

Tuesday May 12, 2020

Opening

Selected verses from Psalm 66

Leader: Shout for joy to God, all the earth!

Family: **Sing the glory of his name; make his praise glorious.**

Come and hear, all you who fear God;

Let me tell you what he has done for me.

I cried out to him with my mouth;

his praise was on my tongue.

If I had cherished sin in my heart,

The Lord would not have listened;

But God has surely listened

And has heard my prayer.

Praise be to God, who has not rejected my prayer

Or withheld his love from me! Alleluia!

Bible Reading - Isaiah 65:1-7

“I revealed myself to those who did not ask for me;

I was found by those who did not seek me.

To a nation that did not call on my name,

I said, ‘Here am I, here am I.’

² All day long I have held out my hands

to an obstinate people,

who walk in ways not good,

pursuing their own imaginations—

³ a people who continually provoke me

to my very face,

offering sacrifices in gardens

and burning incense on altars of brick;

⁴ who sit among the graves

and spend their nights keeping secret vigil;

who eat the flesh of pigs,

and whose pots hold broth of impure meat;

⁵ who say, ‘Keep away; don’t come near me,

for I am too sacred for you!’

Such people are smoke in my nostrils,

a fire that keeps burning all day.

⁶ “See, it stands written before me:

I will not keep silent but will pay back in full;
I will pay it back into their laps—
7 both your sins and the sins of your ancestors,”
says the Lord.
“Because they burned sacrifices on the mountains
and defied me on the hills,
I will measure into their laps
the full payment for their former deeds.”

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 whom does God reveal himself?*

For the grownups: *How does verse 2 show God’s grace to a sinful world? In what ways has this verse proven true in your life?*

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.

**Lord, 'tis not that I did choose you;
That, I know, could never be,
For this heart would still refuse you
Had your grace not chosen me.
You removed the sin that stained me,
Cleansing me to be your own;
For this purpose you ordained me,
That I live for you alone.
(CW 380)**

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

**(Note that the words on YouTube vary slightly from the hymnal.)*

Catechism Study

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

Table of Duties

Employees

Obey your earthly masters with respect and fear, and with sincerity of heart, just as you would obey Christ. Obey them not only to win their favor when their eye is on you, but like slaves of Christ, doing the will of God from your heart. Serve wholeheartedly, as if you were serving the Lord, not men, because you know that the Lord will reward everyone for whatever good he does.