

phone. Text **FarmPresGive** (not case-sensitive) to 1-888-364-GIVE (4483) in order to receive a reply with the link to your giving interface, or scan this QR code with your phone's camera.

**This Week at Farmington** Our Rise Against Hunger packaging event was joyful and successful, and it is true that many hands make light work. Thank you to all who participated and who invited friends! It is through serving together that others are able to see Christ in you!

## Prayer Concerns

**Remember in Prayer** Our Farmington Family, Session, and Staff; Earleen Anderson, Kathy and Bill Argo, Jackie Baker, Kevin Beard, Bonnie Blair, Martha Carr, Judith Cassidy, Jim Collins, Dan Freymeyer, Joe Gaul, Brenda Geise, Adrienne Pakis Gillion, Betzabe Guzman, Bill Harrington, Martha Hart, Annette Hosier, Jerry Hosier, Bill Knight, Tammy Lee, Jim Mabile, Annette Main, Sara Millar, Tommy Nagel, Nancy & Dennis Palmer, Bill Renfrow, Ellen Renfrow, Bob and Linda Seidman, JoAnne Simpkins, Karen Smaili, Marty Steele, William Stephens, Jon Still, Joan Wallace, Frank Whited, and from our Presbytery: Pray for Older Adults.

**Sympathy to the family and friends** of Betty Riley, great-aunt of Chris Luter; Thomas Priscock, relative of Catherine Laycook; Bill Jones, uncle of Bonnie Blair; Roberta Whitten, former member; and Judy Markham, sister of Harrison Ashley.

### FARMINGTON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

8245 Farmington Blvd.  
Germantown, TN 38139  
(901)754-2794  
[www.farmingtonpres.org](http://www.farmingtonpres.org)



### FARMINGTON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

#### SERVICE OF DIVINE WORSHIP

Fifth Sunday in Lent

May 3, 2026

\*Rise in body or spirit.

**Bold Type**—Participate in unison.

#### ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

##### PRAYER OF PREPARATION

Living God, in Christ Jesus you have shown us how to live the Good News. When everything was dark and it seemed that the sun would never shine again, your love broke through. Jesus listened deeply, showed compassion, offered help, gracefully forgave, created community, and brought peace. As we follow the way he showed us to live, we come to know your love and receive the abundant life you intend for us more fully. O Lord, call us out of darkness, reveal your way to us, and keep us faithful in following it. Amen.

##### WELCOME

*Visitors and members are encouraged to fill out the attendance folder located on the center aisle of each pew and pass it to those seated along the pew.*

PRELUDE “Etude in A-flat Major”

Chopin

##### \*CALL TO WORSHIP†

Out of a world of cut-throat competition, of winners-and-losers, and too many left behind we come together.

**The world's ways are not our ways. The world's ways are not Christ's ways.**

Out of a world of hatred, violence, individualism, and life-taking power we gather as Koinonia, as God's people.

**God's ways are inclusive, expansive, and life-giving for all peoples.**

Come and worship the One whose love knows no limits! Swim and splash in the cleansing waters of divine community! Resurrect your spirits and souls in worship of the One!  
**Praise be to the Everlasting One!**

\*PROCESSIONAL HYMN—NO. 263 “All Hail the Power of Jesus’ Name!”

*Please be seated.*

CALL TO RECONCILIATION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**God of empty tombs and empty people, we confess the grudges we are holding, the wounds we are nursing, and the grievances we are counting. Forgive us when we hesitate to forgive and give us voice to speak your hope even to those by whom we have been wronged. When we find it difficult to love another, forgive us, and give us new compassion. When we want to stand with the high and mighty, forgive us, and put us next to the poor and oppressed. When we stay locked behind our fears and doubts, forgive us, and send us out to share your grace.**

*A time for 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

from A Brief Statement of Faith

**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 on 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

Davis Howe

*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.*

# Happenings

**Potluck** Following worship this morning, we will enjoy a potluck lunch together in the Fellowship Hall. Whether you brought a dish or not, you are encouraged to stay and enjoy a time of fellowship at the table. There is always a gracious plenty. Please stay, as you are able, to cleanup; many hands make light work.

**Youth Fellowship** Sunday evening the youth will meet in the Youth Room from 5:30-7:30pm for a time of fellowship, games, faith-building, and food. Friends are welcome! For more information or to be notified of upcoming events, text or email Davis at 901-482-2503 or [davis@farmingtonpres.org](mailto:davis@farmingtonpres.org).

**No Sunday School on Mother’s Day**

**Youth Sunday School (6th-12th grades)** All youth are encouraged to come for discussion on the life of Mary Magdalene. Donuts will be provided!

**Adult Sunday School** Rev. Rebecca Luter and Cooper Patterson each teach an adult class on Sunday mornings. Rev. Rebecca’s class, Centering in the Word, offers an introduction to the Scriptures for worship that day and meets in the East Room at 10am. Cooper’s class is studying John Ortberg’s *Eternity Is Now in Session*. The book can be ordered from Amazon. This class meets in the Fellowship Hall from 9:30am to 10:30am.

**Senior Sunday** We will be recognizing our graduating Seniors on May 17<sup>th</sup> during worship. If you have a senior who is graduating this Spring, please email Rev. Rebecca so that he or she will be included ([rluter@farmingtonpres.org](mailto:rluter@farmingtonpres.org)).

**Spring Picnic and Silent Auction** This year’s annual church and school picnic will also be the ribbon cutting and dedication of our new patio and backyard on Thursday, May 14 from 5-7pm. We will have facepainting, bounce house, and music by Sarah Spain, lead singer of Landslide. Scott Hutchins will be fixing hamburgers and hot dogs. The cost is \$10/adult and \$5/child with a family maximum of \$30. The Silent Auction supports our 2027 Rise Against Hunger packaging event.

**2026 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.”

**Vacation Bible School** We are beginning to plan this summer’s VBS and are excited to welcome you to the team. The dates are June 8-12, and the theme is Snowball Mountain Challenge. We have all sorts of volunteer positions – some can even be done from home! Please let Rev. Barb or Liv Palmer know that you want to help.

**Electronic Giving** We are now able to receive gifts through texts and this QR code. It is a simple process to set up an account or to make a one-time gift as a visitor. You will soon receive much more information about our new church app with Church Directory, calendar, signups, and more available on your mobile



# Welcome

We seek to be a community that is a home for all of God's family with a heart for God's world. We hope that you will sense the presence of the Holy Spirit in this place and find that you feel at home. We are grateful for the visitors and friends of the Farmington family who add to our community each week.

**Need more information? What to sign up for something? Looking for the livestream of worship?** Go to our website: [www.farmingtonpres.org](http://www.farmingtonpres.org)

**Need to give us information? What to ask a question? Looking for assistance with signing up?** Email us at: [church@farmingtonpres.org](mailto:church@farmingtonpres.org)

**How do I join the church?** Members are received by Profession of Faith (for those who have never been a member of a church), Reaffirmation of Faith (for those who have joined a church in the past but not been involved in a while), and Transfer of Membership (for those who are coming from active participation in another church). If you are interested in knowing more about Farmington Presbyterian or about joining, let Rev. Rebecca or Rev. Barb know or email [church@farmingtonpres.org](mailto: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 church office. You may reach Rev. Rebecca Luter at (901)674-8000 or [rluter@farmingtonpres.org](mailto:rluter@farmingtonpres.org).

**Large print hymnals and hearing assistance devices are available from the ushers.**



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

Worship Online at 11:00 Sunday Mornings  
[www.farmingtonpres.org](http://www.farmingtonpres.org) , click "Worship with us!"

## PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

Acts 6:8-15

Pew Bible 1700

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

STEPHEN'S RESPONSE TO THE SANHEDRIN

RESPONSIVE READING

based on Acts 7:55-60

But filled with the Holy Spirit, Stephen gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God.

**"Look," he said, "I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!"**

But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. Then they dragged him out of the city and began to stone him; and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul.

**While they were stoning him, Stephen prayed, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them."**

When he had said this, he died.

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

RESPONSE TO THE WORD—NO. 240 "Alleluia, Alleluia! Give Thanks"

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

SERMON "Living the Good News: The Power of Forgiveness "

Rev. Rebecca Luter

Chris Williams, as Saul

## RESPOND TO GOD

PRAYER CONCERNS—*Please remember those on our prayer list.*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY ANTHEM “Just As I Am” arr. Howard Helvey

Just as I am, without one plea, but that thy blood was shed for me, and that thou bidd’st me come to thee, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Just as I am, though tossed about with many a conflict, many a doubt, fightings and fears within, without, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Just as I am, thy love unknown has broken every barrier down; now to be thine, yea thine alone, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

\*DOXOLOGY—NO. 606

**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

**Generous and surprising God, when we thought that death had won, you amazed us with the resurrection. Surprise us again with your ability to transform the world through our witness to your love. Accept and dedicate this offering and our lives, O God, using us to bring hope and new life to this world. Amen.**

THE INVITATION TO THE LORD’S TABLE

THE PRAYER OF 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

*Communion elements at the allergen-free station this morning are  
gluten, soy, nut, and dairy-free bread and grape juice.*

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

\*HYMN—NO. 444 “Forgive Our Sins as We Forgive”

\*INVITATION, CHARGE, AND BLESSING

\*SENDING FORTH HYMN—NO. 765 “May the God of Hope Go With Us”

**May the God of hope go with us every day, filling all our lives with love and joy and peace. May the God of justice speed us on our way, bringing light and hope to every land and race. Praying, let us work for peace; singing, share our joy with all; working for a world that’s new, faithful when we hear Christ call.**

\*POSTLUDE “All Hail the Power of Jesus Name”

arr. Alice Jordan

**FARMINGTON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH STAFF**

Rev. Rebecca Luter, Pastor

Rev. Dr. Barb Johnson, Associate Pastor

Davis Howe, Youth Director

Jim Thrash, Director of Music

Dr. Tom Bryant, Accompanist

**PARTICIPATING IN THE SERVICE TODAY**

Sandy Wann, Liturgist

Chris Williams, Reader

Davis Howe, Children’s Moment

Rebecca and Scott Hutchins, Ushers

Jackie Hall, Jinney Hart, Rebecca Hutchins,

Laurinda Ingram, and Paula Gale, Communion Servers

†The Call to Worship was written by Tim Graves, and posted on LiturgyBits.

Saul’s Reflection is a dramatic monologue published in Leader Online of the Mennonite Church USA.

The Great Thanksgiving was written by Rev. Thom Shuman.

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