

10:00 a.m.

Family Service

August 23, 2026

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

Genesis 1:1-5, 26-31

When God began to create the heavens and the earth, ² the earth was complete chaos, and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. ³ Then God said, "Let there be light," and there was light. ⁴ And God saw that the light was good, and God separated the light from the darkness. ⁵ God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

²⁶ Then God said, "Let us make humans in our image, according to our likeness, and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over the cattle and over all the wild animals of the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth."

²⁷ So God created humans in his image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them.

²⁸ God blessed them, and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over every living thing that moves upon the earth." ²⁹ God said, "See, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is upon the face of all the earth and every tree with seed in its fruit; you shall have them for food." ³⁰ And to every beast of the earth and to every bird of the air and to everything that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food." And it was so. ³¹ God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.

Message

God Is the Ultimate Creator

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