

**Family Service**

10:00 a.m.

December 3, 2023

**Luke 1:26-38**

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>26</sup>In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, <sup>27</sup>to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. <sup>28</sup>And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." <sup>29</sup>But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. <sup>30</sup>The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. <sup>31</sup>And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. <sup>32</sup>He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. <sup>33</sup>He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." <sup>34</sup>Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" <sup>35</sup>The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. <sup>36</sup>And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. <sup>37</sup>For nothing will be impossible with God." <sup>38</sup>Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

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!