

Wednesday May 27, 2020

## Opening

*Selected verses from Psalm 146*

*Leader:* Praise the LORD.

***Family:* Praise the LORD, O my soul.**

Do not trust in human helpers,

**In a mortal man who cannot save you.**

Blessed is everyone who has the God of Jacob as his help.

**His hope is in the LORD his God,**

The Maker of heaven and earth,

**The sea, and everything which is in them.**

The LORD reigns forever.

**Your God, O Zion, rules for all generations. Praise the LORD. Alleluia!**

## Bible Reading - Isaiah 66:10-24

Rejoice with Jerusalem and celebrate with her, all you who love her.

Share her joy with her, all you who have been mourning over her,

<sup>11</sup> so that you may nurse and be satisfied from her comforting breast,  
so that you may suck and find delight from her milk-filled breasts.

<sup>12</sup> Yes, this is what the Lord says.

I am ready to extend peace to her like a river,  
and the glory of the nations like an overflowing stream.

You will be nursed. You will be carried on her side,  
and you will be bounced on her knees.

<sup>13</sup> Just like a man whom his mother comforts,  
in the same way I myself will comfort you,  
and you will be comforted concerning Jerusalem.

<sup>14</sup> Then you will see, and your heart will be glad.

Like grass you will receive new strength, right down to your bones.

Then the Lord's hand will be known to his servants,  
but his fury to his enemies.

<sup>15</sup> Look, the Lord will come like fire,  
and his chariots like a whirlwind,  
to pour out his furious anger  
and his rebuke like flames of fire.

<sup>16</sup> For the Lord will bring judgment on all flesh  
by fire and by his sword,  
and those slain by the Lord will be many.

<sup>17</sup> Those who try to sanctify themselves

and those who try to purify themselves  
in order to follow others into the groves,  
in order to eat the meat of pigs and other disgusting things like mice—  
together they will be swept away, declares the Lord.

<sup>18</sup> As for me, because of their works and their thoughts,  
the time is coming for me to gather people from all nations  
and all languages.

They will come, and they will see my glory.

<sup>19</sup> Then I will set up a sign among them,  
and I will send out survivors from among them to the nations,  
to Tarshish, Pul, and Lud, to those who are archers,  
to Tubal and Javan, to the distant coastlands,  
who have not heard my message and have not seen my glory.  
Then they will declare my glory among the nations.

<sup>20</sup> Then they will bring all your brothers from all the nations as an offering to the Lord.  
They will bring them on horses and chariots and wagons and mules and dromedaries  
to my holy mountain Jerusalem, says the Lord, in the same way that the people of  
Israel bring an offering in a clean vessel to the Lord's house. <sup>21</sup> Even from among these  
people I will take priests and Levites, says the Lord.

<sup>22</sup> For just as the new heavens and the new earth that I am making will remain standing  
before me, declares the Lord, in the same way your offspring and your name will stand.

<sup>23</sup> As often as one new moon follows another and one Sabbath follows another, all flesh  
will come to worship before me, says the Lord.

<sup>24</sup> They will go out, and they will see the corpses of the ones who were rebelling  
against me, for their worm will not die, and their fire will not be quenched, and all flesh  
will be horrified by them.

## Questions for Discussion

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

***For the kids:*** Who will be saved on Judgment Day?

***For the grownups:*** Who see Judgment Day with hope and joy? Why? Who will look on  
Judgment Day with fear and trembling? Why?

## 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.*

**Join with the hills and the sea  
Thunders of praise to prolong!  
In judgment and justice he comes to the earth.  
Oh, sing to the Lord a new song!  
(CW 245)**

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

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Large Catechism Study

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

**THE FIRST COMMANDMENT (Continued)**

This I must unfold somewhat more plainly, that it may be understood and perceived by ordinary examples of the contrary. Many a one thinks that he has God and everything in abundance when he has money and, possessions; he trusts in them and boasts of them with such firmness and assurance as to care for no one. Lo, such a man also has a god, Mammon by name, i.e., money and possessions, on which he sets all his heart, and which is also the most common idol on earth. He who has money and possessions feels secure, and is joyful and undismayed as though he were sitting in the midst of

Paradise. On the other hand, he who has none doubts and is despondent, as though he knew of no God. For very few are to be found who are of good cheer, and who neither mourn nor complain if they have not Mammon. This [care and desire for money] sticks and clings to our nature, even to the grave.

So, too, whoever trusts and boasts that he possesses great skill, prudence, power, favor, friendship, and honor has also a god, but not this true and only God. This appears again when you notice how presumptuous, secure, and proud people are because of such possessions, and how despondent when they no longer exist or are withdrawn. Therefore I repeat that the chief explanation of this point is that to have a god is to have something in which the heart entirely trusts.