

10:00 a.m.

Family Service

May 17, 2026

Welcome, Greeting, and Reconnecting!

Psalm 103:1-8

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

¹ *Bless the Lord, O my soul,
and all that is within me,
bless his holy name.*

² *Bless the Lord, O my soul,
and do not forget all his benefits—*

³ *who forgives all your iniquity,
who heals all your diseases,*

⁴ *who redeems your life from the Pit,
who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy,*

⁵ *who satisfies you with good as long as you live
so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.*

⁶ *The Lord works vindication
and justice for all who are oppressed.*

⁷ *He made known his ways to Moses,
his acts to the people of Israel.*

⁸ *The Lord is merciful and gracious,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.*

Message

What Is God's Nature?

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