



FARMINGDALE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

**Bulletin for
Epiphany
January 4, 2026**

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

Epiphany
January 4, 2026



Rev. Catherine Schuyler, Pastor
David Majoros, D.M.A., Director of Music
Lois Muller, Liturgist

GATHERING

Brightest And Best

– United States Folk Hymn

GREETINGS

ANNOUNCEMENTS

*PRELUDE

Love Has Come

W&S #3059

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Arise, shine, for your light has come!

Jesus Christ is the light of the world, of our world.

His star still shines today!

**We will seek him and worship him,
today and in the days and years ahead.**

*HYMN

Arise, Shine, for Your Light Has Come

FWS #2005

*INVOCATION

Your light shines on us, O Lord, and we shimmer in its light. Open our eyes this morning to the light of your love, in your Word, in this place, in our lives. Fill us with your spirit of hope and joy, that we may be lamps of love in a world of shadows. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

*GLORIA PATRI

Glory Be to the Father

UMH #71

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Guide us, O God, by your Word, and Holy Spirit, that in your light we may see light, in your truth find freedom, and in your will discover peace; through Christ our Lord, Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING Isaiah 60:1-6

CANTICLE Jeremiah 31:7-14

***R Repeat the sounding joy; repeat the sounding joy;
repeat, repeat the sounding joy!***

For thus says the Lord:

**Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob,
and raise shouts for the chief of the nations;**

proclaim, give praise, and say,

"Save, O Lord, your people, the remnant of Israel."

See, I am going to bring them from the land of the north,

and gather them from the farthest parts of the earth,

among them the blind and the lame,

those with child and those in labor, together;

a great company, they shall return here.

With weeping they shall come, and with consolations I will lead them back,

I will let them walk by brooks of water,

in a straight path in which they shall not stumble;

for I have become a father to Israel, and Ephraim is my firstborn.

***R Repeat the sounding joy; repeat the sounding joy;
repeat, repeat the sounding joy!***

Hear the word of the Lord, O nations,

and declare it in the coastlands far away;

say, "He who scattered Israel will gather him,

and will keep him as a shepherd a flock."

For the Lord has ransomed Jacob,

and has redeemed him from hands too strong for him.

They shall come and sing aloud on the height of Zion,

and they shall be radiant over the goodness of the Lord,

over the grain, the wine, and the oil,

and over the young of the flock and the herd;

their life shall become like a watered garden,

and they shall never languish again.

Then shall the young women rejoice in the dance,

and the young men and the old shall be merry.

I will turn their mourning into joy,

I will comfort them, and give them gladness for sorrow.

I will give the priests their fill of fatness,

and my people shall be satisfied with my bounty, says the Lord.

***R Repeat the sounding joy; repeat the sounding joy;
repeat, repeat the sounding joy!***

ANTHEM

Bread of Heaven, Wine of Heaven – J. M. Martin

The Chancel Choir

***GOSPEL READING**

Matthew 2:1-12

Leader: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

CHILDREN'S SERMON

HYMN OF PREPARATION

Sing We Now of Christmas

UMH #237

SERMON

A Life Uncommon

Rev. Catherine Schuyler

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (from UC Canada)

UMH #883

We are not alone, we live in God's world.

We believe in God:

who has created and is creating,

who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh, to reconcile and make new,

who works in us and others by the Spirit.

We trust in God.

We are called to be the church:

to celebrate God's presence,

to love and serve others,

to seek justice and resist evil,

to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen, our judge and our hope.

In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us.

We are not alone. Thanks be to God. Amen.

OFFERING OUR GIFTS TO GOD

OFFERTORY SONG

Who Would Send a Baby?

Sharon Lensky, soprano

***DOXOLOGY**

UMH #95

***PRAYER OF CONSECRATION**

These gifts are yours, O God, offered in joy and thanksgiving for the blessings you have poured out upon us. Bless them, that they may be used for peace and goodwill to all, as the angels proclaimed so long ago. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

CHORAL PRAYER RESPONSE *Amen* – Ringwald

The Chancel Choir

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Gracious God, your light has shined forth into our lives with power, but we confess that we have turned our eyes away. We have been afraid to live in the brightness of your truth, choosing instead to hide our sin in shadow. Lord, forgive us. Cleanse our hearts of sin and fear, and give us courage to let your light and love shine through all that we do. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

COMMUNION HYMN

What Child Is This?

UMH #219

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Musical response C, UMH p. 20

THE LORD'S PRAYER

SHARING OF THE BREAD AND THE CUP

PRAYER AFTER RECEIVING

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.

***HYMN**

Go, Tell It on the Mountain

UMH #251

***BENEDICTION**

***POSTLUDE**

I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light

UMH #206

*Our worship has ended. Our service begins.
Please join us for coffee hour in the fellowship hall*

(*) Please stand as you are able.

OUR THANKS GO TO THE FOLLOWING FOR THEIR MINISTRY:

UPCOMING LITURGISTS:

January 2026

4th Lois Muller
11th Sharon
18th Danny
25th Karen

COFFEE HOUR HOSTS:

January 2026

4th Vicki & Annemarie
11th Lois & Kimberly S.
18th Kathy V & Amanda
25th Rita & John

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 at www.farmingdaleumc.org



UPCOMING MEETINGS

- Trustee Meeting – Wednesday, January 7 at 7 p.m.
- Finance Committee – Tuesday, January 13 at 7:00 p.m.
- Cooking Ministry – Wednesday, January 14 at 5:30 p.m.
- Church Council – Monday, January 26 at 7:00 p.m.

OFFERING ENVELOPES FOR 2026

You may pick up your offering envelopes for 2026 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 Shanna Wurth know.

SUPPORTING OUR NEIGHBORS IN NEED

The Long Island Coalition for the Homeless is seeking our support. Despite their name, the organization provides essential assistance—including food, toiletries, and cleaning supplies—to **anyone in need across Long Island**, not only individuals experiencing homelessness.

Their current greatest need is for shelf-stable protein items, including: Canned tuna and chicken, Pasta, Rice and beans, and Peanut butter. For your convenience, donations may be made directly through their [**Amazon Wishlist** - https://www.amazon.com/registries/gl/guest-view/2CXXJFQN0RC4V?ref=cm_sw_r_apin_ggr-subnav-share_3APETJNEMQAF0ANM1&language=en-US], or you are welcome to bring items to the church.

If you have any questions, please contact Mary Bing. Thank you for helping to share God's love through your generosity and compassion.

SPIRITUAL FORMATION MINISTRIES

- Friday Ladies Small Group Meets at 7:30 pm Via Zoom
- Saturday Men's Bible Study Meets at 8:00 am-9:00 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!

FARMINGDALE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

407 Main Street, Farmingdale, NY 11735

(516) 694-3424 • Website: www.farmingdaleumc.org Email: office@farmingdaleumc.org

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