



**FARMINGTON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
**SERVICE OF DIVINE WORSHIP**  
**Ninth Sunday after Pentecost**  
**July 30, 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

O Lord our God, you are always more ready to bestow your good gifts upon us than we are to seek them. You are more willing to give than we desire or deserve. Help us so to seek that we may truly find, so to ask that we may joyfully receive, so to knock that the door of your mercy may be opened for us; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

WELCOME

PRELUDE "Aria"

Raymond Haan

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

O give thanks to the LORD, call on His name,  
**Make known His deeds among the peoples.**

Sing to Him, sing praises to Him;

**Tell of all His wonderful works.**

Glory in His holy name;

**Let the hearts of those who seek the LORD rejoice.**

Remember the wonderful works He has done,

**His miracles, and the judgments He has uttered.**

He is the LORD our God;

**Come, let us worship the Lord!**

\*HYMN OF PRAISE – No. 833 "O Love That Wilt Not Let Me Go"

O Love that wilt not let me go, I rest my weary soul in thee; I give thee back the life I owe, that in thine ocean depths its flow may richer, fuller be.

O Light that followest all my way, I yield my flickering torch to thee; my heart restores its borrowed ray, that in thy sunshine's blaze its day may brighter, fairer be.

O Joy that seekest me through pain, it cannot close my heart to thee; I trace the rainbow through the rain, and feel the promise is not vain that morn shall tearless be.

O Cross that liftest up my head, I dare not ask to fly from thee; I lay in dust life's glory dead, and from the ground there blossoms red life that shall endless be.

*(Please be seated.)*

#### CALL TO RECONCILIATION

#### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**We do not know how to pray, Sovereign God. We have doubted you in the face of affliction and ignored you when things go well for us. You promised to help us in our weakness, yet we live as if we can rely only on ourselves. We have not pursued your kingdom as the only treasure worth claiming. We have feared to trust your assurance and guidance or to lead the search for your saving purposes. We ask your forgiveness and seek the renewal of our covenant with you and with one another.**

#### 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

Elizabeth Demaree

*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

Matthew 13:31-32

Jesus put before them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches."

This is the Word of the Lord!

**Thanks be to God!**

SECOND READING

Romans 8:26-39

Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God. We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn within a large family. And those whom he predestined he also called; and those whom he called he also justified; and those whom he justified he also glorified. What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else? Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? As it is written, 'For your sake we are being killed all day long; we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered.' No, in all these

things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

This is the Word of the Lord!

**Thanks be to God!**

RESPONSE NO. 587 “Alleluia!”

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

SERMON “Nothing Can Separate Us From God’s Love” Tom Sauer

## RESPOND TO GOD

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.**

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY ANTHEM “Praise Him!”

Craig Courtney

Rebecca Hutchins and Caitlin Gillespie

\*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

**We give our offering hopefully, hoping that you can use these gifts, hoping that these gifts can further your kingdom, hoping that your kingdom will come. Your kingdom, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Amen.**

\*HYMN - No. 703 “Jesus, Thou Boundless Love to Me”

**Jesus, thy boundless love to me no thought can reach, no tongue declare; O knit my thankful heart to thee, and reign**

without a rival there! Thine wholly, thine alone, I'd live;  
myself to thee entirely give.

O grant that nothing in my soul may dwell, but thy pure love  
alone; O may thy love possess me whole, my joy, my treasure,  
and my crown! All coldness from my heart remove; may every  
act, word, thought be love.

O Love, how gracious is thy way! All fear before thy presence  
flies; care, anguish, sorrow melt away where-e'er thy healing  
beams arise. O Jesus, nothing may I see, nothing desire, or  
seek, but thee.

\*CHARGE AND BLESSING

\*SENDING FORTH HYMN - No. 80 "You Shall Go Out with Joy"

**You shall go out with joy and be led forth with peace; the  
mountains and the hills will break forth before you; there'll be  
shouts of joy, and all the trees of the field will clap, will clap  
their hands. And all the trees of the field will clap their hands;  
the trees of the field will clap their hands; the trees of the field  
will clap their hands while you go out with joy.**

\*POSTLUDE Prelude in F Major

J.S. Bach

\*Stand as able.

**Bold Type** – congregation in unison

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**Participating in the service today:**

Rev. Rebecca Luter, Pastor

Tom Sauer, CRE

Doug Barr, Director of Christian Education

Jim Thrash, Director of Music

Tom Bryant, Accompanist

Rev. Ruth Lovell Bradham, Liturgist

Elizabeth Demaree, Children's Moment

Scott Hutchins and Melissa Still, Ushers

Hadley Barr, Acolyte

Chancel Choir

Rebecca Hutchins and Caitlin Gillespie, soprano



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.

**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)

**How do I join the church?** Members are received by Profession of Faith, Reaffirmation of Faith, and Transfer of Membership from another congregation. If you are interested in joining, please email [church@farmingtonpres.org](mailto:church@farmingtonpres.org). We look forward to officially welcoming you into the Farmington Presbyterian Church family!

**Prayer Concerns and Pastoral Care** You are encouraged to complete a Prayer Concern card in the pew rack to add someone to the church's prayer list. Copies of the complete list are available in the folder under the Prayer Board in the office. While Rev. Luter is on Sabbatical, Tom Sauer will be serving Farmington Presbyterian as a Commissioned Ruling Elder. He is available to visit and provide pastoral care. You may contact him at (901)651-7133 or [GermantownTom@gmail.com](mailto:GermantownTom@gmail.com).

## Happenings AT FARMINGTON PRESBYTERIAN

**Flowers** this morning are given to the glory of God by Iris Lawing in memory of her husband, Bill.

**Summer Break:** Adult Sunday School Classes, Children's Sunday School Classes, Youth Sunday School Classes, Fellowship Coffee, and Sunday Afternoon Youth Fellowship.

**Kickoff to Fall!** Next Sunday, August 6<sup>th</sup>, we will have a Blessing of the Backpacks during worship and our Fall Kickoff Weekend is August 12-13! We will have a pool party on the 12<sup>th</sup> and return to Sunday School on the 13<sup>th</sup>.

**Churchwide Pool Party** Celebrate the end of the first week of school on August 12<sup>th</sup> from 4pm-8pm at Brandon & Shelley Wann's home (2550 Delmead Cove, Germantown). We will be grilling burgers and hotdogs and serving tea & lemonade. Bring a towel, lawn chair, and a side dish or dessert.

**Youth Fellowship** will meet on Sunday, August 13<sup>th</sup> from 2-4pm.

**Food Pantry Collection** Farmington is collecting food pantry items for the Oakland Presbyterian Church Food Pantry. Canned meats, vegetables, pasta sauce, peanut butter, etc. can be dropped off in the basket by the West entrance of the church.

**Fellowship Coffee** will begin on Sunday, August 13<sup>th</sup>. Sign up to host Fellowship Coffee on our website to provide refreshments following worship, [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 worshiping 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 worshiping 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.

**Rev. Rebecca Luter** Our pastor is on Sabbatical for the summer months. She will return September 5<sup>th</sup>, 2023. We pray for rest and renewal as she spends time with family and continues her doctoral work. If you are in need of a pastor during this time, please contact Tom Sauer, who has been commissioned to serve Farmington Presbyterian while Rev. Luter is on leave. You may contact him at (901)651-7133 or [GermantownTom@gmail.com](mailto:GermantownTom@gmail.com).

**This week at Farmington...**FPDS Summer Camp celebrated their last week before the school year begins with the theme “Made in Memphis”. The kids enjoyed MemPops truck, Gibson Donuts, a trip to the Trampoline park and a tour of Sun Studios. We are thankful for all the staff that helped this summer.

**Remember in Prayer...**Our Farmington Family, Session and Staff; Jackie Baker, David Blakemore, Betty Boyd, Cathy Burch, Rev. Margaret Burnett, Kitty Cannon, Jeanne Carr, Martha Carr, Ralph Carr, Judith Cassidy, Mary Lou Collins, Skip Flannery, Charlotte Franklin, Robert Hall, Bill Harrington, Martha Hart, Vanessa Howard, Gary Hutchins, Steve Johnson, Anthony Jones, Bill Knight, Jim Mabile, Dawn McKenzie, Faye McKenzie, Sara Millar, Susan Odom, Nancy & Dennis Palmer, Larry Pickler, Bob and Sarah Pointer, Bill Renfrow, Jack Scherer, JoAnne Simpkins, Patti Simpkins, Williams Stevens, Susan St. John, Margaret Ueleke, Kathy VanderEcken, Jim Waller, Kasi Wann, Frank Whited, Faye Woods, and from our Presbytery: Liberation Community Church, Memphis.

**Sympathy...**to the family and friends of Barbara Taylor, member of Farmington Presbyterian Church.

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