



FARMINGDALE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

**Bulletin for the
Third Sunday in Lent
March 3, 2024**

Service is In-Person or on Zoom

ZOOM:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/5166943424?pwd=TWtTVEIWUHNXbjVNcnNMaG9wTVJrZz09>

Meeting ID: 5166943424 Password 11735

***The YouTube option is no longer available. Please use Zoom instead.**

WELCOME TO FARMINGDALE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Third Sunday in Lent

March 3, 2024



Rev. Claire Hojung Wu, Pastor
David Majoros, D.M.A., Director of Music
Debbie Cala, Liturgist

GATHERING “Nearer, Still Nearer” – L. Smith

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

***PRELUDE** “How Great Thou Art” UMH #77 (vv. 1, 2)
+ Bringing the light of Christ into the sanctuary

*CALL TO WORSHIP

The heavens are telling the glory of God.

The firmament proclaims God’s handiwork.

We celebrate the steadfast love of God, our Creator.

Surely God is faithful to all who live in covenant.

From the sun’s rising to its setting, the creation speaks.

Day and night, the earth’s creatures announce God’s works.

The commandments of God are clear, enlightening the eyes.

God’s law is perfect, calling forth our best.

God’s foolishness is wiser than human wisdom.

God’s weakness is stronger than human strength.

The ordinances of God are true and righteous.

In following them, we gain wisdom and strength.

***OPENING HYMN** “Lord of the Dance” UMH #261 (vv. 1, 3, 5)

SHARING GOD’S BLESSINGS WITH EACH OTHER

INVOCATION

All-wise and all-loving God, we are drawn together in this place because all our knowledge and discernment is not enough to give meaning to our lives. All the pieces of our busy days need a center, and we have come to see that center in the “foolishness” of the cross. There, Love went the distance for us. There, the paths of service were lifted up above our passion for personal gain. We are frightened by what you might ask of us, but we long for the wholeness only you can offer. Let the words of our mouths and the meditations of our hearts be acceptable to you, O Lord, our rock and our redeemer. Amen.

*GLORIA PATRI

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

PASTORAL PRAYER

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

We have come to your temple, loving God, because this is your place, not ours. We confess that we sometimes forget whose house this is. We forget that all the world belongs to you as we scramble for all we can claim for ourselves. Our actions deny your love, which is at the heart of your perfect law. Our minds have justified the bending and breaking of your law to suit current trends and feelings. We cry out for forgiveness and the opportunity for a fresh start. Clear us of hidden faults and redeem us from those we recognize and confess. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

When our prayers become more than pious words; when, in awe before God, we truly seek forgiveness; the Almighty becomes for us a guiding presence. We are healed, strengthened, and set free from our slavery to sin. In steadfast love, God claims us, saying: You are my people. Dare to walk in the footsteps of Jesus.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

THE LORD'S PRAYER (UNISON)

SHARING OF THE BREAD AND CUP

PRAYER AFTER RECEIVING (UNISON)

Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us. Grant that we may go into the world in the strength of your Spirit, to give ourselves for others, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen

ANTHEM

“Out of Love, he Broke the Bread” – Harlan
The Chancel Choir

OLD TESTAMENT READING Psalm 118:26-29

***GOSPEL READING** Luke 13:31-35

HYMN OF PREPARATION “Dear Lord, Lead Me Day by Day”

UMH #411 (v. 1)

SERMON

Pastor Claire Wu

CHORAL PRAYER RESPONSE

“Amen” - Ringwald
The Chancel Choir

OFFERING OUR GIFTS TO GOD

OFFERTORY SONG “The Gift of Love”
The Chancel Choir and the Congregation

UMH #408

***DOXOLOGY**

UMH #95

***PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING (UNISON)**

We bring our offerings, O God, not to buy your favor, but to express our gratitude, not to support an institution, but to further your mission. We support the church in its efforts to challenge the false wisdom that pervades our culture. We seek to make this community of faith a center of values that are consistent with your will. May we be zealous in your service, willing to sacrifice for love's sake, and eager to embrace your word in our everyday living. Amen.

***HYMN** “Sing of the Lord's Goodness”

W&S #3010 (vv. 1, 3, 4)

***BENEDICTION**

***POSTLUDE** “Sing of the Lord’s Goodness”

W&S #3010 (Refrain)

Our worship has ended. Our service begins.

(* Please stand as you are able.

OUR THANKS TO THE FOLLOWING FOR THEIR MINISTRY:

UPCOMING LITURGISTS:

March 2024

10th – Karen Gierie Newman

17th – Diane Puchta

24th – Sharon Lensky

28th – Holy Thursday 7 pm – Danny Gastelua

29th – Good Friday 7 pm – Karen Gierie Newman

31st – Easter Sunday – Sherry Tuscano

COFFEE HOUR HOSTS:

March 2024

10th – Smith/Muller

17th – Jayme & Diane

24th – Rita & John

31st - UWF

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WELCOME, VISITORS!

We are delighted that you have chosen to worship with us today! If this is your first time with us, be sure to stop by the Visitor Center, in the room to the side of the Sanctuary, for a welcome packet and a gift! If you wish to receive our newsletter, please send us your contact information to office@farmingdaleumc.org and visit our website farmingdaleumc.org.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Trustee Meeting – Tuesday, March 5th at 7:30 p.m.

Finance Committee Meeting – Monday, March 11th at 7:30 p.m.

Cooking Ministry - Wednesday, March 13th at 6:30 p.m.

Church Council Meeting – Monday, March 25th at 7 p.m.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- **Bishop Bickerton to Visit LIE District - Thursday, March 14th** - Bishop Bickerton will meet with clergy and laity at 6:30 p.m., at the Bible Korean UMC in Dix Hills.
- **LIE Youth Retreat at Camp Quinipet – April 5th-7th** – Grades 6-12. See the flyer for more details
- **Church Fundraiser – Sunday, May 19th, 2024** Mark your calendars and tell your friends and neighbors! Twin County Chorus, a division of Sweet Adeline's, will be performing on **Sunday, May 19th, 2024**. There will be a silent auction and refreshments served. Tickets are \$20 pp; seniors and students are \$15. We need your help to donate new items for the silent auction and/or seek donations from merchants. Any questions please see Jackie Suwalski.

SPIRITUAL FORMATION MINISTRIES

- FRIDAY LADIES SMALL GROUP MEETS AT 7:30 PM VIA ZOOM
- SATURDAY MEN’S BIBLE STUDY MEETS AT 8:00 AM-9:00AM VIA ZOOM
- WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY MEETS AT 10:30 AM VIA ZOOM

CONCERNS & COMMITMENTS:

Whenever the gospel of Jesus Christ is proclaimed, the Spirit of God is at work. If you have been touched by God and desire to make a commitment to Christ and to His Church or you would like to have the pastor pray with/for you, please *come to the Altar after worship*, the pastor will meet with you for prayer.

WRITE PRAYER CONCERN AND JOY

If you want to submit your prayer requests, we suggest you to write your prayer request upon your arrival at the sanctuary, and then pass it to the prayer basket during the prayer time. Thank you!

LENT 2024 SERVICES SCHEDULE:

Lent began on Ash Wednesday, February 14, and Easter is on Sunday, March 31. This Lenten season, may we let go of everything that has discouraged us and held us back, and pray that God will guide us as we reclaim, revive, and renew our faith.

- 5th Sunday in Lent: Dramatic reading of the Wife of the Pontius Pilate: Sunday, March 17 at 9:30 am
- Palm Sunday: Easter Cantata: Sunday, March 24 at 9:30 am
- The Central Nassau Cooperative Parish Lenten Meditation Service: Tuesday, March 26 at Risen Rock Bansuk Korean UMC at 7:30 pm.
- Maundy Thursday Service: Thursday, March 28 at 7 pm
- Good Friday Service: Friday, March 29 at 7 pm
- Easter Worship Service: Sunday, March 31 at 9:30 am



2024 LENTEN STUDY

Our 2024 Lenten Study will take place on the six Sundays in Lent, **February 18th through March 24th**, with a potluck supper at 5:00PM and the program at 6:00PM. This year we will be studying the book, *Revival*, a six-week journey through England as we study together following the life of John Wesley and exploring his defining characteristics of a Wesleyan Christian. As we study, Pastor Claire will share the experience of the trip to John Wesley's England.

There is a sign-up at the Visitors' Desk in the transept for the supper and program OR just the program. Any questions, please contact Karen Gierie Newman, newman1309@aol.com.

FARMINGDALE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

407 Main Street, Farmingdale, NY 11735

(516) 694-3424 • Website: www.farmingdaleumc.org Email: office@farmingdaleumc.org

Church Office Hours: Tuesdays- Thursdays 9:00 am – 1:00 pm

For a link to view the service via on-line please visit www.farmingdaleumc.org