

*Friday April 17, 2020*

## Opening

*Selected verses from Psalm 100*

Leader: Shout to the LORD with joy, all the earth.

Family: **Serve the LORD with gladness.**

Know that the LORD is God.

**He made us and we are his.**

Give thanks to him and bless his name.

**For the LORD is good. His mercy endures forever. Alleluia!**

## Bible Reading - Luke 24:36-49

<sup>36</sup> While they were still talking about this, Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, **“Peace be with you.”**

<sup>37</sup> They were startled and frightened, thinking they saw a ghost. <sup>38</sup> He said to them, **“Why are you troubled, and why do doubts rise in your minds? <sup>39</sup> Look at my hands and my feet. It is I myself! Touch me and see; a ghost does not have flesh and bones, as you see I have.”**

<sup>40</sup> When he had said this, he showed them his hands and feet. <sup>41</sup> And while they still did not believe it because of joy and amazement, he asked them, **“Do you have anything here to eat?”** <sup>42</sup> They gave him a piece of broiled fish, <sup>43</sup> and he took it and ate it in their presence.

<sup>44</sup> He said to them, **“This is what I told you while I was still with you: Everything must be fulfilled that is written about me in the Law of Moses, the Prophets and the Psalms.”**

<sup>45</sup> Then he opened their minds so they could understand the Scriptures. <sup>46</sup> He told them, **“This is what is written: The Messiah will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, <sup>47</sup> and repentance for the forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. <sup>48</sup> You are witnesses of these things. <sup>49</sup> I am going to send you what my Father has promised; but stay in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high.”**

## Questions for Discussion

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

**For the kids:** *In what ways did Jesus show his disciples that he was really alive?*

**For the grownups:** *What is the mission of the Church because Jesus is really alive after suffering and dying?*

## 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.*

**Thanks to you, O Christ victorious!  
Thanks to you, O Lord of life!  
Death has now no power o'er us,  
You have conquered in the strife.  
Thanks because you did arise  
And have opened paradise!  
None can fully sing the glory  
Of the resurrection story.  
(CW 147 v2)**

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

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## Catechism Study

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

### **THE USE OF THE KEYS AND CONFESSION**

#### **The Keys**

*First: What is the use of the Keys?*

The use of the Keys is that special power and right which Christ gave to his church on earth: to forgive the sins of penitent sinners but refuse forgiveness to the impenitent as long as they do not repent.

*Where is this written?*

The holy evangelist John writes in chapter 20, "[Jesus] breathed on [his disciples] and said, 'Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive anyone his sins, they are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven.'"