



**FARMINGTON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
**SERVICE OF DIVINE WORSHIP**  
**Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost**  
**August 27, 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

Bless us, O God, with a reverent sense of your presence, that we may be at peace and may worship you with all our mind and spirit; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

WELCOME

PRELUDE "Sonata in E-flat Major: Adagio"

Mozart

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

God is our strength and salvation –  
**Therefore, we will sing with great joy!**  
He lifts us when we are down,  
**He restores us when we are tired.**  
He creates all things new!  
**This is the day the LORD has made.**  
Let us rejoice and be glad in it.  
**Come, let us worship the LORD.**

\*HYMN OF PRAISE – No. 310 "I Love Thy Kingdom, Lord"

**I love thy kingdom, Lord, the house of thine abode, the church our blest Redeemer saved with his own precious blood.**

**I love thy church, O God. Her walls before thee stand, dear as the apple of thine eye, and graven on thy hand.**

**For her my tears shall fall; for her my prayers ascend; to her my cares and toils be given, till toils and cares shall end.**

**Beyond my highest joy I prize her heavenly ways: her sweet communion, solemn vows, her hymns of love and praise.**

**Sure as thy truth shall last, to Zion shall be given the brightest glories earth can yield, and brighter bliss of heaven.**

*(Please be seated.)*

#### CALL TO RECONCILIATION

#### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Holy and merciful God, Creator of all that is and all that is to come, hear the confessions of our hearts today. Forgive us, O Lord, for allowing ourselves to be distracted by the ways of the world. We would rather pursue intellectual arguments than live the gospel. We would rather debate our equals than defend the vulnerable. We prefer to think about You instead of spending time with You. We need your help, Father God. Help us to do your will and heed your call. Help us to open our hearts, wide in love and grace, and so be living examples of your Good News, for the honor and sake of Christ our Savior.**

#### 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.**

*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 12:1-8

Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship. Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will. For by the grace given me I say to every one of you: Do not think of yourself more highly than you ought, but rather think of yourself with sober judgment, in accordance with the faith God has distributed to each of you. For just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, so in Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others. We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us. If your gift is prophesying, then prophesy in accordance with your faith; if it is serving, then serve; if it is teaching, then teach; if it is to encourage, then give encouragement; if it is giving, then give generously; if it is to lead, do it diligently; if it is to show mercy, do it cheerfully.

This is the Word of the Lord!

**Thanks be to God!**

#### SECOND READING

Matthew 16:13-20

When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say the Son of Man is?" They replied, "Some say John the Baptist; others say Elijah; and still others, Jeremiah or one of the prophets." "But what about you?" he asked. "Who do you say I am?" Simon Peter answered, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God." Jesus replied, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah, for this was not revealed to you by flesh and blood, but by my Father in heaven. And I tell you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven; whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven,

and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.” Then he ordered his disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

This is the Word of the Lord!

**Thanks be to God!**

RESPONSE NO. 587 “Alleluia!”

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

SERMON “Answering the Question”

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 “Come, Sing Unto the Lord”

Martin

Come sing unto the Lord, let the earth respond, his awesome deeds proclaim. Declare his works to everyone and praise his holy name. All oceans, hills, and trees reply: “Let his praise be lifted high. Let the valleys now be raised and every mountain shout his awesome praise.” Come, sing unto the Lord, let the song go forth, all nations join as one. Ascribe to God, the Lord of hosts, the wonders he has done. Come, sing unto the Lord a song of joy, his love for endless days, and celebrate the one true God who’s worthy of our praise.

\*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 offer our gifts to you, Lord, with grateful, cheerful hearts. Thank you that you meet our needs on the journey, providing what we need when we need it. Trusting you, we can share**

what we have with others, and we do this joyfully, together,  
today, in Jesus` name, Amen.

\*HYMN - No. 716

Verses 1 and 3

“God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending”

**God, whose giving knows no ending, from your rich and endless store, nature’s wonder, Jesus’ wisdom, costly cross, grave’s shattered door: gifted by you, we turn to you, offering up ourselves in praise; thankful song shall rise forever, gracious donor of our days.**

**Treasure, too, you have entrusted, gain through powers your grace conferred: ours to use for home and kindred, and to spread the gospel word. Open wide our hands in sharing, as we heed Christ’s ageless call, healing, teaching, and reclaiming, serving you by loving all.**

\*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 “Gavotte”

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

Laurinda Ingram, Liturgist

Jinney Hart, Children’s Moment

Leslie McNamara and Nadine Oest, Ushers

Gavin Perkins, 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. 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 Stephanie & Tom Nagel in celebration of their 45th wedding anniversary.

**Fellowship Coffee** immediately following worship today, August 27<sup>th</sup> is hosted by Paula Patterson. 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.

**Youth Fellowship** today, August 27<sup>th</sup>, is invited to join the team traveling down to First Presbyterian Soup Kitchen at 1pm. Join us on the bus. We will be leaving at 12:30pm.

**First Presbyterian Soup Kitchen** today, August 27<sup>th</sup>, we will be assembling bologna & cheese sandwiches at 10am at church. You can carpool by meeting at Farmington at 12:30pm or arrive at First Presbyterian at 1pm. We are usually finished by 3pm. You may be

serving soup, filling tea glasses, or handing out sugar packets, but the most important thing that you will do is share the love of Christ with your hospitality.

**MOPS** Mothers of Preschoolers, is a new program at Farmington Presbyterian intended to give much needed support to mothers of students at our day school. MOPS will be offered in the evenings so working moms can gather for fun, support, and fellowship throughout the school year. Jenn Paine will lead a gathering this Thursday, August 31<sup>st</sup> from 7-8pm in the Fellowship Hall.

**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.

**Children's Sunday School** continues with the story of Joseph and His Brothers. 10-10:45am in classroom A6.

**Youth Sunday School** will continue a walk through the Bible, placing ourselves IN the stories to see what God is revealing and then expressing new insight through art. 10-10:45am in the Youth Room.

**Adult Sunday School Classes** Cooper Patterson will be leading a study of the book of Romans for men in the Fellowship Hall from 9:30-10:30am. Rev. Rebecca Luter's class will return in September.

**No Youth Fellowship** next Sunday. Happy Labor Day Weekend

**PW Potluck Salad Dinner** All ladies are invited to a potluck dinner at Ann Erickson's house on Wednesday, September 6<sup>th</sup> at 6pm. Bring a salad of your choice. Please RSVP to Ann at [annerickson1@bellsouth.net](mailto:annerickson1@bellsouth.net) or 496-4446.

**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.

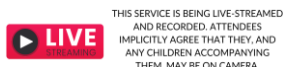
**Communications from the Church** If you do not get the Happenings email each week and would like to, please email and let us know. We also send text reminders about upcoming Farmington events. You can get those by texting "@farmfam" to "81010."

**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.

**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.

**This week at Farmington...**Our property got a bit of a facelift this week. Gutters were repaired and cleared, the front flower bed was raked and bagged, and all the curbs were pressure washed. Thanks to Bob Plotner and the Property & Grounds Committee for all they do to brighten up the place.

**Remember in Prayer...**Our Farmington Family, Session and Staff; Cole Andrews, 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, 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: Kerrville Presbyterian Church, Millington, TN.



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