



**FARMINGTON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
SERVICE OF DIVINE WORSHIP**

**Fifth Sunday in Lent
March 17, 2024**

Worship Online at 11:00am Sunday Mornings

www.farmingtonpres.org

Click "Worship Together"

ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

Holy God, you see possibility in us and have hope for our world beyond our imagining, so as we gather today to worship you, we open our minds and souls and hearts to your guidance that we may be inclined to notice and respond to the nudges and whispers of your Spirit in our lives. Help us follow your way, for it leads to life as you created and intend for us: for all to dwell in right relationship with you, with creation, and with one another. In Jesus' name, Amen.

WELCOME

PRELUDE "Chanson Triste" ("Somber Song")

Duparc

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

based on Psalm 51

We gather with praise for all to hear,

The unconditional love of God Almighty never fails.

The enormous compassion of our Lord wipes clean all our sin.

God Almighty hears our desire for clean hearts and puts within us new and right spirits.

Form our hearts to be devoted only to you, O Lord; make us continually aware of your constant presence.

Strengthen our will to seek you and our voices to praise you for all to hear!

***HYMN OF PRAISE – No. 396** "Brethren, We Have Met to Worship"

Brethren, we have met to worship and adore the Lord our God. Will you pray with all your power while we try to preach the word? All is vain unless the Spirit of the holy One comes

down. Brethren, pray, and holy manna will be showered all around.

Sisters, will you come and help us? Moses' sister aided him. Will you help the trembling mourners who are struggling hard with sin? Tell them all about the Savior. Tell them that he will be found. Sisters, pray, and holy manna will be showered all around.

Is there here a trembling jailer, seeking grace and filled with fears? Is there here a weeping Mary pouring forth a flood of tears? Brethren, join your cries to help them; sisters, let your prayers abound! Pray, O pray, that holy manna will be scattered all around.

Let us love our God supremely; let us love each other, too. Let us love and pray for sinners till our God makes all things new. Christ will call us home to heaven; at his table we'll sit down. Christ will gird himself and serve us with sweet manna all around.

(Please be seated.)

CALL TO RECONCILIATION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

O Lord, we seek your mercy...yet we ourselves look for payback when we are wronged. We think it "only fair" and "what is right" when we retaliate and use harsh words and withdraw from relationship. The forgiveness you offer us is larger than we can comprehend, still we withhold forgiveness and carry grudges. In fact, when we are hurt, we tend to be eager to offer judgement for you. Our hearts harden, and we wander from you. All the while, we convince ourselves in our inner thoughts that we can seek your forgiveness while avoiding honest repentance.

Forgive us, Lord, for the debts we hold against others in our hearts. Where our hearts have wandered far from you, lead us back with your tender grace and guide us in forgiving as we have been forgiven.

(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

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

Psalm 119:9-16

How can a young person stay on the path of purity? By living according to your word. I seek you with all my heart; do not let me stray from your commands. I have hidden your word in my heart that I might not sin against you. Praise be to you, LORD; teach me your decrees. With my lips I recount all the laws that come from your mouth. I rejoice in following your statutes as one rejoices in great riches. I meditate on your precepts and consider your ways. I delight in your decrees; I will not neglect your word.

This is the Word of the Lord!

Thanks be to God!

SECOND READING

Matthew 18:15-22

If your brother or sister sins, go and point out their fault, just between the two of you. If they listen to you, you have won them over. But if they will not listen, take one or two others along, so that every matter may be established by the testimony of two or three witnesses. If they still refuse to listen, tell it to the church; and if they refuse to listen even to the church, treat them as you would a pagan or a tax collector. Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. Again, truly I tell you that if two of you on earth agree about anything they ask for, it will be done for them by my Father in heaven. For where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them. Then Peter came to Jesus and asked, Lord, how many times shall I forgive my brother or sister who sins against me? Up to seven times? Jesus answered, I tell you, not seven times, but seventy-seven times.

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 "Seventy Sevens: The Math of Grace" Rev. Rebecca Luter

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 "He Leadeth Me"

Wegner

He leadeth me, O blessed thought, O words with heavenly comfort fraught! Whate'er I do, where're I be still 'til God's hand that leadeth me. Sometimes mid scenes of deepest gloom, sometimes where Eden's bowers bloom, by waters calm, o'er troubled sea, still 'tis God's hand that leadeth me. He leadeth me, he leadeth me, by

his own hand he leadeth me. His faithful follower I would be, for by his hand he leadeth me. Lord, I would clasp thy hand in mine, nor ever murmur nor repine; content whatever lot I see, since 'tis my God that leadeth me. And when my task on earth is done, when by thy grace the victory's won, e'en death's cold wave I will not flee, since God through Jordan leadeth me.

*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

God of unwavering love, you have held nothing back in your love for us, not even your Son. How we marvel at that kind of love, and how we long to reflect a portion of that devotion back to you. As we dedicate our offerings to you, lead us away from our tendency to hold back and hold on to blessings. Help us to live as the people of love and abundance you have called us to be. In Christ, we pray. Amen.

*HYMN - No. 316 "Where Charity and Love Prevail"

**Where charity and love prevail, there God is ever found;
brought here together by Christ's love, by love we thus are bound.**

**Let us recall that in our midst dwells Christ, God's holy Son.
As members of each body joined, in him we are made one.**

**Let strife among us be unknown; let all contentions cease. Be
God's the glory that we seek; be his our only peace.**

**Let us forgive each other's faults as we our own confess, that
we may love each other well in Christian gentleness.**

**Love can exclude no race or creed if honored by God's name;
our common life embraces all whose Maker is the same.**

*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 "Chaconne in g minor"

Louis Couperin

*Stand as able.

Bold Type – congregation in unison

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Participating in the service today:

Rev. Rebecca Luter, Pastor

Jim Thrash, Director of Music

Tom Bryant, Accompanist

Laurinda Ingram, Liturgist

Elizabeth Demaree, Children's Moment

Jackie Hall and Nadine Oest, Ushers

Hudson Barr, 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 Fellowship Coffee today. Sign up to host Fellowship Coffee on our website to provide refreshments following worship, www.farmingtonpres.org Please keep it simple-something sweet and something salty.

Presbyterian Women Meeting today, Sunday, March 17th at 12:30pm. We will be continuing to discuss embracing diversity as we explore the topic of "borderline moments" in Lesson 7 of our Horizon's Bible Study book. Because of our experiences, ethnicity, and background, we offer a variety of views regarding scripture. However, through study and discussion we better understand the will God in our church and community. Come join us! All women are invited to attend the gathering in the East Room.

This Week

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.

Adult Ministries Luncheon this Thursday, March 21st at Noon in the Youth Room. The speaker will be Emily Rhodes. Lunch will be prepared by Chef Scott Hutchins. The cost is \$13. Please contact Sandy Wann at srwann@bellsouth.net to make a reservation by Monday, March 18th.

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, March 21st from 6-8pm in the Fellowship Hall. We will putting together Easter crafts for the Easter Egg Hunt. Free childcare is now being provided.

Candy Collection We are collecting candy for the Easter Egg Hunt. Please drop off candy in the bin located at the West Entrance. Last day of collection is this Friday, March 22nd.

Deadline for Smoked BBQ Fundraiser Orders is March 27th. Please visit www.farmingtonpres.org to place order.

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

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

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.

Maundy Thursday Dinner & Worship March 28th. Dinner will be at 6pm in the Fellowship Hall and Worship in the Sanctuary at 7pm. Dinner is \$10 for adults and \$5 for children (under 12) with \$30 family maximum. Roast Beef and Potatoes will be served.

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 on our website www.farmingtonpres.org. The order deadline is March 27th.

Easter Egg Hunt March 30th, 10am beginning in the Sanctuary. There will be an Easter Story, egg hunt, crafts and snacks, and pictures with the Easter Bunny. If you would like to help out during the hunt, please email church@farmingtonpres.org.

Annual PW Spring Gathering will be held at Germantown Presbyterian Church on Saturday, April 13th. The event begins at 9:30am with fellowship, pastries, program, and a lunch to follow. Contact Melissa Still to register or with any questions. Deadline to register is March 22nd.

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 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 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 are looking ahead to Holy Week plans. There are many opportunities for you to be a part of the journey from Palm Sunday to Easter: making palm crosses, baking and helping with the Easter Bake Sale, assisting with set up and clean up for Maundy Thursday’s meal and Communion Service, participating in the readings and stripping of the church during Good Friday Service, preparing for and helping with the Easter Egg Hunt, purchasing and helping with the BBQ Pork Fundraiser for Rise Against Hunger, decorating the Sanctuary with Easter lilies, youth participating in the Easter Sunrise Service, and inviting your friends, family, and neighbors to worship with you at Farmington on Easter Sunday. Jesus asked Peter, "Do you love me?" When he said "Yes, Lord," Jesus entrusted him with the responsibility to "Feed my sheep." How will you feed Jesus's sheep this Holy Week? Get involved by reaching out to Rev. Rebecca, emailing church@farmingtonpres.org, going to Sign Up on our website, or coming to any of the events listed in the Happenings and lending a hand!

Remember in Prayer...Our Farmington Family, Session and Staff; 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: Cordova Presbyterian Church, Cordova, TN.

Sympathy...to the family and friends of Bob Applewhite, brother of Catherine Johnson.



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

FARMINGTON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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Germantown, TN 38139

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