

Thursday April 16, 2020

Opening

Selected verses from Psalm 61

Leader: Hear my cry, O God.

Family: Pay attention to my prayer.

I want to keep living in your tent forever.

I will take refuge under the cover of your wings.

For you, God, have heard my vows.

You have given me the heritage of those who fear your name. Amen.

Bible Reading - Luke 24:1-12

On the first day of the week, very early in the morning, the women went to the tomb, carrying the spices they had prepared. ² They found that the stone had been rolled away from the tomb. ³ When they went in, they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus. ⁴ While they were wondering about this, suddenly two men stood by them in dazzling clothing. ⁵ The women were terrified and bowed down with their faces to the ground. The men said to them, "Why are you looking for the living among the dead? ⁶ He is not here, but has been raised! Remember how he told you while he was still in Galilee ⁷ that the Son of Man must be delivered over to the hands of sinful men, and be crucified, and the third day rise again?" ⁸ Then they remembered his words. ⁹ When they returned from the tomb, they told all these things to the Eleven and to all the rest. ¹⁰ It was Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and the other women with them who told these things to the apostles. ¹¹ Yet these words seemed to them like nonsense, and they did not believe them. ¹² But Peter got up and ran to the tomb. Bending over to look in, he saw only the strips of linen cloth. He went home, amazed at what had happened.

Questions for Discussion

Take whatever time is necessary or possible to discuss these questions. Discussion does not have to be lengthy.

For the kids: *The angels gave the joyful message of the risen Savior to the women in the reading. To whom might you tell the message that Jesus is our Savior from sin who rose from the dead?*

For the grownups: *When you are very close to a large object it is hard to see the whole thing. The disciples seemed very confused at times on Easter. Why in some ways might*

it be easier for us to understand the happenings of Easter morning compared to the disciples?

Prayer

Luther's Morning Prayer:

I thank you, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, your dear Son, that you have kept me this night from all harm and danger. Keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings and life may please you. Into your hands I commend my body and soul and all things. Let your holy angel be with me, that the wicked foe may have no power over me. Amen.

or

Luther's Evening Prayer:

I thank you, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, your dear Son, that you have graciously kept me this day. Forgive me all my sins, and graciously keep me this night. Into your hands I commend my body and soul and all things. Let your holy angel be with me, that the wicked foe may have no power over me. Amen.

The head of the household may lead other prayers and petitions. The members of the family may also take turns with their own prayers and petitions. The head of the household closes the prayer in Jesus' name.

Blessing

Leader: The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless and preserve us.

Amen.

Hymn

Read or sing the hymn verse as a family.

**Alleluia! Jesus lives!
He is now the living one;
From the gloomy house of death
Forth the conqueror has gone,
Bright forerunner to the skies
Of his people, yet to rise.
(CW 153)**

*A recording of this hymn can be found on [YouTube](#).**

**Note: The words in the video vary slightly from the hymnal.*

Catechism Study

Optional: Briefly discuss and apply this portion of Luther's Small Catechism.

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY BAPTISM

The Meaning of Baptism for My Daily Life

Fourth: What does baptizing with water mean?

Baptism means that the Old Adam in us should be drowned by daily contrition and repentance, and that all its evil deeds and desires be put to death. It also means that a new person should daily arise to live before God in righteousness and purity forever.

Where is this written?

St. Paul says in Romans, chapter 6, "We were... buried with [Christ] through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life."