

Friday March 20, 2020

Opening

(Selected verses from Psalm 12)

Leader: Because of the oppression of the weak

Family: **And the groaning of the needy,**

“I will now arise,” says the LORD.

“I will protect them from those who malign them.”

And the words of the LORD are flawless

Like silver refined in a furnace of clay purified seven times.

O LORD, you will sleep us safe

And protect us from such people forever. Amen.

Bible Reading - Luke 22:39-53

³⁹ Jesus went out as usual to the Mount of Olives, and his disciples followed him.

⁴⁰ On reaching the place, he said to them, **“Pray that you will not fall into temptation.”**

⁴¹ He withdrew about a stone’s throw beyond them, knelt down and prayed, ⁴² **“Father, if you are willing, take this cup from me; yet not my will, but yours be done.”** ⁴³ An angel from heaven appeared to him and strengthened him. ⁴⁴ And being in anguish, he prayed more earnestly, and his sweat was like drops of blood falling to the ground.

⁴⁵ When he rose from prayer and went back to the disciples, he found them asleep, exhausted from sorrow. ⁴⁶ **“Why are you sleeping?”** he asked them. **“Get up and pray so that you will not fall into temptation.”**

⁴⁷ While he was still speaking a crowd came up, and the man who was called Judas, one of the Twelve, was leading them. He approached Jesus to kiss him, ⁴⁸ but Jesus asked him, **“Judas, are you betraying the Son of Man with a kiss?”**

⁴⁹ When Jesus’ followers saw what was going to happen, they said, “Lord, should we strike with our swords?” ⁵⁰ And one of them struck the servant of the high priest, cutting off his right ear.

⁵¹ But Jesus answered, **“No more of this!”** And he touched the man’s ear and healed him.

⁵² Then Jesus said to the chief priests, the officers of the temple guard, and the elders, who had come for him, **“Am I leading a rebellion, that you have come with swords and clubs?”** ⁵³ **Every day I was with you in the temple courts, and you did not lay a hand on me. But this is your hour—when darkness reigns.”**

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 Jesus mean when He prays to His Father, "Not my will, but yours be done?"

For the grownups: Why is Jesus suffering so much anguish as he prays to his Father?

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.

**Go to dark Gethsemane,
All who feel the tempter's pow'r
Your Redeemer's conflict see.
Watch with him one bitter hour;
Turn not from his griefs away;
Learn of Jesus Christ to pray.**

(CWS 104)

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

Catechism Study

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

The Fourth Commandment

Honor your father and mother, that it may go well with you and that you may enjoy long life on the earth.

What does this mean?

We should fear and love God that we do not dishonor or anger our parents and others in authority, but honor serve, and obey them, and give them love and respect.