

*Friday June 5, 2020*

## Opening

*Selected verses from Psalm 46*

*Leader:* God is our refuge and strength,

*Family:* **A helper who can always be found in times of trouble.**

That is why we will not fear when the earth dissolves

**And when the mountains tumble into the heart of the sea.**

There is a river—its streams bring joy to the city of God,

**To the holy dwelling of the Most High.**

God is in her. She will not fall.

**God will help her at daybreak.**

“Be still, and know that I am God.

**I will be exalted among the nations. I will be exalted on the earth.”**

The LORD of Armies is with us.

**The God of Jacob is a fortress for us. Amen.**

## Bible Reading - Jeremiah 9:23–26

<sup>23</sup> This is what the Lord says:

“Let not the wise boast of their wisdom  
or the strong boast of their strength  
or the rich boast of their riches,

<sup>24</sup> but let the one who boasts boast about this:  
that they have the understanding to know me,  
that I am the Lord, who exercises kindness,  
justice and righteousness on earth,  
for in these I delight,”  
declares the Lord.

<sup>25</sup> “The days are coming,” declares the Lord, “when I will punish all who are circumcised only in the flesh—<sup>26</sup> Egypt, Judah, Edom, Ammon, Moab and all who live in the wilderness in distant places. For all these nations are really uncircumcised, and even the whole house of Israel is uncircumcised in heart.”

## Questions for Discussion

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

**For the kids:** *What does God say is the only good thing to boast about?*

**For the grownups:** *The Jews sometimes fell to the temptation to be prideful of the outward signs of their Jewish faith like circumcision. God condemns them for being “circumcised only in the flesh.” What are some ways this same temptation might display itself for modern Christians?*

## 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.*

***Till then -- nor is my boasting vain  
Till then I boast a Savior slain;  
And oh, may this my glory be:  
That Christ is not ashamed of me.  
(CW 347:5)***

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

*\*(Note that the verses and words on YouTube are different from the hymnal.)*

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## Large Catechism Study

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

### **THE FIRST COMMANDMENT (Continued)**

But, alas! here is the failure, that the world believes nothing of this, nor regards it as God's Word because it sees that those who trust in God and not in Mammon suffer care and want, and the devil opposes and resists them, that they have neither money, favor, nor honor, and, besides, can scarcely support life; while, on the other hand, those who serve Mammon have power, favor, honor, possessions, and every comfort in the eyes of the world. For this reason, these words must be grasped as being directed against such appearances; and we must consider that they do not lie or deceive, but must come true.

Reflect for yourself or make inquiry and tell me: Those who have employed all their care and diligence to accumulate great possessions and wealth, what have they finally attained? You will find that they have wasted their toil and labor, or even though they have amassed great treasures, they have been dispersed and scattered, so that they themselves have never found happiness in their wealth, and afterwards it never reached the third generation.

Instances of this you will find a plenty in all histories, also in the memory of aged and experienced people. Only observe and ponder them.