

Family Service

10:00 a.m.

October 29, 2023

Ezekiel 37:1-9

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

The hand of the Lord came upon me, and he brought me out by the spirit of the Lord and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. ²He led me all around them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. ³He said to me, "Mortal, can these bones live?" I answered, "O Lord God, you know." ⁴Then he said to me, "Prophecy to these bones, and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the Lord. ⁵Thus says the Lord God to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. ⁶I will lay sinews on you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live; and you shall know that I am the Lord." ⁷So I prophesied as I had been commanded; and as I prophesied, suddenly there was a noise, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. ⁸I looked, and there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them; but there was no breath in them. ⁹Then he said to me, "Prophecy to the breath, prophesy, mortal, and say to the breath: Thus says the Lord God: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live."

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!