



FARMINGDALE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

**Bulletin for the
Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost
August 27, 2023**

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

13th Sunday after Pentecost

August 27th, 2023



Rev. Claire Hojung Wu, Pastor
David Majoros, D.M.A., Director of Music
Danny Gastelua, Lay Speaker
Mary Ann Nataro, Liturgist

GATHERING “They’ll Know We Are Christians” – L. Leatherman

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

***PRELUDE** “Blessed Be the Name of the Lord” FWS #2034
+ Bringing the light of Christ into the sanctuary

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Our help is from God, who made heaven and earth.

Come to worship the One who answers our prayers.

If God were not on our side, we could not live.

If God were not for us, we would be swept away.

God has gifted each one of us in unique ways.

In our variety, we complement one another.

We rejoice in God’s love and faithfulness.

Blessed be our God, whose word is true.

In thankfulness, we bring our joyous songs.

We are here to pay attention to God’s instructions.

We are here, seeking to discern God’s word.

We are open to God’s transforming Spirit.

***OPENING HYMN** “Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah” UMH #127

SHARING GOD’S BLESSINGS WITH EACH OTHER

INVOCATION

God beyond our knowing, we believe that you care for humble people who seek to follow your Word more than for those who are pretentious and proud in places of power. You have protected your people when they were surrounded by trouble. You have provided a way of escape in the midst of oppression. Your love never fails.

Come, Holy One, to transform us. Work within and among us to renew our minds and build community. Nurse us into the health you intend for all your children. You are our help and our hope. Amen.

*GLORIA PATRI

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

O God, we did not realize that we are among the rich oppressors of this world. We think we are poor when we cannot have everything we want. Keep us from misusing the power we have. We confess our fear of those who are unlike us. We set up barriers against them when we are afraid. Keep us from acting in ways

that alienate and divide. When we are tempted to conform to the world's standards, set before us the higher model of sacrifice and service that is given to us in Jesus, in whose name we pray. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

God gives us grace to think with sober judgement and to act with confident faith. By that grace, we have unique gifts to use within the body of Christ. God forgives and heals and empowers us with new insights and expanded capacity to serve. In humble obedience, we learn the joy of following Jesus and living for the highest good of all.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

PASTORAL PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER (UNISON)

EPISTLE READING Romans 12:1-8

GOSPEL READING Matthew 16:13-20

Leader: This is the Word of God.

People: Thanks be to God.

HYMN OF PREPARATION "Holy Ground" FWS #2272 (2X)

SERMON Danny Gastelua

PRAYER RESPONSE "Amen, Amen" UMH #897

OFFERING OUR GIFTS TO GOD

OFFERTORY SONG "We Bring the Sacrifice of Praise" FWS #2031(2X)

***DOXOLOGY** UMH #95

***PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING (UNISON)**

Receive our offering, gracious God, as an expression of our thankfulness. In your church, we are privileged to cultivate the dimensions of our lives that give meaning and purpose to all we do. Here we become aware that the greatest gifts we receive are not material, and we learn how best to use the particular gifts you give us. At the same time, you show us how our material advantages can help others. May many be blessed through our sharing of these offerings and our sharing of ourselves. Amen.

***HYMN** "How Majestic is Your Name" FWS #2023

***BENEDICTION**

***POSTLUDE** "How Majestic is Your Name" FWS #2023 (Refrain)

Our worship has ended. Our service begins.

(*) Please stand as you are able.

OUR THANKS TO THE FOLLOWING FOR THEIR MINISTRY:

UPCOMING LITURGISTS:

August 2023

27th – Mary Ann Nataro

LEMONADE HOUR HOSTS:

August 2023

20th – Jayme & Diane

27th – 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:

SPRC Meeting – Monday, August 28, 2023 at 6:00 p.m.

Church Council Meeting – Monday, August 28, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.

SUMMER (HARVEST) FUNDRAISER

You can find a beautiful apple tree in transept area. Please pick an apple (or apples) on the Apple tree to help the church's finance challenges. To online community, please email to office@farmingdaleumc.org for your apple if you want to participate in summer (harvest) fundraiser. Apples are available from \$25, \$50, \$75, \$100, \$200, \$250, \$300, \$500, \$750, \$1,000, and \$2,500. Pick any amount and email to the office. Thank you all for your participation!

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 are changing our prayer request format. We will 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

If you need offering envelopes, please contact the church office.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- **September 10** – 9/11 Remembrance Service
- **September 16** – Men's Prayer Group Breakfast
- **September 17** – Rally Sunday and Blessing of Backpacks, 10:45 AM, with ice cream social to follow.

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