



## **FARMINGDALE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

**Bulletin for  
Second Sunday of Advent  
December 7, 2025**

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**Service is In-Person or on Zoom**

**ZOOM:**

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

**Meeting ID: 5166943424 Password 11735**

**\*The YouTube option is no longer available. Please use Zoom instead.**

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# WELCOME TO FARMINGDALE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Second Sunday of Advent

December 7, 2025



Rev. Claire Hojung Wu, Pastor  
David Majoros, D.M.A., Director of Music  
Karen Gierie Newman, Liturgist

## GATHERING

“Tell Me the Stories of Jesus” - Challinor

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### \*PRELUDE

“Angels from the Realms of Glory”

UMH #220 (vv. 1, 3, 4)

+ Bringing the light of Christ into the sanctuary

## THE ANGELS’ MESSAGE: HEAR (RESPONSIVE LITANY)

During Advent we recall God’s promises spoken to us long ago.

**For You are great and do marvelous deeds, You alone are God.**

During Advent we anticipate promises yet to unfold.

**For You are great and do marvelous deeds, You alone are God.**

During Advent we recall God’s mighty deeds from ages past.

**For You are great and do marvelous deeds, You alone are God.**

During Advent we anticipate mighty deeds yet to come.

**For You are great and do marvelous deeds, You alone are God.**

## LIGHTING OF THE SECOND CANDLE

The Wurth Family

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

UMH #211 (V 2)

Today, we light the **two candles**. The **first candle** reminds us that Advent is a time to hear again the message of hope offered through Jesus Christ. In a season when our lives abound with activity, Advent is a time to listen with faithful expectation. The **second candle** invites us to recall the mighty deeds God has performed throughout the ages, and to recognize the marvelous ways God is at work today. As we continue our Advent journey, let us hear what God has spoken and believe what God has promised.

## CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER

Gracious Lord, we thank You that Your word never changes and Your promises never fail. In faith, we know that everything You have spoken about will come to pass. Yet like Your people of old, we often struggle during times of waiting. As we cast our faith in Your unfailing promises, enable us to also trust the timing of Your response. We pray this in the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.

## OPENING HYMN

“There’s a Song in the Air”

UMH #249 (vv. 1, 2, 4)

## **SHARING GOD'S BLESSINGS WITH EACH OTHER**

### **INVOCATION**

Come, Spirit of God, to rest on our community, embracing the poor, bringing equity to the meek, turning away all expressions of evil. Come into this congregation to enliven our worship, to immerse us in righteousness, to prompt our faithfulness. Rain on us your hope and joy and peace, filling the whole earth with your glory. Amen.

### **\*GLORIA PATRI**

UMH #71

### **PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

### **PASTORAL PRAYER**

### **INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE**

#### **PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**Just and righteous God, whose wondrous deeds cause love to abound, and whose steadfast love and encouragement grant us to live in harmony with one another through our Savior Jesus Christ, open our spirits to receive your gracious gifts, so peace may flourish within and among us until your glory fills all the earth. Amen.**

#### **ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

Remember your baptism! Feel again the refreshing waters that cleanse and make whole. Anticipate the baptism of the Spirit, the unquenchable fire that burns away the chaff. Receive these gifts and bear fruit worthy of repentance.

### **THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**

#### **A SERVICE OF WORD AND TABLE**

UMH #13

#### **LORD'S PRAYER (UNISON)**

#### **SHARING OF THE BREAD AND CUP**

#### **PRAYER AFTER RECEIVING (UNISON)**

**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.**

### **ANTHEM**

"Will We Know Him?" - Besig  
The Chancel Choir

### **OLD TESTAMENT READING**     Isaiah 40:1-5

### **\*GOSPEL READING**     Luke 3:1-6

Leader: This is the Word of God.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

### **HYMN OF PREPARATION**     "He Who Began a Good Work in You"

FWS #2163

## SERMON

Pastor Claire Wu

## CHORAL PRAYER RESPONSE “Amen” - Ringwald

## OFFERING OUR GIFTS TO GOD

### OFFERTORY SONG

“Coventry Carol” – 16th Century English Carol

Diane Puchta, alto

### \*DOXOLOGY

UMH #95

### PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING (UNISON)

What a joy to give! What a delight to join our efforts to your purposes, amazing God! You inspire us to oppose wickedness, to stand up for the oppressed, to work for harmony among all your children. Lead us, together, to your holy mountain, where all are valued and no one is excluded. May our offerings spread the knowledge of your ways across this earth, widening the circle of inclusion to embrace all your children, in Jesus' name. Amen.

### \*HYMN

“Soon and Very Soon”

UMH #706 (vv. 1, 3)

### \*BENEDICTION

### \*POSTLUDE

“Soon and Very Soon”

UMH #706 (v. 1 only)

*Our worship has ended. Our service begins.*

(\*) Please stand as you are able.

## ***OUR THANKS TO THE FOLLOWING FOR THEIR MINISTRY:***

### **UPCOMING LITURGISTS:**

December 2025

7<sup>th</sup> Karen G N

14<sup>th</sup> Diane

21<sup>st</sup> Danny

24<sup>th</sup> Early ~ Karen G N

Late ~ Lois

28<sup>th</sup> Sharon

### **COFFEE HOUR HOSTS:**

December 2025

7<sup>th</sup> Vicki & Annemarie

14<sup>th</sup> Lois & Kimberly S.

21<sup>st</sup> Kathy V & Amanda

## **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](mailto:office@farmingdaleumc.org) and visit our website [farmingdaleumc.org](http://farmingdaleumc.org).



**2026 COMMITMENT PLEDGE CARDS** – Thank you for faithfully submitting your 2026 commitment pledges. Your commitment helps strengthen our mission and ministry to God and others. If you have not already submitted your pledge card, they will gladly be accepted until December 14<sup>th</sup>.

### **UPCOMING MEETINGS**

- Trustee Meeting – Wednesday, December 3 at 7 p.m.
- Finance Committee – Tuesday, December 16 at 7:00 p.m.
- Cooking Ministry – Wednesday, December 17 at 5:30 p.m.← NEW TIME!
- Church Council – Monday, December 22 at 7:00 p.m.

### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

- **L.I.E. DISTRICT, FAMILY CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL FOR CHILDREN - SUNDAY, DECEMBER 13th, 3 - 5 PM at Hicksville UMC.** Fun & games, food, and a special Christmas message for ages 3-11! Please see the flyer.
- **GIVING TREE:** Our Giving Tree once again bears ornaments with items requested by local organizations that serve the needy. Gift cards to general retailers (Target, Walmart, etc.) are also appreciated as they can be used for specific needs or emergencies. **Please put all gifts unwrapped under our tree by December 14th.** Should you prefer that we shop for you, checks can be made payable to FUMW and given to Karen Gierie Newman. Please find the flyer at the south transept.

### **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\\_3APETJNEMQAFAFF0ANM1&language=en-US](https://www.amazon.com/registries/gl/guest-view/2CXXJFQN0RC4V?ref_=cm_sw_r_apin_ggr-subnav-share_3APETJNEMQAFAFF0ANM1&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.

### **ADVENT & CHRISTMAS SEASON:**

(Flyers are available at the south transept bulletin board for detailed information)

### **CHRISTMAS PAGEANT: SUNDAY, DECEMBER 14th at 9:30 AM**

Our Annual Christmas Pageant is one of the most popular events of the year as we watch and learn from our children and adults. Please don't miss out!

### **CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES: TUESDAY, DECEMBER 24th:**

- 7:00 PM – Family Service
- 10:30 PM - Candlelight Service (In person only)
- INVITE & BRING OTHERS TO WORSHIP CHRIST!

### **ADVENT STUDY - “ADVENT: THE BIRTH OF JESUS”: SUNDAYS, DEC. 7, DEC. 21, 11 AM in FELLOWSHIP HALL**

A journey through Advent with a focused, three-week study on the coming of Jesus, centered on the opening chapters of Matthew, Luke, and John. Together we'll explore Matthew's genealogy and nativity, Luke's annunciation and manger scenes, and John's profound reframing of the Christmas story as both cosmic and intimate. Each session weaves together Scripture reading, historical insight, and prayerful questions that invite both personal reflection and shared conversation.

**L.I.E. ADVANCED LAY SERVANT COURSES** are available: registration deadline is **December 30, 2025**. Registration link: <https://ny-reg.brtapp.com/LIEJanuaryLSMAdvancedCourses> Please find the flyer with detailed information at the south transept. If you have any questions, please contact Lay Servant Ministries Co Director Elaine Short at [eshorts@optonline.net](mailto:eshorts@optonline.net) or Rev. Wayne Redman at [wayne.redman@nyac-umc.com](mailto:wayne.redman@nyac-umc.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-9:00 am 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!

**FARMINGDALE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
407 Main Street, Farmingdale, NY 11735

**Phone: (516) 694-3424 • Website: [www.farmingdaleumc.org](http://www.farmingdaleumc.org) • Email: [office@farmingdaleumc.org](mailto:office@farmingdaleumc.org)**

**Church Office Hours: Monday - Thursday 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)**