curse is found, far as the curse is found, far as, far as the curse is found.

He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the nations prove the glories of his righteousness and wonders of his love, and wonders of his love, and wonders, wonders of his love.

(Please be seated.)

CALL TO RECONCILIATION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy God, you know our hearts. You see all we do and fail to do. You hear what we say and what we don't. You formed us in your image, with hope for who we would be and how we would impact the world. Over and over again, we have chosen the ways of this world, of power and privilege, of the false security of financial stability, and of pride. Your image within us has been cloaked in darkness, not allowed to reveal your way.

Wrap us in your mercy, Grace swaddled in mystery, and forgive us. Let us draw near to the manger and worship this One who is born not into wealth and power but into poverty and weakness, to the One who loves unconditionally and welcomes all. Draw us closer to the One who drew near to us, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

KYRIE

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Christ, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

***GLORIA – NO. 119**

Verse 3

Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace! Hail the sun of righteousness! Light and life to all he brings, risen with healing in his wings. Mild he lays his glory by, born that we no more may die, born to raise us from the earth, born to give us second birth. Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"

***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

Nicholas Luter

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

Isaiah 9:2-7

The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned. You have enlarged the nation and increased their joy; they rejoice before you as people rejoice at the harvest, as warriors rejoice when dividing the plunder. For as in the day of Midian's defeat, you have shattered the yoke that burdens them, the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor. Every warrior's boot used in battle and every garment rolled in blood will be destined for burning, will be fuel for the fire. For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Of the greatness of his government and peace there will be no end. He will reign on David's throne and over his kingdom,

establishing and upholding it with justice and righteousness from that time on and forever. The zeal of the LORD Almighty will accomplish this.

This is the Word of the Lord!

Thanks be to God!

SECOND READING

Colossians 3:14-15

And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity. Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful.

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 “I Wear Your Love; It Is Always Enough” 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 “The Holly and the Ivy”

Shepard

*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

Emmanuel, shine your light and love upon these gifts and upon us. Dedicate them and us to bringing peace in this world. By your Holy Spirit, fill us, intertwine us, enwrap us with the power of your love that is beyond this world and at

the same time comes as close as our next breath so that when the excitement of Christmas quiets and the lights are stored away, your light may continue to shine. Amen.

* HYMN NO. 110 “Love Has Come”

Love has come: a light in the darkness! Love shines forth in the Bethlehem skies. See, all heaven has come to proclaim it; hear how their song of joy arises: Love! Love! Born unto you, a Savior! Love! Love! Glory to God on high.

Love is born! Come, share in the wonder. Love is God now asleep in the hay. See the glow in the eyes of his mother; what is the name her heart is saying? Love! Love! Love is the name she whispers. Love! Love! Jesus, Emmanuel.

Love has come and never will leave us! Love is life everlasting and free. Love is Jesus within and among us. Love is the peace our hearts are seeking. Love! Love! Love is the gift of Christmas. Love! Love! Praise to you, God on high!

* INVITATION, CHARGE AND BLESSING

* POSTLUDE “GOOD CHRISTIAN FRIENDS REJOICE”

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

†Advent Wreath Liturgy by Rev. Ruth Lovell Bradham

‡ Call to Worship written by Rev. Anne Fraley

Reprinted with permission under One License #731533-A and CCLI #1162543-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
Liv Palmer, Liturgist
Nicholas Luter, Children’s Moment
Billy & Sandy Wann, Ushers
Amelia Palmer, 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 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

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

Happenings AT FARMINGTON PRESBYTERIAN

Flowers this morning are given to the glory of God by Nadine Oest in honor of Melanie's birthday.

Children's Sunday School All ages meet each Sunday morning at 10am for study and fellowship. Elementary in A6, youth in the Youth Room.

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.

No Sunday School for youth or adults today.

Youth Fellowship will not meet today.

Advent in Plain Sight Come next Sunday, January 2nd 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 is on break until we begin our new study in January.

Fellowship Coffee Sign up on our website to provide refreshments following worship, www.farmingtonpres.org Please keep it simple-something sweet and something salty.

Vitality: Church in Post-Pandemic Life Mid-South Presbytery Education Day is January 29th from 9am-2pm with Keynote Speaker, Rev. Jan Edmiston, Co-Moderator of the 222nd General Assembly (2016). We are hosting the event at Farmington Presbyterian. Registration and lunch is \$25 for participants. Greeters and helping hands are needed! Sign up to attend and/or help on our website.

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.

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.”

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).

This week at Farmington...thank you to the choir, Dr. Tom Bryant, and to our Director of Music, Jim Thrash, for a beautiful service of Lessons and Carols. If you did not have an opportunity to worship last Sunday morning with the Farmington family, we encourage you to make this service a part of your Christmas celebration. It is available by searching Farmington Presbyterian Church on YouTube.

Remember in Prayer...Our Farmington Family, Session and Staff; Daysi Alda, Ryan Andrews, Jack Arendt, Mary Lou Barrentine, Bruce Bennett, Bonnie Blair, Bill Brown, Kenny Buckner, Renee Cantor, Ralph Carr, Judith Cassidy, Jelena Colasurdo, Mary Lou Collins, Rev. Rodais Cox, D.J. Davis, Jane Egan, Ed Gallagher, Rev. Jim Hamilton, Bill Harrington, Mary Hasemeier, Martha Noble Hathcock, Vanessa Howard, Gary Hutchins, Sue Odom, Meredith Oest, Nancy & Dennis Palmer, Rit Pangburn, Myrna Pickler, Bob Pointer, Bill Renfrow, Jonathan Riley, Jimmy Robinson, Mary Short, Patti Simpkins, Williams Stevens, Susan St. John, Joan Wallace, Faye Woods, and from our Presbytery: Peace & Healing.

Sympathy...to the family and friends of Virginia Elting, friend of Bonnie Blair.

FARMINGTON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

8245 Farmington Blvd.

Germantown, TN 38139

901-754-2794 www.farmingtonpres.org