



FARMINGTON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

SERVICE OF DIVINE WORSHIP

Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

August 16, 2026

*Rise in body or spirit.

Bold Type—Participate in unison.

ASSEMBLE IN GOD’S NAME

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

Gracious God, quiet our minds and open our hearts to your presence. As we gather in worship, remind us that in Christ we are welcomed into a family wider than blood or circumstance— a community formed by your love and grace. Teach us to recognize the sacred worth of every person, to welcome all those whom you draw near, and to comprehend the gift of belonging in your household. As we listen for your Word, broaden our understanding of family, community, and love. May our hearts be ready to follow Jesus our brother, and may our worship draw us closer to you and to one another. 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 “Intermezzo in E Major”

Brahms

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Come, you who were born into families, and you who have found family along the way.

We come, carrying the people who raised us, loved us, hurt us, shaped us, and sometimes drove us completely crazy.

Come, you who live near family, and you who live hundreds or thousands of miles away.

We come, remembering that distance cannot always separate us, and proximity cannot always make us close.

FARMINGTON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

8245 Farmington Blvd.

Germantown, TN 38139

(901)754-2794

www.farmingtonpres.org

Come, you who have a wonderful family, and you who have a complicated one.

We come as we are.

For in Christ, God gathers us into a family wider than blood, deeper than geography, and stronger than our differences.

Let us worship the God who makes a home for the lonely and calls us one family in Christ.

*HYMN OF PRAISE—NO. 305 “Come Sing, O Church, in Joy!”

Please be seated.

CALL TO RECONCILIATION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy God, loving and faithful parent, you have called us into a family of grace, yet we confess that we often make our families into places of judgment. We want the people we love to become the people we think they ought to be. We want them to make choices that make sense to us, to keep the peace and to represent our family well. And sometimes, God, we even ask people to become smaller so that we can remain comfortable. Forgive us.

Forgive us when we use love as an excuse for control. Forgive us when we silence courage in the name of peace. Forgive us when we make belonging dependent upon agreement. And forgive us when we forget that every single person we encounter—family, friend, stranger, neighbor, church member— is also someone you love. Teach us to love without possessing, to speak truth without cruelty, to disagree without abandoning, and to belong without requiring everyone else to become just like us. Through Jesus Christ, our brother and our Lord we pray, Amen.

A time of silent prayer

KYRIE

Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

*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.

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

The 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

Prayer Concerns

Remember in Prayer Our Farmington Family, Session, and Staff; Earleen Anderson, Kathy and Bill Argo, Jackie Baker, Kevin Beard, Bonnie Blair, Judith Cassidy, Jim Collins, Dan Freymeyer, Brenda Geise, Adrienne Pakis Gillion, Betzabe Guzman, Bill Harrington, Martha Hart, Annette Hosier, Jerry Hosier, Jamie Jameson, Peter Kendall, Bill Knight, Kristie Lively, Jim Mable, Annette Main, Steve Milinkovich, Sara Millar, Renee Mitchell, Tommy Nagel, Nancy & Dennis Palmer, Bill Renfrow, Ellen Renfrow, Karen Smaili, William Stephens, Jon Still, Joan Wallace, Frank Whited, and from our Presbytery: College & Young Adults.

Sympathy to the family and friends of Suzanne Dunn, friend of Linda Stamps.

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

Rev. Ruth Lovell Bradham, Guest Preacher

Rebecca Hutchins, Liturgist

Davis Howe, Children’s Moment

Jinney Hart and Paula Patterson, Ushers

School Uniforms and Supplies We are working with Room in the Inn to respond to the needs of the Family Inn’s 33 children experiencing homelessness as they return to school. Presbyterian Women have pledged \$500 of their funds toward these needs. If you are able to donate, please memo your gift “RITI Back to School.”

PW Fall Gathering Presbyterian Women are invited to enjoy the day at Pinecrest on Saturday, August 22 (9am-1pm). Rev. Dr. Cindy Schwartz will introduce us to our Bible Study for 2026-27. If you would like to carpool, please let Jinney Hart know.

Presbytery Retreat Day Renowned author Dr. Catherine Meeks will present her thoughts on race, justice, faith, and racial healing through the lens of her new book, Bridging the Rivers of Difference: A Proclamation of Unity in Resistance on Saturday, August 29 (10am-2:30pm) at Parkway Gardens United Presbyterian Church (1005 East Shelby Drive, Memphis).

Mark Your Calendar The first Potluck of the 2026-27 school year will be August 30 following worship. Plan to bring a dish to share and leave it in the kitchen before worship with any serving or warming instructions. We look forward to sharing in food and fellowship as the Farmington family!

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.”

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 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 We received this note from Melanie Hooker, the Program Director for the Family Inn of Room in the Inn-Memphis. “I just wanted to personally reach out and say thank you for organizing the school uniform donations for our families.

It’s hard to put into words what your generosity means to the children we serve. Walking into a new school year with what you need may seem like a small thing, but for our kids, it brings confidence, excitement, and a sense of belonging. It allows them to start the school year feeling prepared, just like their classmates, despite the challenges they may be facing.

Your kindness reminds our families that they are seen, supported, and cared for by people in our community. That encouragement means more than you know, especially during a season of transition.

Thank you for taking the time to invest in our children and for helping them begin the school year with hope and dignity. Your generosity is making a real difference, and we are incredibly grateful for your support.”

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.*

PROCLAIM GOD’S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING

Psalm 68:4-10 and 32-35 Pew Bible 902
This is the Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING

Mark 3:20-21 and 31--35 Pew Bible 1556
This is the Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

RESPONSE NO. 587 “Alleluia!”

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

SERMON “Jesus, We Need to Talk” Rev. Ruth Lovell Bradham

RESPOND TO GOD

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

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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.

OFFERTORY ANTHEM “The Gift of Love”

Though I may speak with bravest fire, and have the gift to all inspire; and have not love, my words are vain, as sounding brass and hopeless gain. Though I may give all I possess, and striving so my love profess; but not be giv'n by love within, the profit soon turns strangely thin. Come, Spirit, come, our hearts control; our spirits long to be made whole. Let inward love guide every deed; by this we worship, and are freed.

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.

Gracious God, receive these gifts and use them to make room at the table. Take what we offer and turn it into welcome, justice, mercy, community and hope. Teach us to become the kind of family Jesus describes— a family where there is room for one more, where nobody has to earn belonging, and where love is always bigger than our differences. Through Christ our brother we pray, Amen.

Verses 1, 3, and 4

*SENDING FORTH HYMN—NO. 301 “Let Us Build a House”

Let us build a house where all are named, their songs and visions heard and loved and treasured, taught and claimed as words within the Word. Built of tears and cries and laughter, prayers of faith and songs of grace; let this house proclaim from floor to rafter: *all are welcome; all are welcome; all are welcome in this place.*

David N. Johnson

 **LIVE**
STREAMING

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

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 to give us information? What to ask a question? Looking for assistance with signing up? Email us at: church@farmingtonpres.org

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.

Fellowship Coffee After worship this morning, everyone is invited to the Fellowship Hall. Thank you to Beverly Butler for providing refreshments. We hold Fellowship Coffee on the third Sunday each month. If you would like to help host, please sign up on our website.

Adult Sunday School On August 23 and 30 (not meeting August 16) Rev. Rebecca will lead a discussion on the Scripture Lessons on which she will be preaching in the East Room at 10am. Cooper Patterson's class will meet each Sunday of August in the Fellowship Hall at 9:30am. They will begin studying the Gospel of Mark this fall.

Youth Fellowship If you would like to be informed on what youth events are being planned, feel free to reach out to Davis at davis@farmingtonpres.org or at 901-482-2503. The youth meet Sunday evenings in the Youth Room from 5:30-7:30pm for a time of fellowship, games, faith-building, and food.