

10:00 a.m.

Family Service

April 12, 2026

Welcome, Greeting, and Reconnecting!

Mark 4:30-32

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

The Parable of the Mustard Seed

³⁰ [Jesus] also said, "With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable will we use for it? ³¹ It is like a mustard seed, which, when sown upon the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth, ³² yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes the greatest of all shrubs and puts forth large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade."

Message

Growing in God's Word

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