

9:00 am Worship Service

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Opening Prayer (Unison)

God of All, You created us for each other.
You set in us a yearning for companionship and an empathy that binds us together,
protecting each other and delighting in one another.
Yet too often we have broken down our relationships instead of building them up.
We have been set against one another with the lie of scarcity.
We cannot fathom the proportions of loss and so we look away, sometimes even from the need in our own community.
Help us, Healer. Restore our empathy.
Forgive our complacency.
Compel us to move one step at a time toward greater care for one another.
Remind us today, we are truly family. Amen.

*Hymn *The Battle Hymn of the Republic (vs 1-4)* #717

Prayers of the People

Lord's Prayer

Hymn *Bind Us Together* #2226

Offering Prayer

*Doxology

*Hymn *When We All Get to Heaven* #701
Scripture Reading Matthew 8:5-13
Special Music *Family Prayer Song* Jeff Martin
Sermon *We Are Family* Pastor John
*Hymn *We've a Story to Tell the Nations* #569

Blessing

Postlude

*Please stand if you are able.

(Offering boxes are located at all entrances to the sanctuary.)

Music for today is printed by permission – CCLI #113699

Our Salem Church Family Prayer List

Betty Nauman	Kim Morris
James Mitchell	Paul Candy
Tonya Melchoir	Ryan Smith
Eric Smith	Jim Hill
Joyce Kile	Doll Gabriel
Jim Yohn	Wade Morris
Dave Stehman	Elsie Dietrich
Hervie, Mandy & Erin	Donna Rhodes

Going Deeper in "We Are Family"

Read the following a few times:

Matthew 8:5-13 Isaiah 2:1-5 Matthew 5:44

Acts 10:38 2 Peter 1:5-6

Jesus is back in his hometown, but his boyhood friends are unable to believe he is the Son of God. We find a Roman military officer is the only one who is filled with faith in who he is and what he can do.

Reflect on the following:

1. What obstacles hold us back from loving our neighbor as we love ourselves?
2. What obstacles hold us back from loving our enemies?
3. The Centurion humbled himself before Jesus. Why do we struggle with looking weak and demonstrating humility?
4. Contrast the faith of the Centurion with the faith of disciples in 8:26.
5. What do you think was the purpose of the healing miracles in Jesus' ministry and in the ministry of the early church?
6. Do you think such miracles continue today? Why or why not?
7. To share a meal together was a symbol of fellowship and being family. How do you picture the heavenly banquet? Who is seated around the table? How are they getting along?
8. The church is designed to grow and build itself up in love, as each part does its work (Eph 4:15-16). What holds us back from having this kind of love? Who are excluding from true fellowship?
9. Who are your enemies? What makes them enemies? Can you see any good in your enemies? Do you pray for your enemies?
10. Devotion to God is built upon respect, love, and desire. How much do you respect, love, and desire Jesus?

Respond in one of the following ways:

1. Jesus demonstrated how we are to live. It is about becoming Godly in both character and conduct; who we are and what we do. Ask Jesus to help you to become more like him, to live and love like Jesus.
2. Trust in the Lord Jesus for strength to live boldly for Him.
3. Ask God to fill you with faith like the Centurion.
4. Ask God for strength to share your faith openly in love.

Welcome to *Salem*

United Methodist Church



February 28, 2021