FARMINGTON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
SERVICE OF DIVINE WORSHIP
Third Sunday of Lent
March 23, 2025

Worship Online at 11:00am Sunday Mornings
www.farmingtonpres.org
Click "Worship Together"

ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

Lord God, as we walk these forty days of Lent with you, shape us by your Holy Spirit. Cleanse our hearts and restore in us your image, in which we were made. Purify our minds and mold us more and more by the example of Christ our Lord. Open our eyes to see your power and grace even in the wilderness spaces of our lives. Fill us to the brim with the joy of your salvation so we overflow with defiant hope, serving you with willing hearts and bearing witness to the grace of life abundant for all. Amen.

WELCOME

PRELUDE "Jesus Walked This Lonesome Valley"

*CALL TO WORSHIP

We've come to worship God, who loved us before we were yet born, who knows our thoughts even before they are on our tongues.

We celebrate that God's presence never leaves us, and God's love for us never ceases.

We've come to worship God, who created us in God's own image, who searches us out and knows all our ways.

We pray for the spark of God within us to be kindled into a flame of justice and service.

With defiant hope we praise God even in the midst of the weeds of our world and of our lives, trusting the Harvester to do the harvesting.

Search us, O God, and know our hearts. See if there is any wicked way in us, and lead us in the way everlasting

*HYMN OF PRAISE – No. 435 "There's a Wideness in God's Mercy"

(Please be seated.)

CALL TO RECONCILIATION

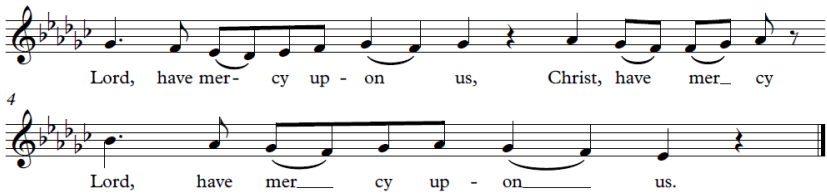
PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Most loving God, you planted each person who has ever drawn breath with hope and purpose. When we deprive others of opportunity to hope or live purposefully, forgive us. When we want to uproot those whom we believe do not belong in our part of the field, forgive us. When we label others as good or bad rather than accepting them for who they are, forgive us. When we are reluctant to acknowledge that we ourselves are a mixture of weeds and wheat, forgive us. When we are afraid to look into the fields of our own lives to see what is growing there, forgive us.

Save us from quick judgements and hasty actions. Grant us patience and wisdom, so that we may work skillfully and efficiently at the tasks you assign to us, and leave the harvest and judgment to you.

(A time of silent prayer.)

KYRIE



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 belong to God, creator of all that is and all that is to come, abundant provider of the gifts in this life and the gifts in our

own hearts. It is God alone who gives life, who is generous beyond measure with grace and blessing.

We follow Christ, whom God sent to teach and heal, to show us a new way of living, with love and trust and courage, with joy and generosity. In this faith Jesus gave of himself, even his very life. He was crucified and buried; yet God raised him from death, and he lives among us, and grants his spirit to us.

We live by that Holy Spirit, and entrust ourselves to its guidance and empowerment. As members of the church, the Body of Christ, we devote ourselves to lives of love, rejoicing in the power of forgiveness, the reality of resurrection, and the mystery of eternal life. Amen.

THROUGH CHILDREN'S EYES Jennifer Young

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 LESSON

Isaiah 44:6-9, 20-22 Pew Bible Page No. 1128

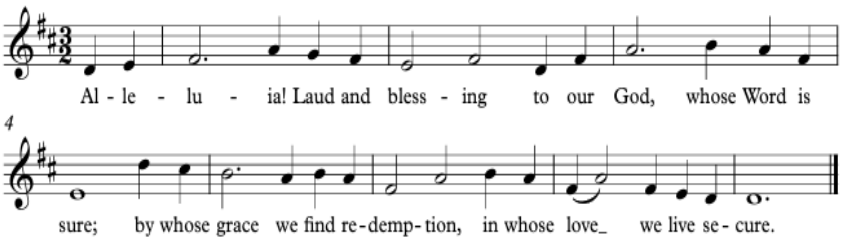
This is the Word of the Lord!
Thanks be to God!

SECOND LESSON

Matthew 13:24-30 Pew Bible Page No. 1518

This is the Word of the Lord!
Thanks be to God!

RESPONSE TO THE WORD



SERMON "Life in the Weeds" Rev. Joshua Narcisse

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 Mary Kay Beall

"O God, You Are My God Alone"

*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.

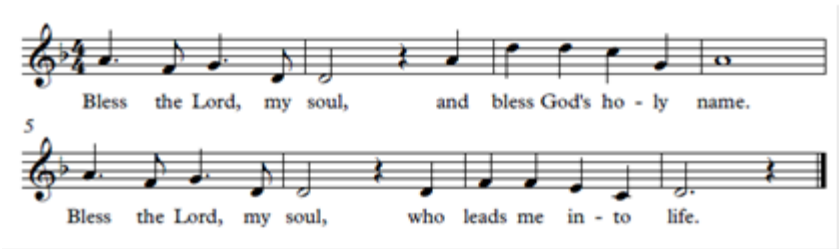
*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

God of grace, we dedicate to you not only these gifts, but also ourselves, in deep gratitude for the fullness of our lives. We are amazed by the abundance of your gifts: food that sustains, relationships that support, and work to do for your glory on earth. Afford us opportunities to celebrate and share with others the abundance of your grace and love. In the name of Jesus we pray, Amen.

*HYMN - No. 697 "Take My Life and Let it Be Consecrated"

*BENEDICTION

*SENDING FORTH HYMN - No. 544 "Bless the Lord"



*POSTLUDE "Take Up Your Cross" attributed to Freeman Lewis (1814)

*Stand as able. **Bold Type** – congregation in unison

Rev. Rebecca Luter, Pastor
Davis Howe, Interim Youth Director

Participating in the service today:
Rev. Joshua Narcisse, Guest Preacher
Jim Thrash, Director of Music
Tom Bryant, Accompanist
Ann Erickson, Liturgist
Jennifer Young, Children's Moment
Tom Moots and Bob Plotner, Ushers
Chancel Choir

†Portions of liturgy for Lent adapted from prayers by Rev. Sarah A. Speed|A Sanctified ArtLLC|sanctifiedart.org.

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Affirmation of Faith by Steve Garnaas-Holmes, "Abundance."

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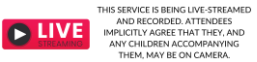

Welcome IN THE NAME OF JESUS, THE CHRIST

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

Flowers The flowers this morning are given to the glory of God by Michelle Banton in loving memory of her father, Mike Dunger.

Guest Preacher Rev. Joshua Narcisse will be returning to the pulpit of Farmington Presbyterian this morning (Sunday, March 23). Rev. Narcisse serves as Spiritual Care Director at Church Health Center. Please welcome him warmly.

Coffee in the Narthex After worship this morning, you are encouraged to enjoy a cup of coffee and fellowship in the Narthex.

Presbyterian Women PW will meet this afternoon (March 23) at 12:30 in the East Room. We will be discussing Lessons 7 & 8 from our Horizon's Bible Study.

Youth Fellowship Each Sunday evening the youth meet from 5:30-7:30pm for a time of fellowship, games, faith-building, and food. March Schedule: March 23 – Spring Break, no youth group; March 30th – 5:30-7:30pm in the Youth Room. Friends are welcome!

Adult Ministries Luncheon Our next luncheon is at noon on Thursday, March 27 with guest speaker Mr. Scott Sanders, retired US Marshall and Germantown Alderman. He will provide a short presentation on all subjects Germantown then take questions. Scott Hutchins is catering. The menu this month will be Baked Taco Potato and Chili Bar, Salad, and Turtle Cookie Bars. The cost of $13 is payable at the luncheon. Please ensure you RSVP to Sandy Wann (srwann@bellsouth.net) by March 24 and indicate whether or not you will be having lunch.

Sunday School Classes

Children's Sunday School Children meet at 10am in A6. Each Sunday during Lent, the children will be introduced to the story of Jesus that we will be focusing on in worship. (No class over Spring Break – March 23.)

Youth Sunday School Youth (6th-12th grades) meet in the Youth Room at 10am. On March 9th, the youth will begin a multi-week Bible study on the Book of Psalms, going through the 5 books with attention to both the praise and lamentation throughout. (No class over Spring Break – March 23.)

Adult Sunday School Rev. Rebecca Luter will facilitate a Bible study of the Scriptures for worship. Participants have shared that this time of preparation for worship deepens their experience of the service and understanding of the sermon. All are welcome to attend any Sunday at 10am in the East Room (No class over Spring Break – March 23.)

Coming Up

Presbyterian Women Spring Gathering Farmington is hosting our Presbytery-wide gathering on April 5. Lucy Cummings, Executive Director of

Pinecrest Camp and Retreat Center is our keynote speaker and will be sharing a message on Earth care based on Jesus's parable of the mustard seed. If you are able to offer a little time to help set up on Friday, April 4 or host on Saturday, April 5, please let Jinney Hart know.

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 2028. 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 24th to be considered.

Church Emails Each week, a Sunday email is sent with the link for online worship, the Happenings, and the Prayer List. In addition, a Mid-Week email is regularly sent with reminders and the New Vision newsletter is sent monthly. If you are not receiving church emails, and would like to, please email church@farmingtonpres.org and let us know.

Mark Your Calendar April 27 is Rise Against Hunger; June 8 is FPC 50th Anniversary Celebration; and June 16-20 is VBS.

2025 Fellowship Coffee Sign up to host Fellowship Coffee on our website under "Sign-ups" or in the church office to provide refreshments following worship on a 3rd Sunday. You may sign up to provide either something sweet or something savory.

2025 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" or on in the church office.

Food Pantry Collection Farmington collects 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.

Bulletin Mailing List If you would like to be added to or removed from the weekly mailing of the bulletin, please email us at church@farmingtonpres.org and let us know.

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 Many schools have been on Spring Break. You are invited to notice signs of spring today. Notice the buds and sprouts that plants are putting forth with defiant hope. Earthly life is fragile, limited, and precious. How will you live the gift of today? What beauty can you share?

Remember in Prayer Our Farmington Family, Session and Staff; Jackie Baker, Hank Baron, Kevin Beard, Betty Boyd, Jeanne Carr, Judith Cassidy, Mark Fisher, Chelsea Moyer Fitzpatrick, Joe Gaul, Betsabet Guzman, Bill Harrington, Martha Hart, Chris and Sabrina Johnson, Bill Jones, Bill Knight, Annette Main, Sara Millar, Nancy & Dennis Palmer, Saundra Piggies, Pat Register, Bill Renfrow, Caitlin Shirazee, JoAnne Simpkins, William Stevens, Jon Still, Emma Van Frank, Kasi Wann, Frank Whited, Reggie Wilson, and from our Presbytery: First Presbyterian Church, Dyer, TN, Justice Advocacy Sunday

Sympathy to the family and friends…of Christian Rivadeneyra and mother, former student of Jennifer Young.

FARMINGTON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
8245 Farmington Blvd.
Germantown, TN 38139
901-754-2794 www.farmingtonpres.org