



**FARMINGTON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
SERVICE OF DIVINE WORSHIP**

**Easter Sunday**

**April 9, 2023**

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 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 "Christ the Lord Is Risen Today!"

Wesley

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

The tomb is open and empty! No more sorrow, no more tears –

**Now is the time for dancing!**

Life has broken through the fog like the sun at its rising –

**Now is the time for rejoicing!**

Hope has unlocked the doors of our hearts –

**Now is the time for healing!**

Death is no more; love has won –

**Now is the time for proclaiming!**

Christ is risen!

**Christ is risen, indeed! Alleluia!**

\*HYMN OF PRAISE – No. 232

Verses 1, 2, & 4

“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!**

**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 of the empty tomb, unlock and enter the closed doors of our hearts and minds, hear our doubts and give us faith. When we hesitate to proclaim the truth of Easter, forgive us and give us voice. When we struggle to love another, forgive us and give us empathy. When we want to proudly stand and be recognized, forgive us and seat us next to the poor and oppressed. When we question whether you can really transform this world, forgive us and come and fill every shadowed corner of our lives with the light of your presence. When you come and find us weeping, Risen Lord, astonish us with your glory and fill us with joyful praise.**

#### 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

Romans 8:1-11

Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus, because through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit who gives life has set you free from the law of sin and death. For what the law was powerless to do because it was weakened by the flesh, God did by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh to be a sin offering. And so he condemned sin in the flesh, in order that the righteous requirement of the law might be fully met in us, who do not live according to the flesh but according to the Spirit.

Those who live according to the flesh have their minds set on what the flesh desires; but those who live in accordance with the Spirit have their minds set on what the Spirit desires. The mind governed by the flesh is death, but the mind governed by the Spirit is life and peace. The mind governed by the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law, nor can it do so. Those who are in the realm of the flesh cannot please God.

You, however, are not in the realm of the flesh but are in the realm of the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God lives in you. And if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, they do not belong to Christ. But if Christ is in you, then even though your body is subject to death because of sin, the Spirit gives life because of righteousness. And if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies because of his Spirit who lives in you.

This is the Word of the Lord!

**Thanks be to God!**

Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene went to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the entrance. So she came running to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one Jesus loved, and said, "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we don't know where they have put him!"

So Peter and the other disciple started for the tomb. Both were running, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. He bent over and looked in at the strips of linen lying there but did not go in. Then Simon Peter came along behind him and went straight into the tomb. He saw the strips of linen lying there, as well as the cloth that had been wrapped around Jesus' head. The cloth was still lying in its place, separate from the linen. Finally the other disciple, who had reached the tomb first, also went inside. He saw and believed. (They still did not understand from Scripture that Jesus had to rise from the dead.) Then the disciples went back to where they were staying.

Now Mary stood outside the tomb crying. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb and saw two angels in white, seated where Jesus' body had been, one at the head and the other at the foot.

They asked her, "Woman, why are you crying?"

"They have taken my Lord away," she said, "and I don't know where they have put him." At this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not realize that it was Jesus.

He asked her, "Woman, why are you crying? Who is it you are looking for?"

Thinking he was the gardener, she said, "Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have put him, and I will get him."

Jesus said to her, "Mary."

She turned toward him and cried out in Aramaic, "Rabboni!" (which means "Teacher").

Jesus said, "Do not hold on to me, for I have not yet ascended to the Father. Go instead to my brothers and tell them, 'I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.'"

Mary Magdalene went to the disciples with the news: "I have seen the Lord!" And she told them that he had said these things to her.

This is the Word of the Lord!

## Thanks be to God!

RESPONSE - NO. 587 "Alleluia!"

**Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

SERMON "What Is Happening?"

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

Austin Lovelace

"I Know That My Redeemer Lives"

I know that my Redeemer lives. Glory, Hallelujah! What comfort this sweet sentence gives. Glory, Hallelujah! He lives to bless you with his love. Glory, Hallelujah! He lives to plead my cause above. Glory, Hallelujah!

He lives to crush the fiends of hell. Glory, Hallelujah! He lives and doth within me dwell. Glory, Hallelujah! He lives all glory to his name. Glory, Hallelujah! He lives, my Jesus still the same. Glory, Hallelujah!

What comfort this sweet sentence gives. Glory, Hallelujah! Shout on, pray on, we're gaining ground. Glory, Hallelujah! The dead's alive and the lost is found. Glory, Hallelujah!

\*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. 246 "Christ Is Alive!" Verses 1, 4, & 5  
**Christ is alive! Let Christians sing. The cross stands empty to the sky. Let streets and homes with praises ring. Love, drowned in death, shall never die.**

**Women and men, in age and youth, can feel the Spirit, hear the call, and find the way, the life, the truth, revealed in Jesus, freed for all.**

**Christ is alive, and comes to bring good news to this and every age, till earth and sky and ocean ring with joy, with justice, love, and praise.**

\*BENEDICTION

\*SENDING FORTH HYMN - No. 248 Verse 1  
"Christ Is Risen! Shout Hosanna!"

**Christ is risen! Shout Hosanna! Celebrate this day of days!  
Christ is risen! Hush in wonder: all creation is amazed. In the desert all surrounding, see, a spreading tree has grown. Healing leaves of grace abounding bring a taste of love unknown.**

\*POSTLUDE "Fanfare" Lemmens

\*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  
Mike Schneider, Liturgist  
Doug Barr, Children's Moment  
Elizabeth Demaree 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. 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](mailto: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](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

### Easter Schedule

#### **Easter Sunrise Service @7am**

Youth-led in the Outdoor Chapel

#### **Easter Morning Worship @11am**

In person and live-streamed from the Sanctuary

**No Sunday School or Fellowship Coffee Easter morning!** Join us for Sunrise Service led by the Youth at 7am, breakfast at Perkins, and Easter Morning Worship at 11am.

**Sunday School** on April 16<sup>th</sup> for children (A6) and youth (Youth Room) is at 10am with Men's Adult Sunday School class at 9:30 am in Fellowship Hall studying the book of Acts and the Pastor's Adult Sunday School class in the East Room at 10am studying Philipians.

**Gifts of Women Sunday** Next Sunday, April 16<sup>th</sup>, the Presbyterian Women will be leading worship with Ann Erickson preaching on God's call in the life of Mary, the mother of Jesus. We will be receiving the PW's Birthday Offering. The two recipients of the offering this year are Making Miracles Group Home for young mothers who have

experienced abuse, addiction, and incarceration in Tallahassee, FL, and Berhane Yesus Elementary School in Ethiopia to build a Kindergarten.

**Eastertide Sermon Series** Paul wrote a letter to the church at Philippi about hope in the midst of suffering and life worthy of the gospel of Christ Jesus. Join us April 23<sup>rd</sup>-May 28<sup>th</sup> as we engage in worship attending to the themes of this letter.

**Annual PW Spring Gathering** will be held at Idlewild Presbyterian Church on Saturday, April 22<sup>nd</sup>. The event begins at 9am with fellowship, pastries, program, and a lunch to follow. Contact Melissa Still to register or with any questions.

**2023 Nominating Committee** As we prayerfully seek those whom God has called to serve Farmington Presbyterian as Ruling Elders on Session, we ask you to assist by praying and nominating either yourself or someone else you believe is equipped with gifts to serve. You may either fill out the nominations sheet located in the Narthex Information Rack or by emailing your name and nomination to [church@farmingtonpres.org](mailto:church@farmingtonpres.org).

**Senior Recognition Sunday** If you have a senior in your family, or are graduating this year from high school, college, or graduate school, please let us know! We want to recognize you on May 21<sup>st</sup> in worship. You can email us at [church@farmingtonpres.org](mailto:church@farmingtonpres.org). Congratulations!

**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).

**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](http://www.farmingtonpres.org) Please keep it simple - something sweet and something salty.

**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."

**Bulletin Mailing List** While we were all worshipping online, 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 or if you are worshipping online and would like to be added to 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 “@farmfam” 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 held an Easter Bake Sale and raised \$943 to support missions.

**Remember in Prayer...**Our Farmington Family, Session and Staff; Covenant Presbyterian Church in Nashville, Jackie Baker, Betty Boyd, Jeanne Carr, Martha Carr, Ralph Carr, Judith Cassidy, Mary Lou Collins, Skip Flannery, Charlotte Franklin, Bill Harrington, Martha Hart, Vanessa Howard, Gary Hutchins, Bill Knight, Tim Lewis, Julia Lively, Dawn McKenzie, Sara Millar, 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, Ellen Thearp, Margaret Ueleke, Kathy VanderEcken, Joan Wallace, Jim Waller, Kasi Wann, Craig Warvel, Frank Whited, Larry Williams, Faye Woods, and from our Presbytery: Farmington Presbyterian Church, Germantown, TN.

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