

**Monday March 30, 2020**

## Opening

*Selected verses from Psalm 143*

**Leader:** O LORD, hear my prayer, listen to my cry for mercy.

**Family:** **In your faithfulness and righteousness come to my relief.**

The enemy pursues me, he crushes me to the ground.

**He makes me dwell in darkness, like those long dead.**

Let the morning bring me word of your unfailing love.

**For I have put my trust in you.**

Show me the way I should go.

**For to you I lift up my soul. Amen.**

## Bible Reading - Mark 14:32-42

<sup>32</sup> They went to a place called Gethsemane, and Jesus said to his disciples, “**Sit here while I pray.**” <sup>33</sup> He took Peter, James and John along with him, and he began to be deeply distressed and troubled. <sup>34</sup> “**My soul is overwhelmed with sorrow to the point of death,**” he said to them. “**Stay here and keep watch.**”

<sup>35</sup> Going a little farther, he fell to the ground and prayed that if possible the hour might pass from him. <sup>36</sup> “**Abba, Father,**” he said, “**everything is possible for you. Take this cup from me. Yet not what I will, but what you will.**”

<sup>37</sup> Then he returned to his disciples and found them sleeping. “**Simon,**” he said to Peter, “**are you asleep? Couldn’t you keep watch for one hour?**” <sup>38</sup> **Watch and pray so that you will not fall into temptation. The spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak.**

<sup>39</sup> Once more he went away and prayed the same thing. <sup>40</sup> When he came back, he again found them sleeping, because their eyes were heavy. They did not know what to say to him.

<sup>41</sup> Returning the third time, he said to them, “**Are you still sleeping and resting? Enough! The hour has come. Look, the Son of Man is delivered into the hands of sinners.**” <sup>42</sup> **Rise! Let us go! Here comes my betrayer!**

## Questions for Discussion

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

**For the kids:** *To what place did Jesus and his disciples go?*

**For the grownups:** *Jesus went to pray in the garden. Why is prayer so important?*

## 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.*

**Your kingdom come, we humbly pray,  
That Christ may rule in us today  
And that your Holy Spirit bring  
Still more to worship Christ as King.  
Break Satan's pow'r, defeat his rage;  
Preserve your Church from age to age.  
(CW 410)**

*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 First Article of the Apostle's Creed**

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.**

*What does this mean?*

I believe that God created me and all that exists, and that he gave me my body and soul, eyes, ears and all my members, my mind and all my abilities.

And I believe that God still preserves me by richly and daily providing clothing and shoes, food and drink, property and home, spouse and children, land, cattle and all I own, and all I need to keep my body and life. God also preserves me by defending me against all danger, guarding and protecting me from all evil.

All this God does only because he is my good and merciful Father in heaven, and not because I have earned or deserved it.

For all this I ought to thank and praise, to serve and obey him.

This is most certainly true.