



**FARMINGDALE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
**Christmas Eve – Candlelight Service**  
**December 24, 2025 at 10:30 PM**

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**Service is In-Person Only**

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# WELCOME TO FARMINGDALE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Christmas Eve Service at 10:30 pm

December 24, 2025



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

**GATHERING** “O How Joyfully” – Latin Hymn

**WELCOME**

**\*PRELUDE** “O Come All Ye Faithful” UMH #234 (v. 1)  
+ Bringing the light of Christ into the sanctuary

**THE ANGELS’ MESSAGE: WELCOME (RESPONSIVE LITANY)**

Tonight, we gather with joyful hearts to receive God’s greatest gift.

**Joy to the World, the Lord has come!**

Tonight, we hear again the good news that was given for all people.

**Joy to the World, the Lord has come!**

Tonight, we join in steadfast wonder at God’s amazing love.

**Joy to the World, the Lord has come!**

Tonight, we welcome the Savior whose birth has forever changed our lives.

**Joy to the World, the Lord has come!**

**LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE**

Pastor Claire and Philip Wu

*(The Christ candle is lit while the congregation sings  
the seventh stanza of “O Come, O Come Emmanuel”)*

#211 (v. 7)

Tonight, we light all the candles. The **first candle** reminds us that Jesus Christ is the gift of hope to a world in need. The **second candle** calls us to believe that just as God’s wonder filled that first Christmas night, God still works miracles today. The **third candle** calls us to faithful acceptance of God’s unfolding plan. The **fourth candle** calls us to embrace God’s unchanging word. And tonight, we light the **final candle**, as we celebrate God’s amazing love by welcoming the birth of our Savior.

**CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER**

**Gracious Lord, our Advent journey has culminated in this night. As we celebrate the coming of Christ, open our eyes to see Your wonder, open our hearts to know Your joy, and open our lips to tell of Your glory. For to us a Child has been born, to us a Savior has been given. We pray this in the name of Christ, our newborn King. Amen.**

**HYMN**

“The First Noel”

UMH #245 (vv. 1, 4)

**PASTORAL PRAYER**

**Glorious God, who presents us with the most precious of gifts, we praise you for all your blessings in our lives. Tonight, we have come to this place, in the midst of a busy time. We might not even have everything ready at home, yet we have come, because we ourselves need to be ready. Work in our hearts this night, preparing us for your presence. Work in our lives that we may reach out to others in comfort and compassion; work in our world that the darkness that has encompassed it may be dispelled by the brightness of your love and your Gift. In faith and expectation, we pray. AMEN.**

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

### A SCRIPTURE LESSON: THE PROPHECY

Carol: "Angels We Have Heard on High"

Isaiah 9:2, 6-7

UMH #238 (vv. 1, 3)

### A SCRIPTURE LESSON: ISRAEL'S HOPE

Carol: "O Little Town of Bethlehem"

Micah 5:2-5a

UMH #230 (vv. 1, 2)

### A SCRIPTURE LESSON: THE ANGEL GABRIEL

Carol: "The Virgin Mary Had a Baby Boy"

Luke 1:26-38

FWS #2098 (vv. 1, 2)

## OFFERTORY

**"O Holy Night" – Adam**

Alex Swerdlin, tenor

### \*DOXOLOGY

### OFFERTORY PRAYER (UNISON)

**No offering is adequate to express our thanks, loving God, but what we give, we bring with joy. May the ends of the earth know the steadfast love of God. Amen.**

### A SCRIPTURE LESSON: JESUS IS BORN

Carol: "There's a Song in the Air"

Luke 2:1-7

UMH #249 (vv. 1, 4)

### A SCRIPTURE LESSON: THE SHEPHERDS AT THE MANGER Luke 2:8-20

Carol: "Rise Up, Shepherd, and Follow"

FSW #2096 (vv. 1, 2)

### A SCRIPTURE LESSON: THE MAGI VISITS THE MESSIAH Matthew 2:1-11

Carol: "We Three Kings"

UMH #254 (vv. 1, 5)

## MESSAGE

Pastor Claire Wu

## CHRISTMAS PRAYER

**God of all time and space whose entry into human history on this tiny planet we celebrate in silent wonder, open our ears to the songs of angels, our hearts to the good news of great joy, our eyes to see You wherever You may appear. Then, in our amazement, grant us the will and courage to share our experiences in ways that will make a difference in our world, in Jesus' name. Amen.**

### \*THE LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

*The pastor will first light her candle from the Christ candle in the Advent wreath, then in turn pass the light to acolytes and ushers and to the congregation each saying:*

**The peace of Christ be with you.**

And each in response: **And also with you.**

### \*CAROL

"Silent Night, Holy Night"

UMH #239 (vv 1-4)

### \*THE PASSING OF THE LIGHT

*(When your lights are on, please stand in a circle.*

*The congregation will continue to sing until the lighting is finished.)*

### \*HYMN

"Joy to the World"

UMH #246 (vv 1, 2, 4)

**\*DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING**

Pastor: In the quiet of the night

**All: We are called to act. We are called to care. We are called to share a personal story of Christmas, a personal story of salvation.**

Pastor: In the quiet of the night

**All: God sends us to be living faith: A personal invitation, a personal voice of hope, a personal hand of service, in our day-to-day acts, in our day-to-day relationships.**

Pastor: May the body and blood of Christ Jesus strengthen you and keep you always in faith.

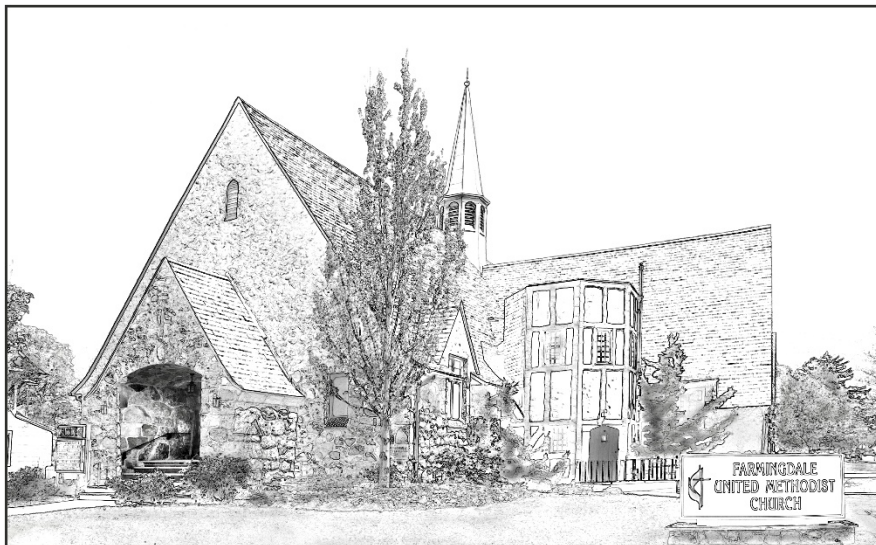
**All: Amen.**

**\*POSTLUDE**

“We Wish You a Merry Christmas”

*(Please extinguish your candles at the end of the hymn singing.)*

*We wish you a Christmas  
filled with the joy of Christ.*



**FARMINGDALE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

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Church Office Hours: Mondays- Thursdays 10:00 am – 2:00 pm

For a link to view the service via on-line please visit [www.farmingdaleumc.org](http://www.farmingdaleumc.org)