



**FARMINGTON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
SERVICE OF DIVINE WORSHIP**

**Palm Sunday
March 24, 2024**

Worship Online at 11:00am Sunday Mornings

www.farmingtonpres.org

Click "Worship Together"

ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

Gracious God, as we enter this Holy Week, we enter a story of terror in which, against all odds, love wins. Strengthen us to move beyond the festive parade of palms and to follow Jesus into the way of the cross, that united with him and all the faithful, we may be raised in a resurrection like his and dwell forever in you, Eternal God. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

WELCOME

PRELUDE "Ride On, King Jesus!" African-American Spiritual

*CALL TO WORSHIP based on Psalm 118:1-2, 19-27

God's steadfast love endures forever.

Therefore, let us open the gates of justice wide, so that we may walk through them and offer praise and worship to God.

When people cry out in desperation, God comes with salvation.

The stone that the builders rejected has become the very cornerstone, holding together the entire foundation.

This is the work of God and to witness it is a marvel.

We come in celebration, for God has brought this day to pass.

The One who comes in the name of the Lord is blessed.

The light of the Lord shines on us.

Let us rejoice in festal procession!

*HYMN OF PRAISE – No. 196 "All Glory, Laud, and Honor"

*All glory, laud, and honor to thee, Redeemer, King, to whom
the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring!*

Thou art the King of Israel, thou David's royal Son, who in the Lord's name comest, the King and blessed One. *Refrain*

The people of the Hebrews with palms before thee went; our praise and prayers and anthems before thee we present. *Refrain*

To thee, before the passion, they sang their hymns of praise; to thee, now high exalted, our melody we raise. *Refrain*

Thou didst accept their praises; accept the prayers we bring, who in all good delightest, thou good and gracious King! *Refrain*

(Please be seated.)

PROCLAMATION OF THE ENTRANCE INTO JERUSALEM Mark 11:1-10

Let us declare from the Gospel according to Mark how our Lord entered Jerusalem:

As they approached Jerusalem and came to Bethphage and Bethany at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two of his disciples, saying to them, "Go to the village ahead of you, and just as you enter it, you will find a colt tied there, which no one has ever ridden. Untie it and bring it here. If anyone asks you, 'Why are you doing this?' say, 'The Lord needs it and will send it back here shortly.'"

They went and found a colt outside in the street, tied at a doorway.

As they untied it, some people standing there asked, "What are you doing, untying that colt?" They answered as Jesus had told them to, and the people let them go. When they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks over it, he sat on it. Many people spread their cloaks on the road, while others spread branches they had cut in the fields. Those who went ahead and those who followed shouted,

"Hosanna!"

"Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!"

"Blessed is the coming kingdom of our father David!"

"Hosanna in the highest heaven!"

CALL TO RECONCILIATION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Lord Jesus, you know our hearts fully, and yet you still love us. We want to think that we are bold and unashamed, ready to run into the streets singing your praise, but if we are honest with ourselves we know we that we have stood back, quietly

observing, letting others carry the song. We have denied you, and we have denied our calling to serve one another. We have betrayed you, and we have betrayed your commandment to love one another. Pour out your Spirit of grace upon us. Show us which songs are ours to sing. Show us which parades are ours to lead, then give us the courage and conviction to do both. With hope and honesty 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

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

Jinney Hart

*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 118:1-2, 19-27

Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; his love endures forever. Let Israel say: His love endures forever. Open for me the gates of the righteous; I will enter and give thanks to the LORD. This is the gate of the LORD through which the righteous may enter. I will give you thanks, for you answered me; you have become my salvation. The stone the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; the LORD has done this, and it is marvelous in our eyes. The LORD has done it this very day; let us rejoice today and be glad. LORD, save us! LORD, grant us success! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the LORD. From the house of the LORD we bless you. The LORD is God, and he has made his light shine on us. With boughs in hand, join in the festal procession up to the horns of the altar.

This is the Word of the Lord!

Thanks be to God!

SECOND READING

John 12:12-16

The next day the great crowd that had come for the festival heard that Jesus was on his way to Jerusalem. They took palm branches and went out to meet him, shouting. Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Blessed is the king of Israel! Jesus found a young donkey and sat on it, as it is written: Do not be afraid, Daughter Zion; see, your king is coming, seated on a donkey's colt. At first his disciples did not understand all this. Only after Jesus was glorified did they realize that these things had been written about him and that these things had been done to him.

This is the Word of the Lord!

Thanks be to God!

PALM SUNDAY LITANY[†]

Who comes this way?

I wonder, "Who is he?"

They say he is the Christ.

That means Messiah,

That means the Anointed One, the Savior, the...King

Who comes this way?

Is it really him? Could it be? I want him to triumph, to conquer the Romans, to save us from poverty and hunger.

Is he victorious? Is he powerful? Is he scary?

Where is he from Greece? Rome? Egypt? Jerusalem?

They say he was born in Bethlehem and grew up in Egypt and Nazareth and lived in Galilee.

“Nazareth! Can anything good come from there?”

Who comes this way?

Who is he? Why are we cheering him on? Is he good or bad? He must be rich to get such praise.

Stop waving that branch in my face! Step back! Let me see the parade. Bend down. I just want to see his face and then I will know who he is. Let me see...

Wait!

Wait!

It is only a man.

And he is just on a donkey, no conquering steed.

It is only a man? What is so great about him?

Hosanna! Hosanna in the Highest!

Hosanna means “save us” and “we pray”

But who is this man that will save us?

Who comes this way?

Lord, you set your face towards Jerusalem and walked alongside those who suffer.

Be our vision that we too may walk the way of the cross and extend a hand to those we meet.

Lord, you stopped to heal the sick, cure the lame and give sight to the blind.

Be our vision that we too may give time to others and respond to their needs.

Lord, you said, "The first shall be last and the last first."

Be our vision that we too may work towards your kingdom when the exalted will be brought low and the lowly exalted.

Lord, you ate with tax collectors and sinners and heard their stories.

Be our vision that we too may listen to the despised and rejected and value their lives.

Lord, you took time to pray and time to be silent.

Be our vision that through our prayers, fasting and almsgiving we too may draw closer to you and find your way.

Lord, you entered Jerusalem with peace in your heart.

Be our vision that we too may desire peace where others desire war, and may work for justice where injustice reigns.

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.

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 "A Stable Lamp is Lighted" David Hurd
A stable lamp is lighted whose glow shall wake the sky; the stars shall bend their voices, and every stone shall cry. And every stone shall cry, and straw like gold shall shine; a barn shall harbor heaven, a stall become a shrine. This child through David's city shall ride in triumph by; the palm shall strew its branches, and every stone shall cry. And every stone shall cry, though heavy, dull, and dumb, and lie within the roadway to pave his kingdom come. Yet he shall be forsaken, and yielded up to die; the sky shall groan and darken, and every stone shall cry. And every stone shall cry, for hearts made hard by sin: God's blood upon the spearhead, God's love refused again. But now, as at the ending, the low is lifted high; the stars shall bend their voices, and every stone shall cry. And every stone shall cry, in praises of the child by whose descent among us the worlds are reconciled.

*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. 199 “Filled with Excitement”

Filled with excitement, all the happy throng spread cloaks and branches on the city streets. There in the distance they begin to see, there on a donkey come the Savior Christ. *From every corner a thousand voices sing praise to the One who comes in the name of God. Our acclamation breaks forth in shouts of praise, our triumphant song of joy: “Hosanna, hosanna to Christ! Hosanna, hosanna to Christ!”*

As in that entrance to Jerusalem, hosannas we will sing to Jesus Christ, to our Redeemer who still calls today, asks us to follow with our love and faith. *Refrain*

*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

*Stand as able.

Bold Type – congregation in unison

†Adapted from liturgy written by Pastor Shannon Keeney at First United Methodist Church in Littleton, NH.

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Participating in the service today:

Rev. Rebecca Luter, Pastor

Jim Thrash, Director of Music

Tom Bryant, Accompanist

Rachel Barr, Liturgist

Jinney Hart, Children’s Moment

Sandy Wann and Shelley Wann, Ushers

Delilah Davis, Acolyte

Chancel Choir

Autumn Colley, Sharon Hailey, Jackie Hall, Cooper Patterson,
Instrumentalists

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

The Palms this morning are given to the glory of God by Steve, Carolyn and Elizabeth Demaree in memory of Leah Demaree Douglas and the **Palm Crosses** are given to the glory of God by Ann Erickson in memory of her husband, Ken Erickson.

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.

This Week

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.

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.

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.

Maundy Thursday Dinner & Worship March 28th. Dinner will be at 6pm in the Fellowship Hall and Worship in the Sanctuary and livestreamed at 7pm. Dinner is \$10 for adults and \$5 for children (under 12) with \$30 family maximum. Roast Beef and Potatoes will be served. Please email church@farmingtonpres.org to RSVP for dinner by Monday, March 25th.

Good Friday Service on March 29th in the Sanctuary and livestreamed at 7pm.

FPC Church Office and Day School will be closed on Friday, March 29th.

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.

Volunteers Needed for Easter Egg Hunt! Please email church@farmingtonpres.org to volunteer for the egg hunt. We need volunteers for setup in Fellowship Hall (decorations, snacks & crafts), photographer, outdoor decorations, and hiding eggs for the hunt.

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.

Next Sunday

No Sunday School or Fellowship Coffee Easter morning! Join us for Sunrise Service led by the Youth at 7am, and Easter Morning Worship at 11am.

Announcements

Potluck Lunch 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 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!

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!

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 thankful for the hands and hearts of those who prepared the palm crosses for worship this morning.

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, 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, Dyer, TN.

Sympathies...to the family and friends of Bob Applewhite, brother of Catherine Johnson, to the family and friends of Ralph Carr, nephew-in-law of Dee Scobey and to the family and friends of Jack Williams.



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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