



FARMINGDALE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

**Bulletin for
First Sunday After Epiphany
January 7, 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

First Sunday After Epiphany

January 7, 2024



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

GATHERING “All People That on Earth Do Dwell” – L. Smith

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

***PRELUDE** “I Sing the Almighty Power of God” UMH #152 (vv. 1, 3)
+ Bringing the light of Christ into the sanctuary

CALL TO WORSHIP

Come, join the search for all God will reveal.
We are the church, committed to an encounter with mystery.
God has sent light to dispel our fears.
The Glory of God has risen upon us.
The gospel of Christ reveals God’s grace.
We share in the promise of Jesus Christ.
We gather together and lift up our eyes.
Our hearts thrill to the sight and our lips rejoice.
Through us, the wisdom of God will be made known.
There is rich variety to meet each one where we are.
The radiance of truth surrounds us.
Boldly and confidently, we approach our God.

***HYMN** “Morning Has Broken” UMH #145

SHARING GOD’S BLESSINGS WITH EACH OTHER

INVOCATION

God beyond our knowing, grant us today new glimpses of who you are and what you intend for us to be. The powers of this earth bow before you in humble adoration. Mighty nations are tiny blips on the screens of your eternity. Our lives are insignificant except as you enlist us to be a part of your eternal purposes. You draw us irresistibly toward the light. We are attracted to your revelation. We need the sense of purpose you engender among us. Come, Holy Mystery, to reveal as much of your truth as we can stretch to understand and receive into our lives. Amen.

***GLORIA PATRI** “Glory Be to the Father” UMH #71

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

PASTORAL PRAYER

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of sovereigns and commoners, we confess that we are often more impressed with famous people than we are with your amazing glory. The rulers of this earth are more real to us than the One who reigns over time and eternity. Your priorities are not foremost in our lives. We reach for power popularity more than for justice for the poor. We are more focused on prosperity than on relief for the oppressed. Our pursuits do not satisfy; save us from their fragmenting grip in our lives. Cause a new epiphany among us, we pray. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

God will judge us with righteousness and deliver us from the oppressive greed to which we have succumbed. The showers of God's blessings will fall on us like rain on new-mown grass. Peace will abound in the hearts of those who give help to the poor and needy. God commissions us, as fellow heirs with Christ, to fulfill the mission given to the saints.

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

**"Rise Up, Shepherd, and Follow" – Spiritual (arr)
The Chancel Choir**

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Jeremiah 31:31-34

NEW TESTAMENT READING

Hebrews 8:6-13

HYMN OF PREPARATION

"Holy Ground"

FWS #2272

SERMON

Pastor Claire Wu

THE WESLEY COVENANT PRAYER

**I am no longer my own, but thine.
Put me to what thou wilt, rank me with whom thou wilt.
Put me to doing, put me to suffering.
Let me be employed by thee or laid aside for thee,
exalted for thee or brought low for thee.
Let me be full, let me be empty.
Let me have all things, let me have nothing.
I freely and heartily yield all things
to thy pleasure and disposal.
And now, O glorious and blessed God,
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
thou art mine, and I am thine. So be it.
And the covenant which I have made on earth,
let it be ratified in heaven. Amen.**

CHORAL PRAYER RESPONSE

**"Amen Amen"
The Chancel Choir**

UMH #897

OFFERING OUR GIFTS TO GOD

OFFERTORY SONG

“Carol of the Epiphany”
The Chancel Choir (and Congregation for Verse 5)

FWS #2094

*DOXOLOGY

UMH #95

*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING (UNISON)

We reach for the boundless riches of Christ, even as we give the tithes and offerings we have pledged. An abundance of things does not satisfy, and the wealth of nations cannot buy peace. Therefore, we join our efforts in the church to make a difference in the world, not through instruments of oppression but through the power of love. Employ our gifts in the service of Jesus Christ, we pray. Amen.

*HYMN

“Shine, Jesus, Shine”

FWS #2173 (VV 1, 3)

*BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE

“Shine, Jesus, Shine”

FWS #2173 (Refrain)

Our worship has ended. Our service begins.

(* Please stand as you are able.

OUR THANKS TO THE FOLLOWING FOR THEIR MINISTRY:

UPCOMING LITURGISTS:

January 2024

7th – Sharon Lensky

14th – Debbie Cala

21st – Lois Muller

28th – Diane Puchta

COFFEE HOUR HOSTS:

January 2024

7th – Faustina & Vicki

14 – Smith/Muller

21st – Jayme & Diane

28th Rita & John

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:

Finance Committee Meeting – Monday, January 8, 2024 at 7:30 p.m. via Zoom

Trustee Meeting – Tuesday, January 9, 2024 at 7:30 p.m.

Food Ministry – Wednesday, January 10, 2024 at 6:30 p.m.

Church Council Meeting – Monday, January 22, 2024 at 7 p.m.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- **Long Island District Anti-Racism Task Force MLK Day Celebration – Saturday, January 13th**
10 a.m. – 12 p.m. at the Smithtown UMC – 230 Middle Country Road, Smithtown, NY 11787. Guest Speaker: Frederik Brewington. Potluck Fellowship to follow.
- **“BAPTISM OF THE LORD” – Sunday, January 14th**
During the worship service, we will celebrate the reaffirmation of our baptismal covenant and be reminded of our own personal baptism. We will also prepare for a new year by recommitting ourselves

to God and the ministries to which we are called. Join us for this special Sunday and renewal of our Baptismal Covenant.

- **Long Island District East – Youth Bowling – Sunday, January 21st – 2-4 p.m.** at Strike10 Lanes, 849 Long Island Avenue, Deer Park. \$20 fee includes shoes, pizza & drinks. RSVP to Pastor David at david.czeisel@nyac-umc.com. See flyer for more details.

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.

PRAYER CONCERNS AND JOYS

We share prayer requests as part of our regular service. Please raise your hand for the microphone to share your prayer concerns and joys with the congregation. If you have private prayer requests, please write your prayer request upon your arrival at the sanctuary, and then pass it to the offering basket during the offertory time. Thank you!

OFFERING ENVELOPES FOR 2024

You may pick up your offering envelopes for 2024 in the back of the sanctuary. If you don't see your envelopes or if you would like to get a set of offering envelopes, please let Dwight Andrews or Pastor know.

LAY SERVANT MINISTRIES

The 2024 Spring Lay Servant Ministry Zoom Class Schedule is now available. Please refer to the flyer for more details.

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