



FARMINGDALE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

**Bulletin for
Baptism of the Lord
January 14, 2024**

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

Baptism of the Lord

January 14, 2024



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

GATHERING “How Brightly Shines the Morning Star” – J. C. Bach

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

***PRELUDE** “Somebody’s Knockin’ at Your Door” W&S #3095 (VV 1, 3)
+ Bringing the light of Christ into the sanctuary

CALL TO WORSHIP

The powerful voice of God created all worlds.

That same voice calls us to worship.

Ascribe to our God glory and strength.

Come before God’s glorious majesty.

God’s strength shakes the wilderness.

That same strength is offered to people of faith.

The flames of God penetrate our cold hearts.

May God bless all people with true peace.

Come together to remember your baptism.

Gather to celebrate the Spirit’s gifts.

The heavens open to us at the Word of God.

Surely God forgives and makes whole.

***HYMN** “Marching to Zion” UMH #733 (VV 1, 3, 4)

SHARING GOD’S BLESSINGS WITH EACH OTHER

INVOCATION

In the beginning, O God, you fashioned a universe. Each star and planet had its beginning in you. Out of the void, you brought light and life. Through eons of creativity, you have acted, and today we are here, inheritors of an amazing process, tiny specks in the limitless reaches of time and space. And you are here, waiting to greet us. As you acted in our baptism, you are acting still to make all things new within us and among us. Let your light awaken us and your Spirit empower us for faithful living. Amen.

***GLORIA PATRI** “Glory Be to the Father” UMH #71

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Creator God, you have created us, but we have chosen to go our own way. You have reclaimed us, but we have, by our arrogant attitudes and actions, rejected the claim, You have sent your Holy Spirit to break into our controlled and unimaginative routines, and we have not appreciated that burst of creative energy. We are ready now, ready to admit that our ways are full of dangerous byways. Our mistakes and

failures have often come because, in our false pride, we have not listened to you. Save us again by your forgiving love. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

A voice from heaven said to Jesus: "You are my own Child, the Beloved; with you I am well-pleased." Jesus Christ passed on that gift to those who dared to follow. We, too, are beloved children of God, loved, forgiven, and sent on a mission. All who are truly sorry for their sin are relieved of its burden and are recreated in God's image. Celebrate God's strength and glory!

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

PASTORAL PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER (UNISON)

ANTHEM "Be Thou My Vision" – C. Young
The Chancel Choir

NEW TESTAMENT READING Acts 8:14-17

***GOSPEL READING** Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

This is the Word of God.

Thanks be to God.

HYMN OF PREPARATION "Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus" UMH #462 (VV 1, 4)

SERMON Pastor Claire Wu

HYMN "Water, River, Spirit, Grace" FWS #2253

RESPONSE TO THE WORD: SERVICE OF BAPTISMAL RENEWAL

INTRODUCTION

Sisters and brothers in Christ: through the sacrament of baptism
God's Spirit has been poured out upon water, water poured over and immersing us,
water that flows freely for all who will receive it, water from the streams of God's saving power and
justice,
water that brings hope to all who thirst for righteousness,
water that refreshes life, nurtures growth, and offers new birth.
Today we come to the waters, to renew our commitments in each other's presence
to Christ who has raised us, the Spirit who has birthed us, and the Creator who is making all things new.

RENUNCIATION OF SIN AND PROFESSION OF FAITH

And so, I ask you, will you turn away from the powers of sin and death?

**We renounce the spiritual forces of wickedness,
Reject the evil powers of this world,
And repent of our sin!**

Will you let the Spirit use you as prophets to the powers that be?

**We accept the freedom and power God gives us
To resist evil, injustice, and oppression
In whatever forms they present themselves!**

Will you proclaim the good news and live as disciples of Jesus Christ, his body on earth?

**We confess Jesus Christ as our Savior,
put our whole trust in his grace, and promise to serve him as our Lord,
in union with the church which Christ has opened to people of all ages, nations, and races!**

Will you be living witnesses to the gospel, individually and together, wherever you are, and in all that you do?

**We will remain faithful members of Christ's holy church
And serve as Christ's representatives in the world.**

Will you receive and profess the Christian faith as contained in the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments?

**We affirm and teach the faith of the whole church as we put our trust in God, the Father Almighty,
in Jesus Christ, his only Son. and in the Holy Spirit, one God now and forever.**

THANKSGIVING OVER THE WATER

The Spirit of the Lord is with us.

Even so, come Lord Jesus!

Let us pray.

Almighty God, the life you birthed in us by baptism into Jesus Christ will never die.
Your justice never fails. Your mercy is everlasting.

Your healing river flows. Your Spirit blows where you will. We cannot stop you, God!

But sometimes we try. We try to block the flow, we redirect the winds of the Spirit,
or we walk so far away from the life-giving Stream that we do not hear its sound,
and we forget its power. We parch ourselves.

We are dry and thirsty, O God. Come, refresh us!

Come upon us, Holy Spirit!

Come upon us, Holy Spirit!

Come upon these waters.

Come upon these waters.

Let these waters be to us drops of your mercy.

Let these waters remind us of your righteousness and justice.

Let these waters renew in us the resurrection power of Jesus.

Let these waters make us long for your coming reign.

Most Holy God, Abba, Father!

Glory to you!

Jesus Christ, Savior, Lord!

Glory to you!

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:

Church Council Meeting – Monday, January 22, 2024 at 7 p.m.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- **Long Island District East – Youth Bowling – Sunday, January 21st – 2-4 p.m.** at Strike10 Lanes, 849 Long Island Avenue, Deer Park. \$20 fee includes shoes, pizza & drinks. RSVP to Pastor David at david.czeisel@nyac-umc.com. See flyer for more details.

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!

OFFERING ENVELOPES FOR 2024

You may pick up your offering envelopes for 2024 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 Dwight Andrews or Pastor know.

LAY SERVANT MINISTRIES

The 2024 Spring Lay Servant Ministry Zoom Class Schedule is now available. Please refer to the flyer for more details.

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