



FARMINGDALE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

**Bulletin for
7th Sunday after the Epiphany
February 23, 2025**

Service is In-Person or on Zoom

ZOOM:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/5166943424?pwd=TWtTVElWUHNXbjVNcnNMaG9wTVJrZz09>

Meeting ID: 5166943424 Password 11735

WELCOME TO FARMINGDALE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

7th Sunday after the Epiphany

February 23, 2025



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

GATHERING "Meditation on 'Pleading Savior'" - Hegarty

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

***PRELUDE** "Pass It On" UMH #572 (vv. 1, 3)
+ Bringing the light of Christ into the sanctuary

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Jesus teaches us, "Do to others as you would have them do to you." But who are the others?

Our enemies and friends, family and strangers.

Jesus teaches us, "Be merciful as your Father is merciful." But what is mercy?

To act with compassion, to help without expecting anything in return.

Jesus teaches us, "Forgive, and you will be forgiven." But how do we forgive?

By recognizing enemies, friends, family, strangers, and ourselves as people in need of compassion.

Let us worship God, who loves us and empowers us to love one another with mercy and compassion.

Come, let us worship! Thanks be to God! Amen.

***HYMN** "The Gift of Love" UMH #408

SHARING GOD'S BLESSINGS WITH EACH OTHER

INVOCATION

Inexhaustible source of love and life, be with us in our time of worship as we seek the love it takes to walk in the ways of your Son. Help us love our enemies and bless those who wrong us, for we cannot do so alone.

Teach us the joy of treating others with all the same respect and goodness with which we hope to be treated.

May our every word and deed make known that we are your beloved children and vessels of your love. Amen.

***GLORIA PATRI** "Glory Be to the Father" UMH #71

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God, we are so conditioned to respond in kind. We are so worried that when the reckoning comes, we will find ourselves left with the short end of the stick. And not without reason. The powerful take and take and lie and lie and oppress and oppress, seemingly without consequence. Teach us to love with skill. Teach us to love with precision. Teach us to love with abandon, trusting that when we step into the ocean of your abundant love, we will receive the blessings of your abundant life. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

When we treat others as we would have them treat us, Jesus calls us beloved children of the Most High. If God is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked, how much more will God be kind to those who love the Lord and seek to live the Golden Rule? Rest in this assurance and be at peace.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

PASTORAL PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER (UNISON)

ANTHEM "Praise to the Lord" - Whitehead
The Chancel Choir

OLD TESTAMENT READING Psalm 37:1-11, 39-40

***GOSPEL READING** Luke 6:27-38

Leader: This is the Word of God.

People: Thanks be to God.

HYMN OF PREPARATION "Hymn of Promise" UMH #707

SERMON Lois Muller, Lay Speaker

CHORAL PRAYER RESPONSE "Amen" - Ringwald

OFFERING OUR GIFTS TO GOD

OFFERTORY SONG "Ancient Words" - DeShazo
The Chancel Choir

***DOXOLOGY** UMH #95

***PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING (UNISON)**

Source of every blessing, as you sent Joseph into Egypt to save the world from famine, you sent Jesus into our lives to save us from selfishness and greed. For teaching us to treat others as we would have them treat us, we give you our thanks and praise. Bless these gifts, that we have received from your bounty, and send them forth to those in need, whether they be friend or foe. For all are your beloved children and our sisters and brothers. Amen.

***HYMN** "Freely, Freely" UMH #389

***BENEDICTION**

Go with God's blessings.

As followers of Jesus, we will love our enemies and do good to those who hate us.

Go with God's blessings.

As followers of Jesus, we will bless those who curse us and pray for those who persecute us.

Go with God's blessings.

As followers of Jesus, we will do unto others as we would have them do unto us.

Go with God's blessings.

Our worship has ended. Our service begins.

(* Please stand as you are able.

OUR THANKS TO THE FOLLOWING FOR THEIR MINISTRY:

UPCOMING LITURGISTS:

March 2025

- 2nd – Sharon Lensky
- 9th – Karen Gierie Newman
- 16th – Sherry Tuscano
- 23rd – Jeff Smith
- 30th – Larry Bing

COFFEE HOUR HOSTS:

March 2025

- 2nd – Faustina & Vicki
- 9th – Smith/Muller
- 16th – Sherry & Kathy
- 23rd – Rita & John
- 30th - 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, located next to the Sanctuary, to pick up a welcome packet and a gift! If you would like to leave your contact information or subscribe to our newsletter, simply scan the QR code below or stop by the Visitor Center to sign the guest book.



UPCOMING MEETINGS:

- Cooking Ministry Team Meeting – Wednesday, February 26th at 5:45 p.m.
- Church Council Meeting – Monday, March 3rd at 7 p.m.
- Trustee Meeting - TBD

UPCOMING EVENTS:

SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKE SUPPER: Save the Date! **Tuesday, March 4th - 5:00 pm.** Shrove Tuesday before Ash Wednesday which is the first day of Lent. It's a day of penitence, to clean the soul, and a day of celebration as the last chance to feast before Lent begins. Please invite your family, neighbors and friends. Adults \$6; Children 12 & Under: \$3. See Karen Gierie Newman, Jackie Suwalski or Evelyn Laky for tickets or RSVP to Karen at newman1309@aol.com.

ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE: Lent will begin on **Ash Wednesday, March 5th**, and Easter is on Sunday, April 20th. This Lenten season, we may 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.

- Ashes-To-Go at the church front yard: Wednesday, March 5th at 11:30 am
- Worship Service: Wednesday, March 5th at 7 pm

BISHOP BICKERTON TO VISIT LIE DISTRICT: **Monday, February 24th** Bishop Bickerton will meet with clergy and laity at 6:30 p.m., at the Commack United Methodist Church. Please see the flyer and register your attendance <https://ny-reg.brtaapp.com/LIEBishopsVisitFeb2025>

LAY SERVANT MINISTRIES

Spring 2025 Lay Servant Ministry Zoom Class Schedule is now available. Please click this link for the details: <http://liedistrict.com/templates/System/details.asp?id=60251&PID=1026316>

CHEER AND SYMPATHY

Do you know someone who needs a little cheer, support, or good wishes in Christ? If so, please reach out to Diane Puchta, who is in charge of Cheer and Sympathy for the United Women in Faith. Diane will send a card to anyone in need. To provide your friend's name, address, or email, please contact Diane at (934) 500-9034 (text or call) or dmpuchta@gmail.com.

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!

LENT 2025 SERVICES SCHEDULE

Lent will begin on Ash Wednesday, March 5th, and Easter is on Sunday, April 20th. This Lenten season, we may 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.

- Ash Wednesday Services:
 - Ashes-To-Go at the church front yard: Wednesday, March 5th at 11:30 am
 - Service: Wednesday, March 5th at 7 pm
- Palm Sunday: Easter Cantata: Sunday, April 13th at 9:30 am
- The North Shore and Central Nassau Coop Parish Meditation Service: Tuesday, April 15th at 7:30 pm at Risen Rock Bansuk Korean UMC.
- Maundy Thursday Service: Thursday, April 17th at 7 pm
- Good Friday Service: Friday, April 18th at 7 pm
- Easter Worship Service: Sunday, April 20th at 9:30 am

2025 LENTEN STUDY

Our 2025 Lenten Study will take place on the six Sundays in Lent, **March 9th through April 13th**, with a program led by Dr. Robert Carle, former theology professor, on church history. Topics will include the development of The New Testament, the Trinity, the Protestant Reformation, and the rise of Methodism.

Meetings will be held after service at **11:00AM** in Fellowship Hall. Please bring your own snack/ lunch to enjoy during the program. Drinks will be provided. Any questions, please contact Karen Gierie Newman, newman1309@aol.com.

Note: Pastor Claire Wu will be on vacation from the afternoon of February 16th to February 25th. For any pastoral emergencies, please contact Rev. Miyeong Kang at 973-615-5764 or miyeong.kang@nyac-umc.com.

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