



**FARMINGTON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
SERVICE OF DIVINE WORSHIP**

**Fifth Sunday after Epiphany  
February 4, 2024**

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

Creator Spirit, who broods over the chaos of this watery world and calls forth life, wash over us and reorder our lives. Remind us in the times of wilderness wandering, in the times that we are tired of your daily provisions and grumble, that we are created for relationship and not for ourselves. Remind us that you are our God, and we are to have no priorities ahead of you. Receive our praise, Lord God, for rainbows, blessings, and covenants and for the hope, blessing, and love they inspire. Amen.

WELCOME

PRELUDE "Arabesque No. 1"

Debussy

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

We come this morning to hear the stories of other people in another world long ago.

**Our covenant-making God met the Israelites at Mt. Sinai and gave them instructions for living in right relationship with God and neighbor as the people of God.**

We come this morning to listen for God to speak to us through God's Word.

**Our covenant-making God has not abandoned God's promises. God calls us out of the wilderness places in our lives and leads us to covenantal community.**

Let us pray:

**We devote ourselves to you, Lord God, by claiming the covenant—the promise you made to humanity so long ago: because you are our God, we will be your people. Enlarge our**

faithfulness, our trust, our commitment and our love so that your vision for community might be fulfilled in us. Help us always to recognize your presence and your blessings throughout our journey. Amen.

\*HYMN OF PRAISE – No. 53 “O God, Who Gives Us Life”

**O God, who gives us life and breath, who shapes us in the womb, who guards our lives from birth to death, then leads us from the tomb: deliver us from fears that kill the life we have from you. Help us to know your Spirit still is making all things new.**

**O God, who calls your people out to venture and to dare, to plumb the bleak abyss of doubt and find you even there: when we despair in wandering through wastes of empty lies, refresh us with the living spring of hope that never dies.**

**O God of covenant and law, revealed in cloud and flame, your mighty deeds evoke our awe; we dare not speak your name. Yet we by faith are drawn to you and will your people prove, as on our hearts you write anew the covenant of love.**

*(Please be seated.)*

CALL TO RECONCILIATION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Almighty God, we confess that we have taken your commandments and turned them into rules. We have failed to understand the spirit of the commandments, loving God and loving our neighbors. We have criticized those who have fallen short and selfishly and pridefully proclaimed ourselves righteous. Forgive us for turning your law into burdens for others and ourselves, instead of a guide for loving community that lives on earth according to your will. In the name of Christ, who has shown us the Way and leads us on, we pray.

*(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

Rachel Barr

### **PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD**

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING

Exodus 3:1-15

Now Moses was tending the flock of Jethro his father-in-law, the priest of Midian, and he led the flock to the far side of the wilderness and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. There the angel of the LORD appeared to him in flames of fire from within a bush. Moses saw that though the bush was on fire it did not burn up. So Moses thought, I will go over and see this strange sight—why the bush does not burn up. When the LORD saw that he had gone over to look, God called to him from within the bush, Moses! Moses! And Moses said, Here I am. Do not come any closer, God said. Take off your sandals, for the place where you are standing is holy ground. Then he said, I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob. At this, Moses hid his face, because he was afraid to look at God. The LORD said, I have indeed seen the misery of my people in Egypt. I have heard them crying out because of their slave drivers, and I am concerned about their suffering. So I have come down to rescue them from the hand of the Egyptians and to bring them up out of that land into a good and spacious land, a land flowing with milk and honey—the home of the Canaanites, Hittites, Amorites, Perizzites, Hivites and Jebusites. And now the cry of the Israelites

has reached me, and I have seen the way the Egyptians are oppressing them. So now, go. I am sending you to Pharaoh to bring my people the Israelites out of Egypt. But Moses said to God, Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh and bring the Israelites out of Egypt? And God said, I will be with you. And this will be the sign to you that it is I who have sent you: When you have brought the people out of Egypt, you will worship God on this mountain. Moses said to God, Suppose I go to the Israelites and say to them, The God of your fathers has sent me to you, and they ask me, What is his name? Then what shall I tell them? God said to Moses, I AM WHO I AM. This is what you are to say to the Israelites: I AM has sent me to you. God also said to Moses, Say to the Israelites, The LORD, the God of your fathers—the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob—has sent me to you. This is my name forever, the name you shall call me from generation to generation.

This is the Word of the Lord!

**Thanks be to God!**

SECOND READING

Exodus 19:2-6

After they set out from Rephidim, they entered the Desert of Sinai, and Israel camped there in the desert in front of the mountain. Then Moses went up to God, and the LORD called to him from the mountain and said, This is what you are to say to the descendants of Jacob and what you are to tell the people of Israel: You yourselves have seen what I did to Egypt, and how I carried you on eagles' wings and brought you to myself. Now if you obey me fully and keep my covenant, then out of all nations you will be my treasured possession. Although the whole earth is mine, you will be for me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation. These are the words you are to speak to the Israelites.

This is the Word of the Lord!

**Thanks be to God!**

RESPONSE NO. 587 "Alleluia!"

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

SERMON "What is God's Kingdom?"

Rev. Rebecca Luter

**RESPOND TO GOD**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

*Please remember those on our prayer list.*

## 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.

\*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

**Covenant-making God, we are humbled as we try to do what is right and to walk in your ways. We believe that in Jesus Christ you show us that your vision is for justice to prevail and compassion to motivate so that earth is made new. Receive our offerings and our lives, and use them to create bridges to your Kingdom until all creation dwells with you in completeness. 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. 692 “Spirit, Open My Heart”

*Spirit, open my heart to the joy and pain of living. As you love may I love, in receiving and in giving. Spirit, open my heart.*

God, replace my stony heart with a heart that’s kind and tender. All my coldness and fear to your grace I now surrender. *Refrain*

Write your love upon my heart as my law, my goal, my story. In each thought, word, and deed, may my living bring you glory. *Refrain*

May I weep with those who weep; share the joy of sister, brother. In the welcome of Christ, may we welcome one another. *Refrain.*

\*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.**

\*POSTLUDE “Voluntary in D Major”

Selby

\*Stand as able.

**Bold Type** – congregation in unison

Reprinted with permission under One License #731533-A and CCLI #1162543-A. All rights reserved.

### **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  
Rachel Barr, Children’s Moment  
Billy Wann and Kasi Wann, Ushers  
Doug Barr, John Hazen, Laurinda Ingram,  
Bob Plotner, Mike Schneider, Communion Servers  
Delilah Davis, 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.

**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 let Rev. Rebecca know or 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. You may reach Rev. Rebecca Luter at (901)674-8000 or [rluter@farmingtonpres.org](mailto:rluter@farmingtonpres.org).

## Happenings AT FARMINGTON PRESBYTERIAN

### This Sunday

**Flowers** this morning are given to the glory of God by Melanie Oest in celebration of Meredith's 18th birthday.

**Potluck Lunch** today, Sunday, February 4<sup>th</sup>, following worship. Please join us for a time of fellowship. There is always a gracious plenty.

**Youth Fellowship** will meet on today, Sunday, February 4<sup>th</sup> from 2-4pm at the church for a quick run for ice cream and games!

### This Week

**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 February 8<sup>th</sup> from 6-8pm in the Fellowship Hall.

### Next Sunday

**Children's Sunday School** will study the healing of the centurion's servant. 10-10:45am in classroom A6.

**Youth Sunday School** will continue our walk through the Hebrews Scriptures, imagining ourselves in the stories to see what God is revealing. 10-10:45am in the Youth Room.

**"Super Bowl" Sunday Fundraiser** Sunday, February 11<sup>th</sup>. Purchase your chili and dessert for the Super Bowl game and support the Soup Kitchen.

Preorders only by February 7<sup>th</sup> by signing up on our website. Pick up your order after church on Sunday, February 11<sup>th</sup>. A quart of chili and dessert for two is \$20.

**No Youth Fellowship** Sunday, February 11<sup>th</sup> due to the Super Bowl. Make plans to order some chili to pickup at the “Souper Bowl” Chili fundraiser that day. Preorders only by this Wednesday, February 7<sup>th</sup>.

### **Announcements**

**Ash Wednesday Service** We will hold an evening service in the Sanctuary and on livestream with imposition of ashes on Wednesday, February 14<sup>th</sup>, at 6:45pm. Prior to the service, we will have a dinner available in the Fellowship Hall beginning at 6pm. Dinner is \$10 for adults and \$5 for children (under 12) with \$30 family maximum. If you would like to receive ashes at home with a porch visit from Rev. Rebecca on Ash Wednesday, please email [church@farmingtonpres.org](mailto:church@farmingtonpres.org).

**Room in the Inn** Farmington Presbyterian will be hosting Saturday, February 17<sup>th</sup> at The Cottage at Germantown United Methodist Church. We still 2 laundry angels, and 5 more evening hosts to host our guests. The time frame is 5:00 - 9:30pm. You will prepare the beds, warm and serve the dinner, monitor showers and laundry, and fellowship with our guests. We also need 1 more person to spend the night at GUMC with our guests. The time frame is 9:00 pm - 7:00 am. Lights out is 10pm. You will also prepare coffee in the morning, put out a to-go breakfast for our guests, and clean up in the morning. We prefer one male and one female for this position.

**Farewell Reception for Doug Barr** Join us after worship on February 18<sup>th</sup> in the Fellowship Hall to give thanks for Doug’s ministry with Farmington and wish him well as he serves God at 2<sup>nd</sup> Presbyterian Church, Little Rock.

**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** Please consider signing up to host Fellowship Coffee on our website to provide refreshments following worship, [www.farmingtonpres.org](http://www.farmingtonpres.org) Simply-something sweet and something salty.

**2024 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...** We received a thank you note from Pinecrest Camp and Retreat Center. “Thank you for making it possible for people to retreat and listen more intently for God. You might remember that just last year, a donor gave us funds to build an outdoor education classroom, and guess what! We’ve broken ground! If this weather ever clears up, you’ll soon see one of our existing buildings renovated into a more useful and attractive space. We can’t wait! You helped bring over 500 summer campers (with 40+ staff and volunteers), 27 schools, and even more churches and civic groups to our piney woods. They and other individuals spent time hiking the trails, eating s’mores, and connecting with each other, themselves, and their Creator. You get a gold star....and all of our thanks!”

**Remember in Prayer...**Our Farmington Family, Session and Staff; Jackie Baker, Barbara Beard, Kevin Beard, Bonnie Blair, Betty Boyd, Rev. Margaret Burnett, Kitty Cannon, Jeanne Carr, Ralph Carr, Judith Cassidy, Mary Lou Collins, Skip Flannery, Bill Harrington, Martha Hart, Vanessa Howard, Gary Hutchins, Bill Jones, Gene King, Bill Knight, Logan Knight, Iris Lawing, Dawn McKenzie, Faye McKenzie, Sara Millar, Kathryn Moots Newhouse, Susan Odom, Nancy & Dennis Palmer, Sarah Pointer, Bill Renfrow, Jack Scherer, JoAnne Simpkins, Williams Stevens, Kathy VanderEcken, Jim Waller, Kasi Wann, Frank Whited, Faye Woods, and from our Presbytery: Day of Prayer for Healing & Wholeness, Remember our chaplains.

**FARMINGTON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

8245 Farmington Blvd.

Germantown, TN 38139

901-754-2794 [www.farmingtonpres.org](http://www.farmingtonpres.org)