

FARMINGTON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH SERVICE OF DIVINE WORSHIP

Easter Sunday April 17, 2022

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

ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

Holy God, we gather today in celebration and awe to hear again a story that has not lost its power over two millennia, a story that has the capacity to change the world and us. As we recall the story, do not allow it to be a story of "long ago" to us, allow us to hear it afresh; allow us to hope; allow us to receive it and believe that the past does not define our future. Open our lives to be renewed, and open our hearts to bear your love. In the name of the One who destroyed death, Jesus Christ our Savior, we pray. Amen.

WELCOME

Christ is risen!

Christ is risen, indeed!

PRELUDE "Thine Is the Glory"

G.F. Handel

*CALL TO WORSHIP

We come today to praise Jesus, our Lord,

Whose fingers opened the eyes of the blind, whose hands healed the sores of the lepers, whose arms welcomed the little children.

We come today to worship Jesus, our Teacher,

Whose parables offered grace to the outcast, whose sermons proclaimed blessing to the downtrodden, whose life demonstrated the way of life abundant for us all.

We come today to celebrate Jesus, the Christ,

Whose courage led to Jerusalem, whose faith agonized in the Garden of Gethsemane, whose love suffered at Golgotha.

We proclaim today the Good News! The tomb was empty, death is no more, love has won!

We come today to rejoice! Christ is risen! Alleluia! Christ is risen indeed!

*HYMN OF PRAISE – No. 232 "Jesus Christ Is Risen Today"

Jesus Christ is risen today, Alleluia! our triumphant holy day, Alleluia! who did once upon the cross, Alleluia! suffer to redeem our loss. Alleluia!

Hymns of praise then let us sing, Alleluia! unto Christ, our heavenly King, Alleluia! who endured the cross and grave, Alleluia! sinners to redeem and save. Alleluia!

But the pains which he endured, Alleluia! our salvation have procured. Alleluia! Now above the sky he's King, Alleluia! where the angels ever sing. Alleluia!

Sing we to our God above, Alleluia! praise eternal as God's love. Alleluia! Praise our God, ye heavenly host, Alleluia! Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Alleluia!

(Please be seated.)

CALL TO RECONCILIATION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God who came as Word made flesh, when we hear the Easter story, we tend to think of it as an old story, and fail to hear the astonishing news of your triumph over death. We tend to be so afraid of life's shadows, that we cannot see the light of hope streaming all around us. We tend to be so hesitant to be honest about our questions and doubts, that we miss the truth of your grace.

As we hear again the story of your resurrection, Holy One, may we rejoice in your steadfast love. May we be grateful that you have not forgotten or forsaken us. May we come with our questions, our doubts, our hearts towards Jesus. May we be astounded by your power to transform us.

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 at 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

Doug Barr

All children are invited to come to the Chancel steps. Afterward, young children may remain or proceed to the nursery. Worship bags are available beside the entrance to the Sanctuary.

PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING Isaiah 61

The Spirit of the Sovereign Lord is on me, because the Lord has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim freedom for the captives and release from darkness for the prisoners, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor and the day of vengeance of our God, to comfort all who mourn, and provide for those who grieve in Zion—to bestow on them a crown of beauty instead of ashes, the oil of joy instead of mourning, and a garment of praise instead of a spirit of despair. They will be called oaks of righteousness, a planting of the Lord for the display of his splendor. They will rebuild the ancient ruins and restore the places long devastated; they will renew the ruined cities that have been devastated for generations. Strangers will shepherd your flocks; foreigners will work your fields and vineyards. And you will be called priests of the LORD, you will be named ministers of our God. You will feed

on the wealth of nations, and in their riches you will boast. Instead of your shame you will receive a double portion, and instead of disgrace you will rejoice in your inheritance. And so you will inherit a double portion in your land, and everlasting joy will be yours. "For I, the LORD, love justice; I hate robbery and wrongdoing. In my faithfulness I will reward my people and make an everlasting covenant with them. Their descendants will be known among the nations and their offspring among the peoples. All who see them will acknowledge that they are a people the LORD has blessed." I delight greatly in the LORD; my soul rejoices in my God. For he has clothed me with garments of salvation and arrayed me in a robe of his righteousness, as a bridegroom adorns his head like a priest, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels. For as the soil makes the sprout come up and a garden causes seeds to grow, so the Sovereign LORD will make righteousness and praise spring up before all nations.

This is the Word of the Lord!

Thanks be to God!

SECOND READING

Luke 24:1-12

On the first day of the week, very early in the morning, the women took the spices they had prepared and went to the tomb. They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, but when they entered, they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus. While they were wondering about this, suddenly two men in clothes that gleamed like lightning stood beside them. In their fright the women bowed down with their faces to the ground, but the men said to them, "Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here; he has risen! Remember how he told you, while he was still with you in Galilee: The Son of Man must be delivered over to the hands of sinners, be crucified and on the third day be raised again." Then they remembered his words.

When they came back from the tomb, they told all these things to the Eleven and to all the others. It was Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and the others with them who told this to the apostles. But they did not believe the women, because their words seemed to them like nonsense. Peter, however, got up and ran to the tomb. Bending over, he saw the strips of linen lying by themselves, and he went away, wondering to himself what had happened.

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 "Believing the Inconceivable"

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 "Come Ye Faithful"

Thatcher

Come, ye faithful, raise the strain of triumphant gladness; God hath brought his Israel into joy from sadness;

'Tis the spring of souls today, Christ hath burst his prison,

And from three days sleep in death as a man hath risen.

Now the queen of seasons, bright with the day of splendour,

With the royal feast of feasts, comes its joy to render;

Come to glad Jerusalem, who with true affection

Welcomes in unwearied strains, Jesu's resurrection!

Neither might the gates of death, nor the tomb's dark portal,

Nor the watchers, not the seal, hold thee as a mortal;

But today amid the twelve, Thou, did stand, bestowing

That thy peace, which evermore passeth human knowing.

*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

God of Resurrection, you transform darkness to light, death to life, despair to hope. Every element of our lives that is good is a gift from you. How can we possibly respond? We offer you our lives and our resources. Show your compassion through

us. Tell your story through us. Reveal your love through us. Transform this world through us. In Jesus's name. Amen.

*HYMN No. 462 "I Love to Tell the Story"

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.

I love to tell the story; 'tis pleasant to repeat what seems each time I tell it, more wonderfully sweet! I love to tell the story, for some have never heard the message of salvation from God's own holy Word. *Refrain*.

I love to tell the story, for those who know it best seem hungering and thirsting to hear it, like the rest. And when, in scenes of glory, I sing the new, new song, 'twill be the old, old story that I have loved so long. *Refrain*.

BENEDICTION

*SENDING FORTH HYMN No. 826

Verse 4

"Lift High the Cross"

Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim till all the world adore his sacred name.

So shall our song of triumph ever be: praise to the Crucified for victory. *Refrain*.

*POSTLUDE Carillon

Vierne

*Stand as able.

Bold Type – congregation in unison

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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

Rev. Ruth Lovell-Bradham, Liturgist

Doug Barr, Children's Moment

Tom and Stephanie Nagel, Ushers

Charlotte Moots, 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 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

No Fellowship Coffee today. Happy Easter!

One Great Hour of Sharing Offering allows Presbyterian Disaster Assistance to respond to crises. Three areas of the world where we are currently responding are the war and refugee crisis in Ukraine, typhoon in the Philippines, and tornadoes in the US. Farmington is collecting this offering during Holy Week. Please note "OGHS" on the memo section of your gift.

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

The Men's Sunday School Class meets Sundays at 9:30am in the Fellowship Hall. This group is led by Cooper Patterson.

Parables of Jesus meets at 10am in the East Room and on Zoom next Sunday, April 24th, we will be studying The Parable of Lazarus and the Rich Man (Luke 16:19-30). This group is led by Rev. Rebecca, and no preparation is necessary.

Youth Fellowship will not meet today. Happy Easter!

Wednesday Night Dinner and Program Please join us for dinner as you are able to arrive between 5:15-6:15pm. The program will begin at 6:15pm in the Sanctuary and on Zoom (Meeting ID 871 7636 8648, Passcode: Lent). You do not have to RSVP for the program. However, you do need to RSVP for dinner by Monday at noon to churchoffice@farmingtonpres.org. The menu this week Pizza. The cost of dinner is \$8 per adult and \$4 per child (12 and under) with a \$25 family maximum. Scott and Becky Hutchins (Firehutch

Fine Foods) will continue 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.

The Way: Walking in the Footsteps of Jesus Rev. Rebecca Luter will be teaching this Wednesday evening, April 20th, in a hybrid fashion from the Sanctuary. So, we will gather in person and on Zoom. The book can be purchased from Amazon, if you would like to read along. It is not required. This week we will focus on Jesus's post-Resurrection appearances.

Presbyterian Women will enjoy a Potluck Salad Luncheon next Sunday, April 24th after worship. Weather permitting, the lunch will be a picnic outside. In case of rain, the lunch will be in the East Room. Beverages and dessert will be provided. All women are encouraged to come enjoy a time of fellowship.

Churchwide Spring Picnic May 11th at Johnson Road Park pavilion. The setting is private, fully accessible with no stairs required and a pond and playground nearby. Plan to bring your lawn chair and enjoy the evening with friends!

Fun for Funds at the Picnic! The Service committee will be raising funds for Rise Against Hunger at the Churchwide Picnic on May 11th. We will have items to raffle with tickets available for purchase - 5 for \$10 or 12 for \$20. In addition, all are encouraged to empty your change banks and bring your coins to the picnic to "pay" for the children to play carnival-type games (a quarter per game).

Rise Against Hunger is scheduled for the afternoon of June 5th. We will package 20,000 meals to be distributed to shelters and schools around the world in areas of disaster or in developing countries so that hungry people are fed. The cost of 20,000 meals is \$7,500. How will we raise \$7,500? The children will be collecting in the Narthex after services each Sunday after Easter. If every family in the church gives \$15 per week, we will have enough!

Summer Mission Trip The dates are set! A team will travel June 21-26 to Xpujil, Mexico to build cisterns. So far, Charlie Smithers, Steve and Carolyn Demaree, and John Hazen are signed up to go. If you can shovel gravel or sand, consider this faith-enriching experience assisting members of our partner church in Mexico and working alongside the homeowners to provide year-round access to water.

First Presbyterian Soup Kitchen We have received the terrific news that the Clothes Closet currently is well-stocked and does not need additional donations at this time. Thank you to all who have contributed!

Flowers for Worship It is a time-honored tradition to give flowers to grace the Sanctuary in honor or memory of our loved ones. The cost for the flowers is \$60. The Flower Calendar is located on our website and is posted on the bulletin board near Fellowship Hall.

Fellowship Coffee has returned! Sign up on our website to provide refreshments following worship, <u>www.farmingtonpres.org</u> Please keep it simple-something sweet and something salty.

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."

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.

This week at Farmington...the Presbyterian Women rejoice that they were able, once again, to hold their Annual Bake Sale. The proceeds from this sale fund mission projects throughout the year. The children rejoiced in the baked goods and enjoyed Easter Egg Hunts and hearing the Easter story in their classrooms and in Chapel. Thank you to all who baked and all who bought!

Remember in Prayer...Our Farmington Family, Session and Staff; Those impacted by war, Robert Applewhite, Jack Arendt, Bruce Bennett, Bonnie Blair, Bill Brown, Renee Canter, Ralph Carr, Jelena Colasurdo, Mary Lou Collins, Pat Rush Davis, Jamecka Donley, Ed Gallagher, Bill Harrington, Cliff Holland, Vanessa Howard, Loyd Hudson, Gary Hutchins, Louise Jacobson, Micci Leake, Julia Lively, Natalie Lively, Virginia Lively, Carol Lovell, Sue Odom, Meredith Oest, Nancy & Dennis Palmer, Bob Plotner, Bob Pointer, Bill Renfrow, Jonathan Riley, Jack Scherer, Patti Simpkins, Williams Stevens, Susan St. John, Joan Wallace, Jim Waller, Barbara Warvel, Craig Warvel, Frank Whited, Faye Woods, and from our Presbytery: Germantown Presbyterian Church, Germantown, TN.

Sympathy...to the family and friends of Mary Hudson, wife of Loyd Hudson.



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