



FARMINGTON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
SERVICE OF DIVINE WORSHIP
Second Sunday of Christmas
January 2, 2022

Worship Online at 11:00am Sunday Mornings

www.farmingtonpres.org

Click "Worship Together"

ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

WELCOME

PRELUDE "Appalachian Carols"

Persichetti

LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH†

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Holy God, we gather at the start of a new year, remembering that you are Alpha and Omega, beginning and end, eternal and everlasting glory.

In the beginning, you spoke light and life into being and in the fullness of time, your Word became flesh.

Your love cannot be measured, your power cannot be manipulated, your glory is beyond our comprehension.

You humbled yourself to be born and live among us, that we might come to know you.

In him, you revealed yourself to us, and you revealed who we are meant to be.

Therefore, we come to worship and to be transformed as we welcome Christ into our world and into our lives.

*HYMN OF PRAISE – No. 143 "Angels, from the Realms of Glory"

Angels, from the realms of glory, wing your flight o'er all the earth; you, who sang creation's story, now proclaim Messiah's birth:

Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the newborn King!

Shepherds, in the fields abiding, watching o'er your flocks by night, God with us is now residing; yonder shines the infant light: *Refrain.*

Sages, leave your contemplations; brighter visions beam afar; seek the great desire of nations; you have seen his natal star: *Refrain.*

All creation, join in praising God the Father, Spirit, Son, evermore your voices raising to the eternal Three in One: *Refrain.*

(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

Jinney Hart

All children are invited to come to the Chancel steps.

Afterward, young children return to their seat.

Worship bags are available beside the entrance to the Sanctuary.

PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING

Jeremiah 31:10-13

“Hear the word of the LORD, you nations; proclaim it in distant coastlands: ‘He who scattered Israel will gather them and will watch over his flock like a shepherd.’ For the LORD will deliver Jacob and redeem them from the hand of those stronger than they. They will come and shout for joy on the heights of Zion; they will rejoice in the bounty of the LORD—the grain, the new wine and the olive oil, the young of the flocks and herds. They will be like a well-watered garden, and they will sorrow no more. Then young women will dance and be glad, young men and old as well. I will turn their mourning into gladness; I will give them comfort and joy instead of sorrow.

This is the Word of the Lord!

Thanks be to God!

He was in the world, and though the world was made through him, the world did not recognize him. He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him. Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God— children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband's will, but born of God.

The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

(John testified concerning him. He cried out, saying, "This is the one I spoke about when I said, 'He who comes after me has surpassed me because he was before me.'") Out of his fullness we have all received grace in place of grace already given. For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God, but the one and only Son, who is himself God and is in closest relationship with the Father, has made him known.

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

"The Word *Became* Flesh"

Rev. Rebecca Luter

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Please remember those on our prayer list.

RESPOND TO GOD

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY ANTHEM "Walk in the Light"

Andre Thomas

*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.

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

The Communion elements we share this morning are gluten, sugar, nut, and dairy-free bread and white grape juice.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

* HYMN NO. 136 “Go, Tell It on the Mountain” Verse 3
Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere; go, tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born!
Down in a lowly manger the humble Christ was born, and God sent us salvation that blessed Christmas morn. *Refrain.*

* INVITATION, CHARGE AND BLESSING

* POSTLUDE “Angels We have Heard on High”

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

†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
Rachel Barr, Liturgist
Jinney Hart, Children's Moment
Jinney Hart and Melissa Still, Ushers
Charlotte Moots, 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 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 Annette & Jerry Hosier in memory of Annette's mother, Maxine Montgomery.

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.

Youth Fellowship will not meet today.

Advent in Plain Sight Come next Sunday, January 9th 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 will meet next Monday, January 10th.

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

Farmington Presbyterian Men will gather Saturday, January 7th at 9am to take down the Outdoor Nativity Scene. Coffee and donuts provided.

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 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 worshiping 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."

Worshiping 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...we are praying for God to transform our hearts and our lives so that the birth of the Christ Child is not an old story but a fresh truth lived out every day.

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, Ben Carr, Glenn & Martha Carr, 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, Bob Pointer, Bill Renfrow, Jonathan Riley, Jimmy Robinson, Bruce Scherer, Mary Short, Patti Simpkins, Williams Stevens, Susan St. John, Joan Wallace, Faye Woods, and from our Presbytery: The Presbyterian Church (USA), Synods, Presbyteries & Churches and Grace Presbyterian Church, Bartlett, TN.

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