



FARMINGDALE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

**Bulletin for the
20th Sunday after Pentecost
Laity Sunday
October 15, 2023**

Service is In-Person or on Zoom

ZOOM:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/5166943424?pwd=TWtTVEIYWUHNXbjVnNcnNMaG9wTVJrZz09>

Meeting ID: 5166943424 Password 11735

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

WELCOME TO FARMINGDALE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

20th Sunday after Pentecost

Laity Sunday

October 15, 2023



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

GATHERING “O Lord, Our Refuge” – L. Smith

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

***PRELUDE** “Surely the Presence of the Lord” UMH #328
+ Bringing the light of Christ into the sanctuary

*CALL TO WORSHIP

We are called to hold tight to words that bring life.

**We know God is speaking good news through scripture, song,
and neighbors, both known and new to us.**

We listen for grace at work in everything, for good, for life.

We know wise words serve Love’s purpose.

In all we say and do, we are learning what it means to be faithful –
as those called “to serve and witness in deeds and words that heal and free.”

We thank God for the good news of Jesus’ love and healing words of life.

***OPENING HYMN** “Standing on the Promises” UMH # 374

SHARING GOD’S BLESSINGS WITH EACH OTHER

INVOCATION

Gracious God, you have invited and welcomed us to this place of worship. You draw us away from the idols we create to take your place. When we come together, we sense that there is nothing in life that can substitute for a vital relationship with you. Yet we are only dimly aware of who you are. All the mysteries of the universe are in your hands, yet you have made yourself known among the people of this earth. We catch glimpses of your work among us and are amazed. We want to meet you again today, as for the first time. Touch us. Remake us. Help us to stand firm in the faith. Amen.

LAITY LITANY

From the beginning, God entered into covenant with the human family:

with Adam and Eve, Noah, Abraham and Sarah,
Moses, Deborah, Ruth, and Jeremiah.

**Through baptism, Jesus Christ calls us into the covenant
and makes us ministers of Christ's righteousness.**

All Christian ministry is Christ's work of outreaching love.

It demonstrates a common life of gratitude and devotion,
witness and service, celebration and discipleship.

**All Christians are called to Christ's servanthood in the world,
to the glory of God and for human fulfillment.**

The Church, as the community of the new covenant,
participates in Christ's ministry of grace.

It stretches out to human needs

wherever service may convey God's love and ours.

In our ministry of servanthood is this ultimate concern:
**that all may be renewed in the image of their Creator,
and that all Christians are called to minister.**

***GLORIA PATRI**

CHANGE THE WORLD

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

PASTORAL PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER (UNISON)

ANTHEM "Come With Shouting" – Nolan
The Chancel Choir

OLD TESTAMENT READING Exodus 33:12-23

Leader: This is the Word of God.
People: Thanks be to God.

HYMN OF PREPARATION "What a Friend We Have in Jesus" UMH #526

SERMON "The Presence of God" Shanna Wurth

PRAYER RESPONSE "Amen, Amen" UMH #897

INVITATION TO THANKSGIVING

Leader:

We will go, Lord, into the world,
Telling and retelling the story with other believers,
taking the gospel and making disciples
among all the peoples with whom we come in contact.
We will go, knowing *you* will be with us.
You, O God, to whom we would
in these moments,
pour out our lives in service
and in thanksgiving. But we know the barriers that stand in our way.
We cannot pour ourselves out to you fully as individuals
with unconfessed sin in our lives.

We cannot pour ourselves out to you fully as your body when we are in conflict with others.

So, hear our confession,
forgive and deliver us,
and give us courage to offer your peace
to one another.

Confession of Sin

Leader:

We have sinned against you and one another, Lord.

We have not lived worshipfully.

Lord, in your mercy, *hear our confession.*

Silence

We have not loved you wholly.

We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.

We have not lived worshipfully.

Lord, in your mercy, *hear our confession.*

Silence

We have not denied ourselves and taken up our own cross daily.

We have not lived worshipfully.

Lord, in your mercy, *hear our confession.*

Silence

We have not loved kindness, pursued justice, or walked humbly with you.

We have not lived worshipfully.

Lord, in your mercy, *hear our confession.*

Silence

We have not shared the good news with our lips or in our lives.

We have not lived worshipfully.

Lord, in your mercy, *hear our confession.*

Silence

Pastor/Leader: The saying is sure: If we confess our sins, God is merciful and just and forgives us our sins and cleanses us from all unrighteousness.

In the name of Christ, you/we are forgiven.

People/Leader to Pastor and One Another: In the name of Christ, you/we are forgiven.

All: Glory to God! Amen!

Pastor/Leader: As forgiven and reconciled people, share Christ's peace with one another.

The peace of Christ be always with you.

And also with you.

Pastor/Leader: Forgiven and reconciled to God and one another,
let us offer our gifts and our thanks to God!

OFFERING OUR GIFTS TO GOD

OFFERTORY "Give Thanks"

FWS #2036

***DOXOLOGY**

UMH #95

***PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING (UNISON)**

May our offerings help to prepare many to feast at your banquet table. May our generosity reflect the amazing abundance you entrust to our care. As we find joy in giving, may others be inspired to give their best, and may all of us realize your peace, dwelling within and among us as we serve in Christ's name. Amen.

DUCK APPRECIATION

*HYMN “We are the Church” UMH #558 (VV 1-4)

*BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE “We are the Church” UMH #558 (REFRAIN)

Our worship has ended. Our service begins.

(* Please stand as you are able.

OUR THANKS TO THE FOLLOWING FOR THEIR MINISTRY:

UPCOMING LITURGISTS:

October 2023

22nd – Karen Gierie Newman

29th – Diane Puchta

COFFEE HOUR HOSTS:

October 2023

22nd – Rita & John

29th - 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, 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:

Finance Committee Meeting – Monday, October 16, 2023 at 7:30 p.m.

Church Council Meeting – Monday, October 23rd, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- **Blessing of the Animals** – Sunday, October 22nd at 2 p.m. Bring your creatures great and small to be blessed. Please have pets on a leash or in a carrier. Stuffed animals are also welcome!
- ****POSTPONED****: **Bishop Bickerton’s Visit to LIE District** – Please note Bishop Bickerton’s visit to the LIE District scheduled for Friday, October 27th has been *postponed* until Thursday, February 8th, 2024. More details to follow as the date approaches.

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 are changing our prayer request format. We will 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

If you need offering envelopes, please contact the church office.

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