

10:00 a.m.

Family Service

March 8, 2026

Matthew 6:1, 5-14

Welcome, Greeting, and Reconnecting!

Expressing Our Expectation of Joy

Leader: *Who are you?*

**People: I am a child of God.**

Leader: *Who are we?*

**People: We are children of God, the family of faith.**

Leader: *What does it mean to be children of God?*

**People: We belong to God who loves us and calls us God's own.**

Leader: *May the Lord be with you.*

**People: And also with you.**

Leader: *Let us pray.* (You may be seated.)

Prayer of Trust and Confidence

Asking God's Forgiveness (*responsive*)

Leader: *In prayer together, let us ask for God's forgiveness: God, we have not acted the way you expect. We have mean, angry thoughts about friends and strangers.*

*Lord, I'm sorry.*

**People: Forgive us, Lord.**

Leader: *God, we have not acted the way you expect. We pick fights with people we love, especially when we know it's wrong. Lord, I'm sorry.*

**People: Forgive us, Lord.**

Leader: *God, we have not acted the way you expect. We snap back at other people, always wanting to have the last word. Lord, I'm sorry.*

**People: Forgive us, Lord.**

Leader: *God, we have not acted the way you expect. We waste time on all the wrong things, forgetting what is most important. Lord, I'm sorry.*

**People: Forgive us, Lord.**

Leader: *God, change our hearts so that we might love the way you love us. Amen.*

Time of Silence and Personal Confession

Reassurance of God's Forgiveness

*"Beware of practicing your righteousness before others in order to be seen by them, for then you have no reward from your Father in heaven.*

<sup>5</sup> *"And whenever you pray, do not be like the hypocrites, for they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, so that they may be seen by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. <sup>6</sup> But whenever you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret, and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.*

<sup>7</sup> *"When you are praying, do not heap up empty phrases as the gentiles do, for they think that they will be heard because of their many words. <sup>8</sup> Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask him.*

<sup>9</sup> *"Pray, then, in this way:*

*Our Father in heaven,*

*may your name be revered as holy.*

<sup>10</sup> *May your kingdom come.*

*May your will be done*

*on earth as it is in heaven.*

<sup>11</sup> *Give us today our daily bread.*

<sup>12</sup> *And forgive us our debts,*

*as we also have forgiven our debtors.*

<sup>13</sup> *And do not bring us to the time of trial,*

*but rescue us from the evil one.*

<sup>14</sup> *"For if you forgive others their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you,*

Message

**How to Pray**

Neila Cary

Offering

Prayer of Dedication, concluding with *The Lord's Prayer*

***Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.***

Blessing and Sung Response

*This Little Light of Mine*