



**FARMINGTON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
SERVICE OF DIVINE WORSHIP**

**Easter Sunday
March 31, 2024**

Worship Online at 11:00am Sunday Mornings

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 "Easter Hymn"

Lyra Davidica

*CALL TO WORSHIP

This is the day

**When tears are wiped away; shattered hearts are mended;
fears are replaced with joy.**

This is the day the Lord

**Rolls away the stone of fear; throws off death's clothes; goes
ahead of us into God's future.**

This is the day the Lord has made!

**Death has no fear for us; sin has lost its power over us; God
opens the tombs of our hearts to fill us with life.**

Let us rejoice and be glad!

Christ is risen! Alleluia!

*HYMN OF PRAISE – No. 232 "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!

But the pains which he endured, Alleluia! our salvation have procured. Alleluia! Now above the sky he's King, Alleluia! where the angels ever sing. 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 the other, forgive us and give us compassion. 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 then fill every shadowed corner of our lives with the light of your presence.

(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

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

Lizzie Luter

*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

I Corinthians 15:1-7

Now, brothers and sisters, I want to remind you of the gospel I preached to you, which you received and on which you have taken your stand. By this gospel you are saved, if you hold firmly to the word I preached to you. Otherwise, you have believed in vain. For what I received I passed on to you as of first importance: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures, and that he appeared to Cephas, and then to the Twelve. After that, he appeared to more than five hundred of the brothers and sisters at the same time, most of whom are still living, though some have fallen asleep. Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles.

This is the Word of the Lord!

Thanks be to God!

SECOND READING

Luke 24:1-12

On the first day of the week, very early in the morning, the women took the spices they had prepared and went to the tomb. They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, but when they entered, they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus. While they were wondering about this, suddenly two men in clothes that gleamed like lightning stood beside them. In their fright the women bowed down with their faces to the ground, but the men said to them, Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here; he has risen! Remember how he told you, while he was still with you in Galilee: The Son of Man must be delivered over to the hands of

sinner, be crucified and on the third day be raised again. Then they remembered his words. When they came back from the tomb, they told all these things to the Eleven and to all the others. It was Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and the others with them who told this to the apostles. But they did not believe the women, because their words seemed to them like nonsense. Peter, however, got up and ran to the tomb. Bending over, he saw the strips of linen lying by themselves, and he went away, wondering to himself what had happened.

This is the Word of the Lord!

Thanks be to God!

RESPONSE NO. 240 “Alleluia, Alleluia! Give Thanks”

Alleluia, Alleluia! Give thanks to the risen Lord. Alleluia, alleluia! Give praise to his name.

SERMON “Running to the Tomb”

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 “He is Risen”

Mack Wilberg

He is risen! He is risen! Tell it out with joyful voice. He has burst his three days’ prison; Let the whole wide earth rejoice. Death is conquered, all are free. Come with high and holy hymning; Chant our Lord’s triumphant lay. Not one darksome cloud is dimming Yonder glorious morning ray, Breaking o’er the purple east, Symbol of our Easter feast. He is risen! He is risen! He hath opened heaven’s gate. We are free from sins’ dark prison, Risen to a holier state. And a brighter Easter beam on our long eyes shall stream. Amen.

*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

Lord God, as we celebrate the joy and promise of this day, help us to grasp resurrection. Help us understand its power and see its force at work in our world: overturning evil, changing the hatred within us, and slowly yet forcefully bending us toward love and justice. May we be resurrection people, living hopefully into your kingdom. Amen.

*HYMN No. 248 “Christ Is Risen! Shout Hosanna!” Verses 1 & 2

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.

Christ is risen! Raise your spirits from the caverns of despair. Walk with gladness in the morning. See what love can do and dare. Drink the wine of resurrection, not a servant, but a friend. Jesus is our strong companion. Joy and peace shall never end.

*BENEDICTION

*SENDING FORTH HYMN No. 648

“Thankful Hearts and Voices Raise”

Thankful hearts and voices raise; tell everyone what God has done. Let everyone who seeks the Lord rejoice and bear the name of Christ. Send us with your promises and lead your people forth in joy with shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia, alleluia.

*POSTLUDE “Carillon”

Vierne

*Stand as able.

Bold Type – congregation in unison

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THIS SERVICE IS BEING LIVE-STREAMED
AND RECORDED. ATTENDEES
IMPLICITLY AGREE THAT THEY, AND
ANY CHILDREN ACCOMPANYING
THEM, MAY BE ON CAMERA.

Participating in the service today:

Rev. Rebecca Luter, Pastor
Jim Thrash, Director of Music
Tom Bryant, Accompanist
Chris Luter, Liturgist
Lizzie Luter, Children's Moment
Bonnie Blair and Nadine Oest, Ushers
Charlotte Moots, 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

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

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.

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 on Thursday, April 4th from 6-8pm in the Fellowship Hall. 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 10-10:45am.

Potluck Lunch next Sunday, April 7th, following worship. Please bring a dish to share. Please join us for a time of fellowship. There is always a gracious plenty.

Church Security Meeting next Sunday, April 7th, following Potluck, in the East Room. Share information & gather ideas to increase security for Farmington Presbyterian Church & Day School. We welcome your input!

Announcements

Congregation Meeting Session has called a congregational meeting on Sunday, April 14th immediately following worship for the purpose of receiving and acting on the report of the Nominating Committee to present a slate for the Associate Pastor Nominating Committee.

Guess Who's Coming to Dinner Friday, April 12th at 6pm. Signup on our website by April 10th with your preference for Asian Eatery, Margarita's, Bog & Barley, or Ronnie Grisanti's. You will be notified regarding your reservation by 1pm on the 12th. Sign up to enjoy this opportunity to see old friends and meet new ones!

PW Meeting Sunday, April 14th at 12:30pm. We will conclude the study of Sacred Encounters in the East Room. We will be discussing lessons 8 & 9 and broaden our understanding of women in the early church and their role in breaking barriers to serve the needs of others. Even though this is our last Horizons Bible study meeting, we will be gathering informally in the upcoming months. Remember that the next meeting with the presence of Jesus is just one prayer away!

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

worshipping 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... we have travelled with Jesus from his triumphal entry into Jerusalem to his hurried burial before sundown. And then, we waited. As we waited, Farmington men stayed up smoking pork to support feeding the hungry through Rise Against Hunger. As we waited, we gathered with children and their families to share the Easter story at the Easter Egg Hunt. As we waited, preparations were made for Easter morning because the tomb was not the end. Christ is risen! Alleluia!

Remember in Prayer...Our Farmington Family, Session and Staff; Jackie Baker, Barbara Beard, Kevin Beard, Betty Boyd, Rev. Margaret Burnett, Kitty Cannon, Jeanne Carr, Judith Cassidy, Mary Lou Collins, Skip Flannery, Joe Gaul, Bill Harrington, Martha Hart, Vanessa Howard, Gary Hutchins, Bill Jones, Bill Knight, Iris Lawing, 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: Grace Presbyterian Church, Dyersburg, TN.

Sympathies... to the family and friends of Ralph Carr, nephew-in-law of Dee Scobey and to the family and friends of Jack Williams.

FARMINGTON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
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