

Thursday May 7, 2020

## Opening

*Selected verses from Psalm 66*

**Leader:** Come, listen, all you who fear God,

**Family:** **And let me tell what he has done to save my life.**

To him I cried out with my mouth.

**High praise was on my tongue.**

Blessed be God, who has not turned aside my prayer

**Or turned aside his mercy from me! Alleluia!**

## Bible Reading - Haggai 2:2-9

<sup>2</sup>“Speak to Zerubbabel son of Shealtiel, governor of Judah, to Joshua son of Jozadak, the high priest, and to the remnant of the people. Ask them, <sup>3</sup>‘Who of you is left who saw this house in its former glory? How does it look to you now? Does it not seem to you like nothing? <sup>4</sup>But now be strong, Zerubbabel,’ declares the Lord. ‘Be strong, Joshua son of Jozadak, the high priest. Be strong, all you people of the land,’ declares the Lord, ‘and work. For I am with you,’ declares the Lord Almighty. <sup>5</sup>‘This is what I covenanted with you when you came out of Egypt. And my Spirit remains among you. Do not fear.’

<sup>6</sup>“This is what the Lord Almighty says: ‘In a little while I will once more shake the heavens and the earth, the sea and the dry land. <sup>7</sup>I will shake all nations, and what is desired by all nations will come, and I will fill this house with glory,’ says the Lord Almighty. <sup>8</sup>‘The silver is mine and the gold is mine,’ declares the Lord Almighty. <sup>9</sup>‘The glory of this present house will be greater than the glory of the former house,’ says the Lord Almighty. ‘And in this place I will grant peace,’ declares the Lord Almighty.”

## Questions for Discussion

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

**For the kids:** *The people of Israel are rebuilding the temple. What word of encouragement does the Lord give them?*

**For the grownups:** *In what direct way will "the glory of this second house be greater than that of the first one"? (See verse 7.)*

## 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.*

***Here stands the font before our eyes,  
Telling how God did receive us.  
Th'altar recalls Christ's sacrifice  
And what the sacrament gives us.  
Here sound the Scriptures that proclaim  
Christ yesterday, today, the same,  
And evermore, our redeemer.  
(CW 529 v4)***

*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.*

### **Table of Duties**

#### *Husbands*

Husbands, be considerate as you live with your wives, and treat them with respect as the weaker partner and as heirs with you of the gracious gift of life, so that nothing will hinder your prayers. Husbands, love your wives and do not be harsh with them.