

Tuesday March 24, 2020

Opening

Leader: O Lord, teach us your ways,

Family: That we may walk in your truth.

You comfort and help us day by day.

We trust your loving care.

You are the King of heaven and earth.

We give you praise and thanks. Alleluia!

Bible Reading - Matthew 26:36-45

³⁶ Then Jesus went with his disciples to a place called Gethsemane, and he said to them, “**Sit here while I go over there and pray.**” ³⁷ He took Peter and the two sons of Zebedee along with him, and he began to be sorrowful and troubled. ³⁸ Then he said to them, “**My soul is overwhelmed with sorrow to the point of death. Stay here and keep watch with me.**”

³⁹ Going a little farther, he fell with his face to the ground and prayed, “**My Father, if it is possible, may this cup be taken from me. Yet not as I will, but as you will.**”

⁴⁰ Then he returned to his disciples and found them sleeping. “**Couldn’t you men keep watch with me for one hour?**” he asked Peter. ⁴¹ “**Watch and pray so that you will not fall into temptation. The spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak.**”

⁴² He went away a second time and prayed, “**My Father, if it is not possible for this cup to be taken away unless I drink it, may your will be done.**”

⁴³ When he came back, he again found them sleeping, because their eyes were heavy. ⁴⁴ So he left them and went away once more and prayed the third time, saying the same thing.

⁴⁵ Then he returned to the disciples and said to them, “**Are you still sleeping and resting? Look, the hour has come, and the Son of Man is delivered into the hands of sinners.**”

Questions for Discussion

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

For the kids: How does Jesus show us what to do when we need help?

For the grownups: What comfort can we find in Jesus' experience at Gethsemane?

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.**

(CW 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 Seventh Commandment

You shall not steal.

What does this mean?

We should fear and love God that we do not take our neighbor's money or property or get it by dishonest dealing, but help him to improve and protect his property and business.