



**FARMINGTON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
SERVICE OF DIVINE WORSHIP**

**Third Sunday in Lent
March 3, 2024**

Worship Online at 11:00am Sunday Mornings

www.farmingtonpres.org

Click "Worship Together"

ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

God, Source of Life, we listen this morning for the sound of your glory: in the songs of creation, in quiet conversations, easy laughter among friends, the warmth of the sun's rays, or in comfortable silence. Give us ears to hear your glory in its many forms. Give us eyes to see your glory in its many guises. Let us, too, proclaim your glory, your grace, and your love so that we may be part of the chorus of praise that stretches to the ends of the earth. In Christ's name, Amen.

WELCOME

PRELUDE "Allegretto in A-flat Major"

Schubert

*CALL TO WORSHIP

inspired by Psalm 19

If you ask the sky who God is,

The sky will tell you of God's reach.

If you ask the day who God is,

The sun will tell you of God's warmth.

If you ask the night who God is,

The moon will tell you of God's comfort.

"The heavens are telling the glory of God," sings the Psalmist. Are you listening?

We are listening!

Let us join in the song of all creation,

Singing the glory of God's kingdom.

*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 God, some days we are quick to declare your goodness. Like Peter, we see you in our midst and we are confident in our faith. Other days, we are distracted and uncertain. Forgive our wandering hearts.

Holy God, some days we are quick to trust your blessings. Like Peter, we hear your call and trust that we can make a difference. Other days, doubt creeps in and our witness falls silent. Forgive our wandering hearts.

Holy God, we know that fear and doubt are part of the journey of faith. For the times our hearts wander far from you, we ask your tender grace. Lead us back to you. Raze to ruins what is distorted in us, and raise us to new life as a community so that we may be the body of Christ in and for the world.

(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

We believe in God, maker of all that is, who meets us on mountaintops and walks with us through valleys. God never stops seeking us.

We believe in Jesus, the Christ, who sees us for who we are and calls us to be like him, and who heals the wounds and forgives the wandering of our hearts. His death and resurrection reveal to us the depth of God's love.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, who calls us to follow Christ's way of self-giving love and knits us together as the church, the Body of Christ in the world.

In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit, we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks and to live holy and joyful lives, even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth, praying, "Come, Lord Jesus!"

THROUGH CHILDREN'S EYES

Paula Gale

*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

Psalm 19

The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands. Day after day they pour forth speech; night after night they reveal knowledge. They have no speech, they use no words; no sound is heard from them. Yet their voice goes out into all the earth, their words to the ends of the world. In the heavens God has pitched a tent for the sun. It is like a bridegroom coming out of his chamber, like champion rejoicing to run his course. It rises at one end of the heavens and makes its circuit to the other; nothing is deprived of its warmth. The law of the LORD is perfect, refreshing the soul. The statutes of the LORD are trustworthy, making wise the simple. The precepts of the LORD are right, giving joy to the heart. The commands of the LORD are radiant, giving light to the eyes. The fear of the LORD is pure, enduring forever. The decrees of the LORD are firm, and all of them are righteous. They are more precious than gold, than much pure gold; they are sweeter than honey, than honey from the honeycomb. By them your servant is warned; in keeping them there is great reward.

But who can discern their own errors? Forgive my hidden faults. Keep your servant also from willful sins; may they not rule over me. Then I will be blameless, innocent of great transgression. May these words of my mouth and this meditation of my heart be pleasing in your sight, LORD, my Rock and my Redeemer.

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. 475

Verse 3

O to grace how great a debtor daily I'm constrained to be! Let that grace now, like a fetter, bind my wandering heart to thee.

SERMON

“In the name of...”

Rev. Rebecca Luter

RESPOND TO GOD

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Please remember those on our prayer list.

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Howard Helvey

“More Love to Thee, O Christ”

More love to thee, O Christ, More love to thee! Hear thou the prayer I make on bended knee. This is my earnest plea: more love, O Christ, to thee. Once earthly joy I craved, sought peace and rest. Now thee alone I seek, give what is best. This all my prayer shall

be: more love, O Christ, to thee. Then shall my every breath sing out thy praise; this be the only song my heart shall raise; this still my prayer shall be: more love, O Christ to thee.

*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

In gratitude, O God, we come into your house, to your table, into your presence. For all that you have done for us, most especially for the gift of your Son, we offer our thanks and praise. We long to live faithfully, doing what is pleasing to you and bearing your light in the world, in the name 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. 669 "Let's Sing unto the Lord"

Let's sing unto the Lord a hymn of glad rejoicing. Let's sing a hymn of love, at the new day's fresh beginning. God made the sky above, the stars, the sun, the oceans; and God saw it was good, for those works were filled with beauty. *Alleluia! Alleluia! Let's sing unto the Lord. Alleluia!*

Let's sing unto the Lord a hymn of adoration, which shows our love and faith and the hope of all creation. Through all that has been made, the Lord is praised for greatness, and so we sing to God, who bestows such lovely blessings. *Alleluia! Alleluia! Let's sing unto the Lord. Alleluia!*

*CHARGE AND BLESSING

*SENDING FORTH HYMN - No. 543

Verse 1

“God, Be the Love to Search and Keep Me”

God, be the love to search and keep me; God, be the prayer to move my voice; God, be the strength to now uphold me; O Christ, surround me; O Christ, surround me.

*POSTLUDE “Psalm 19”

Marcello

*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

Susan Bryant, Liturgist

Paula Gale, Children's Moment

Roland Mittag and Charlie Smithers, Ushers

Bonnie Blair, Susan Bryant, Liv Palmer,

Sandy Wann, Shelley Wann, Communion Servers

Abigail Palmer, 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

Need to give us information? Want to ask a question? Looking for assistance with signing up? Email us at: 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. 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.

Happenings AT FARMINGTON PRESBYTERIAN

This Sunday

Potluck Lunch today, Sunday, March 3rd, following worship. Please bring a dish to share. Please join us for a time of fellowship. There is always a gracious plenty.

This Week

Lenten Wednesday Dinner & Devotional March 6th. Dinner will be at 6pm with a brief in-person devotion in the Sanctuary from 6:45-7pm. Dinner is \$10 for adults and \$5 for children (under 12) with \$30 family maximum. Pasta Jambalaya will be served. Email the church@farmingtonpres.org to make reservations by Monday, March 4th.

Volunteers Needed! There is a sign-up at www.farmingtonpres.org for men and women to help set up and clean up from Wednesday Night Dinners. Many hands make light work – if you are coming to the dinners, please take a look and see when you can help.

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, March 8th from 6-8pm in the Fellowship Hall. The theme is St. Patty's Day. Free childcare is now being provided.

Next Sunday

Children's Sunday School follows the story of Jesus through the Sparkhouse curriculum. 10-10:45am in classroom A6.

Youth Sunday School will join Rev. Rebecca's class in the East Room during the season of Lent for a reflection on the texts used in Worship. 10-10:45am in the Youth Room.

Announcements

Nominating Committee Our session is tasked with providing for the worship and nurture of the congregation. Elders serve on the session in 3 year terms. The nominating committee requests your nominations for consideration to serve in the Class of 2027. You may request a nomination form from an usher or find one in the March newsletter. You may also email your nominations to Rev. Rebecca Luter (rluter@farmingtonpres.org). Nominations must be received by March 18th to be considered.

Easter Lilies Please consider ordering an Easter Lily to honor or remember a loved one this Easter Sunday. The lilies are \$17.50 for each honoree. Please make check payable to Farmington Presbyterian church. You can place an order by emailing church@farmingtonpres.org.

Room in the Inn Farmington Presbyterian will be hosting the last RITI for the season on Saturday, March 16th at The Cottage at Germantown United Methodist Church. We still need 4 more evening hosts to host our guests. And 2 overnight 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.

Presbyterian Women's Spring Bake Sale is March 27th from 10am -6pm. Please make plans to stock up for Easter. Most items will be packaged at \$1 each. Full pies and cakes will also be available. The proceeds are used to support our mission projects including: Mexico Cistern, Send a Kid to Camp (Pinecrest), Rise Against Hunger, Room in the Inn, and Church Health Center.

Smoked Pork BBQ Fundraiser The Men of Farmington Presbyterian are smoking pork BBQ to support Rise Against Hunger. \$40 per order (approx. 3 lbs) Pickup date is March 30th from 10-11am. Place your order now by emailing church@farmingtonpres.org. The order deadline is March 27th.

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 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 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 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...did you know that you are caring for refugees? We received an update on the current work of Presbyterian Disaster Assistance in Moldova, the poorest country to which Ukrainians fled. Initially 800,000 Ukrainians fled to Moldova. There are just 90,000 still there. Most remain because they are too old or too poor to journey any further. Our contributions to Presbyterian Disaster Assistance fund faith-based organizations like Moldovan Christian Aid who focus on some of the most vulnerable groups and those in more remote communities, away from the larger refugee service centers. Our partners are offering emergency food and provisions, mental health services, youth programs, and livelihood projects like family chicken farms. Amid tragedy and despair, when people "look to the helpers" may we be among those they see.

Remember in Prayer...Our Farmington Family, Session and Staff; Bob Applewhite, Jackie Baker, Barbara Beard, Kevin Beard, 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, Bill Knight, Carol Lovell, Dawn McKenzie, Faye McKenzie, Sara Millar, Kathryn Moots Newhouse, Susan Odom, Tim Oehlert, Nancy & Dennis Palmer, Sarah Pointer, Pat Register, Bill Renfrow, Jack Scherer, JoAnne Simpkins, Williams Stevens, Kathy VanderEcken, Jim Waller, Kasi Wann, Barb Warvel, Frank Whited, Faye Woods, and from our Presbytery: First Presbyterian Church, Brownsville, TN.

Sympathy...to the family and friends of Gene King, father of Paul King.

FARMINGTON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
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