

**Family Service**

August 6, 2023

10:00 a.m.

**Acts 16:25-39**

Welcome, Greeting, and Reconnecting!

Expressing Our 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

*<sup>25</sup>About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them. <sup>26</sup>Suddenly there was an earthquake, so violent that the foundations of the prison were shaken; and immediately all the doors were opened and everyone's chains were unfastened. <sup>27</sup>When the jailer woke up and saw the prison doors wide open, he drew his sword and was about to kill himself, since he supposed that the prisoners had escaped. <sup>28</sup>But Paul shouted in a loud voice, "Do not harm yourself, for we are all here." <sup>29</sup>The jailer called for lights, and rushing in, he fell down trembling before Paul and Silas. <sup>30</sup>Then he brought them outside and said, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?" <sup>31</sup>They answered, "Believe on the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household." <sup>32</sup>They spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all who were in his house. <sup>33</sup>At the same hour of the night he took them and washed their wounds; then he and his entire family were baptized without delay. <sup>34</sup>He brought them up into the house and set food before them; and he and his entire household rejoiced that he had become a believer in God.*

*<sup>35</sup>When morning came, the magistrates sent the police, saying, "Let those men go." <sup>36</sup>And the jailer reported the message to Paul, saying, "The magistrates sent word to let you go; therefore come out now and go in peace." <sup>37</sup>But Paul replied, "They have beaten us in public, uncondemned, men who are Roman citizens, and have thrown us into prison; and now are they going to discharge us in secret? Certainly not! Let them come and take us out themselves." <sup>38</sup>The police reported these words to the magistrates, and they were afraid when they heard that they were Roman citizens; <sup>39</sup>so they came and apologized to them. And they took them out and asked them to leave the city.*

Message

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!

As always, you can join the service over Zoom! Ask us for a Zoom Invitation!