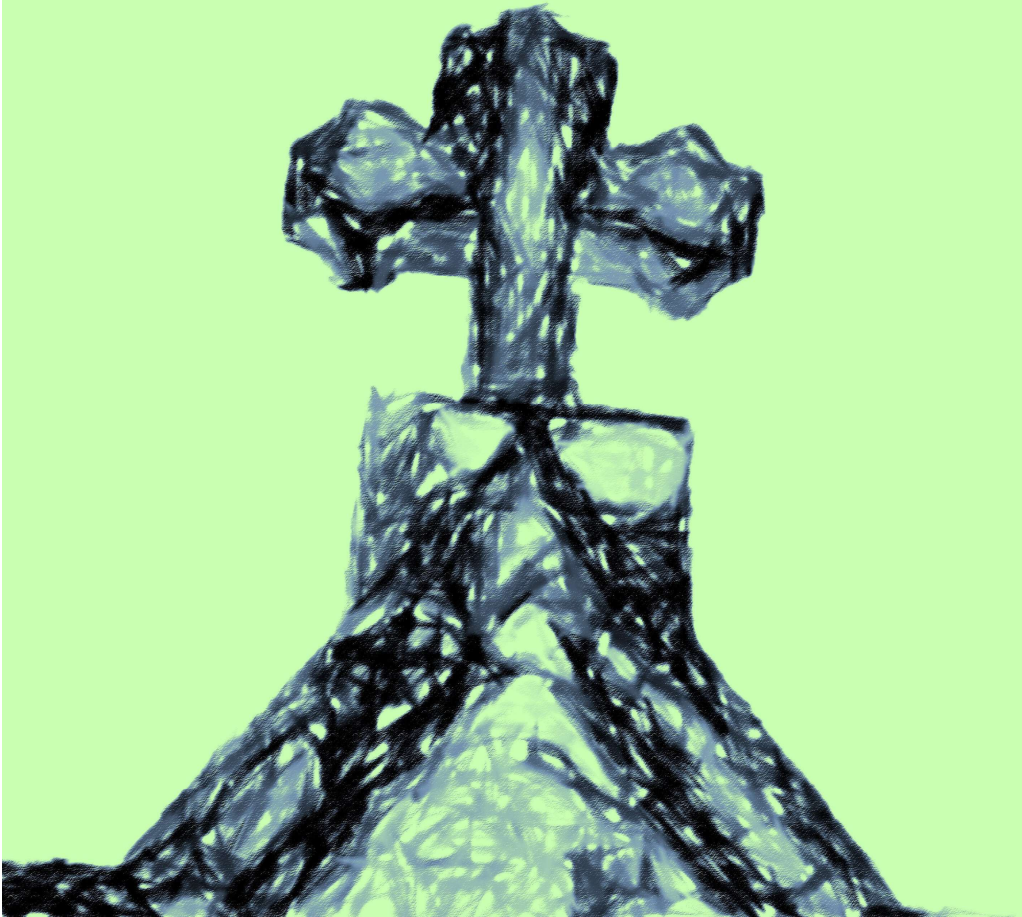


Then Peter came to Him and said,
“Lord, how often shall my brother sin
against me, and I forgive him? Up to
seven times?”

Jesus said to him, “I do not say to you,
up to seven times, but up to seventy
times seven

Matthew 18:21-22



Welcome to
FARMINGDALE UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH
Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost
September 13, 2026

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Rev. Catherine Schuyler, Pastor
David Majoros, D.M.A., Director of Music
Amanda Mastrosimone, Liturgist
Guest Preacher, Lois Muller
Guest Organist, Alex Swerdlin

GATHERING

Father, We Thank You, Bourgeois/Wilson Guest Organist, Alex Swerdlin

GREETINGS and ANNOUNCEMENTS

*PRELUDE

He Leadeth Me, O Blessed Thought United Methodist Hymnal #128

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Followers of Christ, we live in a world where we hurt one another, where sin divides us one from another and makes us enemies instead of neighbors.

Yet we are a people of grace, called by Christ to forgive and repair the rifts between us.

The divisions in our world seem like too much to overcome, and we wonder if this forgiveness thing really works anymore. Maybe it worked for Jesus, but not for us.

Yet we are a people of grace, called by Christ to forgive and repair the rifts between us.

We find ourselves tempted by easy answers and quick solutions, reticent to do the slow and difficult work of reconciliation.

Yet we are a people of grace, called by Christ to forgive and repair the rifts between us.

In this place, may we encounter Christ who meets us in the places where we want to give up, where we despair that life-giving change is even possible, with abundant grace to sustain us on the journey.

God, form us today as people of grace, called by Christ to forgive and repair the rifts between us. Amen.

*HYMN

Welcome

Worship & Song #3152

*INVOCATION

Liberating God, we worship you. We praise you for delivering your people of old from enslavement in Egypt by opening up a new and unexpected future before them. They experienced your grace and mercy in awesome and life-sustaining ways, which must have been like an impossible dream coming true. Through these acts, you showed your compassion for the weak and powerless of this world. We praise and adore you for opening up a new future for us when your love and compassion, your mercy and grace became enfleshed in Jesus Christ. He delivered us from the bondage of evil and sin through his death on the cross. The impossible once more became reality when love defeated evil once and for all. We pray that this time of worship will be a true offering of our wonder and praise that you should care for us so deeply and so faithfully. This we pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

***GLORIA PATRI**

United Methodist Hymnal #71

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Lord, open our hearts and minds by the power of your Holy Spirit, that, as the scriptures are read and your Word proclaimed, we may hear with joy what you say to us today. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING

Romans 14:1-12

CHILDREN'S SERMON

PSALTER

Psalm 114

United Methodist Hymnal #835

***GOSPEL READING**

Matthew 18:21-35

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

***HYMN OF PREPARATION**

The Church's One Foundation

United Methodist Hymnal #546

SERMON

Forgiveness

Lois Muller, Guest Preacher

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

The Nicene Creed

United Methodist Hymnal #880

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

SILENT PRAYER

PASTORAL PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER

OFFERING OUR GIFTS TO GOD

OFFERTORY

Many Gifts, One Spirit

United Methodist Hymnal #114

***DOXOLOGY**

United Methodist Hymnal #94

***PRAYER OF CONSECRATION**

Merciful Deliverer, you part the waters when we feel trapped and forgive debts too great to repay. In the face of fear and brokenness, you lead us with compassion and grace. May the gifts we bring today reflect our deep gratitude for your mercy. Let them support ministries of reconciliation and acts of healing, justice, and welcome. Teach us to lead not with judgment, but with generosity, recognizing that what we have, we hold by your mercy. Bless these offerings and bless us as stewards of your kin-dom, always seeking to build a world where grace is not rare but abundant. Amen.

HYMN

Freely, Freely

United Methodist Hymnal #389

***BENEDICTION**

***POSTLUDE**

Joyful, Joyful

United Methodist Hymnal #89

Our worship has ended; our service begins.

WELCOME, VISITORS!

Thank you for joining us in worship this morning. There's a Visitor Center in the room to the right of the sanctuary with information and a welcome packet. If you'd like to share your name and address, you may use the QR code, or sign the guest book in the Visitor Center.



PRAYER GROUPS AND BIBLE STUDIES

- Bible Study – Wednesday, 10:30 a.m. via Zoom
- Ladies' Small Group – Friday, 7:30 p.m. via Zoom

UPCOMING MEETINGS

- Rally Day Sunday – Sunday, Sept. 20 at 9:30 am service with BBQ after.
- Annual Church Conference – Tuesday, Sept. 22, 6:30pm SPRC members, and 7:00 pm all church members

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

We'll share our prayer concerns aloud in worship. The ushers have microphones to bring to you to share. If you'd prefer, you may add a written prayer request to the offering plate.



We share food with our hungry neighbors through the work of the Long Island Coalition for the Homeless. All non-perishable food is welcome. There's a [wish-list on Amazon](#). Link is on the church website.

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 speak with her.

Please join us next Sunday, September 20, 2026



Service at 9:30AM followed by a barbeque!

LECTORS

Sept 13 Amanda Mastrosimone
Sept 20 Betty Gastelua
Sept 27 Sharon Lensky

COFFEE HOUR HOSTS

Sept 13 Lois & Kimberly S.
Sept 20 Barbeque
Sept 27 Amanda & Vicki