



FARMINGDALE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

**Bulletin for
Second Sunday of Advent
December 14, 2025**

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.**

WELCOME TO FARMINGDALE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Third Sunday of Advent

December 14, 2025



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

GATHERING

“Coventry Carol” – English Melody 1591

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*PRELUDE

“The King of Glory Comes”

FWS #2091 (vv. 1, 2, 3)

+ Bringing the light of Christ into the sanctuary

THE ANGELS’ MESSAGE: ACCEPTANCE (RESPONSIVE LITANY)

During Advent our eyes are opened to the wonders of God.

With God all things are possible.

During Advent our faith is nurtured by the promise of God.

With God all things are possible.

During Advent our hope is reawakened to the presence of God.

With God all things are possible.

During Advent our lives are touched by the love of God.

With God all things are possible.

LIGHTING OF THE THIRD CANDLE

The Muller Family

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

UMH #211 (V 3)

Today we light three candles. The **first candle** reminds us that Advent is a time to hear again the message of hope offered through the Savior’s birth. The **second candle** calls us to believe that just as God worked mighty deeds in ages past, God is still actively at work today. The **third candle** is lit as we draw closer to God in faithful acceptance. Advent reminds us that even when God’s ways exceed our understanding, God’s word still demands our trust. As we continue our Advent journey, let us hear what God has spoken, believe what God has promised.

SPECIAL SONG

He’s Got the Whole World In His Hands

Ellie Orofino

CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER

Gracious Lord, as we continue on our Advent journey, help us to hear again the message of the season, to place our faith in Your unfolding promises, and lead us towards full acceptance of Your will as it unfolds in the world and in our lives. We pray this in the name of Christ, our Lord. Amen.

OPENING HYMN

“It Came Upon the Midnight Clear”

UMH #218 (vv. 1, 2, 4)

SHARING GOD’S BLESSINGS WITH EACH OTHER

INVOCATION

Mighty One, we rejoice that you strengthen our weak hands and make our feeble knees firm. You open our eyes and unstop our ears. You meet our hungers with good things. You disturb our false pride while helping us discover our true strength. You topple us from our pretensions while lifting up the lowly to claim the inner power you alone can provide. We have assembled to worship you. Awaken the gladness that comes when we recognize your presence. We long to know you in this hour. Amen.

***GLORIA PATRI**

UMH #71

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

O, Healing Presence, whose claim on us is strong enough to change our direction, look with favor on this gathered congregation, that none may go astray but all may respond with joy to your promises, and go out to share your good news with the hungry and needy and oppressed. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

God speaks to our fearful hearts: Be strong. Do not fear. I will come to save you. Sorrow and sighing flee away. Joy and gladness are yours. "The blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them." Praise God!

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

PASTORAL PRAYER

THE LORD’S PRAYER (UNISON)

ANTHEM

“Carols Around (And A Round) - Nygard
The Chancel Choir

***GOSPEL READING**

Luke 1:46b-55

Leader: This is the Word of God.

People: Thanks be to God.

HYMN OF PREPARATION

“Good Christian Friends, Rejoice”

UMH #224 (vv. 1, 3)

SERMON

Pastor Claire Wu

CHORAL PRAYER RESPONSE “Amen” - Ringwald

OFFERING OUR GIFTS TO GOD

OFFERTORY SONG

“The Virgin’s Lullaby” - Reger
Barbara Grabowski-Schmidt, soprano

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING (UNISON)

Majestic God, thank you for inviting us to share the blessings you pour out on us. We want to extend the healing ministry of Jesus, who gave sight to those who were blind, and new insight to some who only pretended to see. Use our resources to heal attitudes as well as bodies, to bring wholeness, not just cures. Help us to address the inequities of the earth that leave so many without food or shelter or hope. Lead us into your realm in the midst of our daily living. Amen.

CHILDREN'S PAGEANT

***HYMN** "The Virgin Mary Had a Baby Boy" FWS #2098 (VV 1, 2, 4)

***BENEDICTION**

***POSTLUDE** "The Virgin Mary Had a Baby Boy" FWS #2098 (Refrain)

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

14th Diane Puchta

21st Danny Gastelua

24th Early ~ Karen G N

Late ~ Lois

28th Sharon

COFFEE HOUR HOSTS:

December 2025

14th Lois & Kimberly S.

21st 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 and visit our website 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 Today, December 14th.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

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

UPCOMING EVENTS

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 Today, 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], 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”: SUNDAY, 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.brtaapp.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 or Rev. Wayne Redman at 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 • Email: 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