



FARMINGTON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
SERVICE OF DIVINE WORSHIP
Second Sunday in Lent
March 5, 2023

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

ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

“For a New Beginning” by John O’Donohue

In out-of-the-way places of the heart,
Where your thoughts never think to wander,
This beginning has been quietly forming,
Waiting until you were ready to emerge.

For a long time it has watched your desire,
Feeling the emptiness growing inside you,
Noticing how you willed yourself on,
Still unable to leave what you had outgrown.

It watched you play with the seduction of safety
And the gray promises that sameness whispered,
Heard the waves of turmoil rise and relent,
Wondered would you always live like this.

Then the delight, when your courage kindled,
And out you stepped onto new ground,
Your eyes young again with energy and dream,
A path of plenitude opening before you.

Though your destination is not yet clear
You can trust the promise of this opening;
Unfurl yourself into the grace of beginning
That is at one with your life's desire.

Awaken your spirit to adventure;
Hold nothing back, learn to find ease in risk;
Soon you will home in a new rhythm,

For your soul senses the world that awaits you.

WELCOME

PRELUDE Sonata in A Major

Mozart

*CALL TO WORSHIP

What is it like to begin again?

It is like flowers in the spring that push through frozen ground.

Change can bring new life and hope.

Change can also be difficult and frightening.

Is it really possible for us to unlearn and relearn new habits?

Remind us, O God, that we are all works in progress.

Like Nicodemus in the night, give us courage to ask for guidance.

Like a child with eyes of wonder, help us look for the new opportunities in our lives.

May those glimpses of newness remind us that God is always creating,

And may we be brave enough to begin again.

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN - NO.51 "To Abraham and Sarah"

To Abraham and Sarah the call of God was clear: "Go forth and I will show you a country rich and fair. You need not fear the journey, for I have pledged my word that you shall be my people and I will be your God."

From Abraham and Sarah arose a pilgrim race, dependent for their journey on God's abundant grace; and in their heart was written by God this saving word, "That you shall be my people and I will be your God."

We of this generation on whom God's hand is laid can journey to the future secure and unafraid, rejoicing in God's goodness and trusting in this word, "That you shall be my people and I will be your God."

CALL TO RECONCILIATION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of new life, you call us into unknown places, and we respond by making the block we know one more time. You call us to see the difference that we can make, and we bury our heads in the sand. You whisper the promise of new life in the Spirit, and we tell ourselves we have missed our chance. Over and over you invite us closer to you, and we doubt our ability to find the way. Forgive our resistance and give us courage to begin again with you.

(A time of silent prayer)

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

The 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

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

Genesis 12:1-4a

The LORD had said to Abram, "Go from your country, your people
and your father's household to the land I will show you. "I will make
you into a great nation, and I will bless you; I will make your name
great, and you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and
whoever curses you I will curse; and all peoples on earth will be
blessed through you." So Abram went, as the LORD had told him;
and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he
set out from Harran.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

Now there was a Pharisee, a man named Nicodemus who was a member of the Jewish ruling council. He came to Jesus at night and said, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God. For no one could perform the signs you are doing if God were not with him.”

Jesus replied, “Very truly I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God unless they are born again.”

“How can someone be born when they are old?” Nicodemus asked. “Surely they cannot enter a second time into their mother’s womb to be born!”

Jesus answered, “Very truly I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless they are born of water and the Spirit. Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit. You should not be surprised at my saying, ‘You must be born again.’ The wind blows wherever it pleases. You hear its sound, but you cannot tell where it comes from or where it is going. So it is with everyone born of the Spirit.”

“How can this be?” Nicodemus asked.

“You are Israel’s teacher,” said Jesus, “and do you not understand these things? Very truly I tell you, we speak of what we know, and we testify to what we have seen, but still you people do not accept our testimony. I have spoken to you of earthly things and you do not believe; how then will you believe if I speak of heavenly things? No one has ever gone into heaven except the one who came from heaven—the Son of Man. Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the wilderness, so the Son of Man must be lifted up, that everyone who believes may have eternal life in him.”

For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him.

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 “How do we begin again?”

Rev. Rebecca Luter

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Please remember those on our prayer list.

RESPOND TO GOD

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY ANTHEM “Eternal Light Shine in My Heart” Englert

Eternal light, shine in my heart; eternal hope, lift up my eyes, eternal power, be my support; eternal wisdom make me wise.

Eternal life raise me from death; eternal brightness, help me see; Eternal Spirit; give me breath, Eternal Savior come to me. Until by your most costly grace, invited by your holy word, at last I come before your face to know you my eternal God. (Christopher Idle)

*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 the wilderness, we give these offerings in gratitude that you never leave us alone, even in the places we struggle. We rejoice in the abundance of your gifts to us and trust you with our needs. We give our offerings and our lives in hope, knowing you will use them to show your love in this world for the sake of Jesus the Christ. Amen.

THE INVITATION TO THE LORD’S TABLE

THE 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 to 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.

RECEIVING THE BREAD AND THE CUP

THE PRAYER OF COMMITMENT

*HYMN - No. 288 “Spirit of the Living God”

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me. Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me. Melt me; mold me; fill me; use me. Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

*BENEDICTION

*SENDING FORTH HYMN - No. 453

“Open Your Ears, O Faithful People”

Open your ears, O faithful people; open your ears and hear God’s word. Open your hearts, O royal priesthood, God has come to you.

God has spoken to the people, hallelujah! God has spoken words of wisdom, hallelujah! God has spoken to the people, hallelujah! God has spoken words of wisdom, hallelujah!

*POSTLUDE “Sometime a Light Surprises” Irish Folk Melody

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

†Throughout Lent, we are utilizing Sanctified Art’s “Seeking: honest questions for deeper faith.” Some liturgy is adapted from prayers by Rev, Sarah A. Speed | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org.

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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
Charlie Smithers, Liturgist
Doug Barr, Children’s Moment
Bonnie Blair and John Hazen, Ushers
John Hazen, Bob Plotner, Jerry Renfrow, MaryShelley Ritchey,
Charlie Smithers, Communion Servers
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. We are grateful for the visitors and friends of the Farmington family who add to our community each week.

Curious to know what church membership means? Wonder why a person would want to join or how a person joins? Our pastor, Rev. Rebecca Luter, would love to talk with you. You may reach her by email at rluter@farmingtonpres.org or by phone in the church office, 901-754-2794. She'll answer questions you may have about Farmington or Presbyterianism and walk you through meeting our leadership and making your spot in our family official. Just let us know if this feels like the right step for you, or if you are curious to learn more.

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 Merry Bonner in loving memory of her husband, Joe.

Join us for Potluck in the Fellowship Hall immediately following worship. All are encouraged to stay – the Farmington family is known for always providing a gracious plenty.

Fellowship Coffee Each Sunday members take turns hosting providing refreshments following worship. Paula Patterson is available to assist and answer any questions you may have. Sign up to host Fellowship Coffee on our website www.farmingtonpres.org Please keep it simple - something sweet and something salty.

Youth Fellowship this Sunday (March 5th). Bring your instruments or creativity, we will begin planning the Easter Sunrise service.

Lenten Wednesday Evening Dinners Come enjoy mid-week fellowship and leave renewed for the rest of the week! Dinners will be at 6pm with a brief devotion in the Sanctuary that is both in-person and live-streamed from 6:45-7pm. Dinner is Moe's Southwest Grill Taco Bar and the cost is \$8 for adults and \$4 for children (under 12) with \$25 family maximum. Choir will be at 7:15pm. Now is a great time to join the choir as we prepare for Easter!

Mission Trip to Xpujil, Mexico Our next opportunity to assist with building cisterns in the Yucatan is July 31-August 5. Let Rev. Rebecca or Jinney Hart know if you are interested in knowing more. The cost is shared between the church budget, fundraisers, and the individual (approximately \$500 per person).

Children's Sunday School will look at the story of Jesus healing two blind men from 10-10:45am in Room A6. **Youth Sunday School** will explore the story of the Samaritan Woman at the Well through artistic expression from 10-10:45am in the Youth Room.

Adult Sunday School Classes Cooper Patterson is leading a study of the book of Acts for men in the Fellowship Hall from 9:30-10:30am. Beginning February 26th, Rev. Rebecca Luter will be facilitating an opportunity to engage with the New Testament passage and our weekly Lenten themes at 10am in the East Room.

Flower Calendar Giving flowers for worship is a way to remember those we love and celebrate significant moments in our lives. You may sign up on our website under "Sign-ups."

FPDS Registration It is time to register for Summer Camp 2023 and the 2023-24 School Year at FPDS. Classes are filling up fast! The link to apply is available on our website www.farmingtonpres.org. Please share this information with families who may be interested in being part of the Farmington family at FPDS.

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."

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...we rejoice that Kirsten King was examined for ordination by the Presbytery of the Mid-South and has accepted a call to First Presbyterian Church, Kennett, Missouri.

Remember in Prayer...Our Farmington Family, Session and Staff; Cecil Baker, Jackie Baker, Bruce Bennett, Betty Boyd, Jeanne Carr, Martha Carr, Ralph Carr, Judith Cassidy, Mary Lou Collins, Skip Flannery, Bill Harrington, Martha Hart, Vanessa Howard, Gary Hutchins, Sherry Knight, Julia Lively, Dawn McKenzie, Sara Millar, Bill Novick, Susan Odom, Nancy & Dennis Palmer, Bob and Sarah Pointer, Rita Priscock, Bill Renfrow, Jack Scherer, JoAnne Simpkins, Patti Simpkins, Mary Elizabeth Simpson, Williams Stevens, Susan St. John, Kathy VanderEcken, Joan Wallace, Jim Waller, Kasi Wann, Craig Warvel, Frank Whited, Larry Williams, Faye Woods, and from our Presbytery: First Presbyterian Church, Brownsville, TN.

Sympathies...to a Forest Hill Elementary student and family in the loss of the student's father, requested by Madison Lewis and to the family and friends of Jelena Colasurdo, friend of the Oests.

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