

Our Family Reconciles at Home

Leader: God our Father, we know you love us very much. Tonight (today) we gather as a family in your presence. We have been having a difficult time in our family. We come to this celebration knowing that we have hurt one another. Help us to listen to one another and to your Holy Spirit and learn how we can love one another better.

Leader: Let us take a moment to be quiet and be sorry for our sins.

(Pause)

Now, listen to a story that Jesus told about a forgiving father. We will talk about the story after we have listened to it.

Reader: Luke 15: 11-32 (The Prodigal Son)

Leader: We thank you, Lord, for always forgiving us when we are sorry. Let us take a few minutes to talk about what we heard in this story. (Discussion)

Leader: Let us ask God to forgive us for the times we have been selfish.

All: We are sorry, God our Father

Leader: Let us ask God to forgive us for the times we have said mean things to one another.

All: We are sorry, God our Father

Leader: For the times we refused to share.

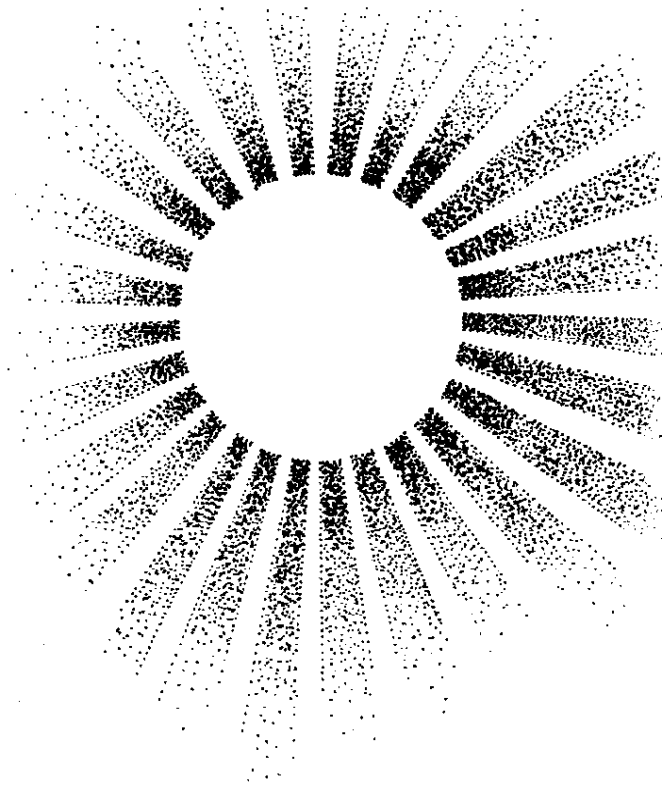
All: We are sorry, God our Father.

Leader: For the times we disobeyed our parents.

All: We are sorry, God our Father.

Leader: For the times we parents did not listen to our children well.

All: We are sorry, God our Father.



Leader: For the times we did not do our best to help at home.

All: We are sorry, God our Father.

Leader: For the times we have not forgiven each other.

All: We are sorry, God our Father.

Leader: We praise and thank you, Father God, because you always forgive us. Your love has no limits, and so we say:

All: We praise you, loving God

Leader: You sent your Son, Jesus, to show us how to love one another, and we say:

All: We praise you, loving God.

Leader: Let us pray together.

All: Loving and forgiving God, we are sorry for the times we have been unkind and hurt one another. You have been patient with us. Help us be patient with each other. Help us to understand each other more. Allow us to see each other the way you see each of us, as your precious children. You are always ready to welcome us back and forgive us. Teach us how to love like you do. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

Leader: Now, let us embrace each other with a sign of peace. (Everyone hugs.)