

Family Service

10:00 a.m.

February 23, 2025

Luke 5:17-26

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. (Congregation 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

¹⁷One day, while he was teaching, Pharisees and teachers of the law were sitting near by (they had come from every village of Galilee and Judea and from Jerusalem); and the power of the Lord was with him to heal.¹⁸Just then some men came, carrying a paralyzed man on a bed. They were trying to bring him in and lay him before Jesus; ¹⁹but finding no way to bring him in because of the crowd, they went up on the roof and let him down with his bed through the tiles into the middle of the crowd in front of Jesus. ²⁰When he saw their faith, he said, "Friend, your sins are forgiven you." ²¹Then the scribes and the Pharisees began to question, "Who is this who is speaking blasphemies? Who can forgive sins but God alone?" ²²When Jesus perceived their questionings, he answered them, "Why do you raise such questions in your hearts? ²³Which is easier, to say, 'Your sins are forgiven you,' or to say, 'Stand up and walk'?" ²⁴But so that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins" —he said to the one who was paralyzed — "I say to you, stand up and take your bed and go to your home." ²⁵Immediately he stood up before them, took what he had been lying on, and went to his home, glorifying God. ²⁶Amazement seized all of them, and they glorified God and were filled with awe, saying, "We have seen strange things today."

Message

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

Welcome to the Family Service in the Family Chapel!

It is so great seeing you all!

Family Service Schedule

The Family Service is being led by a team:

- Breezy and the Middle School Youth will conduct a Family Service once a month.
- Neila Cary and Michelle Page have enthusiastically volunteered to lead Family Services.

For February and the first Sunday in March, the theme of the services as well as the Sunday school lessons and crafts will be events in the life of Jesus.

February 2 Baptism of Jesus

February 9 Zacchaeus

February 16 Fishers of Men

February 23 Jesus Heals a Paralyzed Man

March 2 Jesus Calms the Storm

Since Growing Faith is largely a Middle School program, Breezy is leading it. On Growing Faith Sundays, the Middle School Youth will be leading the Family Service.

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