

*Friday May 8, 2020*

## Opening

*Selected verses from Psalm 146*

*Leader:* Praise the LORD.

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

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

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

He is the one who stays faithful forever.

**He obtains justice for the oppressed.**

He gives food to the hungry.

**The Lord releases prisoners.**

The Lord opens the eyes of the blind.

**The Lord lifts up those who are bowed down.**

The Lord reigns forever.

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

## Bible Reading - John 7:37-52

<sup>37</sup> On the last and greatest day of the festival, Jesus stood and said in a loud voice, **“Let anyone who is thirsty come to me and drink. <sup>38</sup> Whoever believes in me, as Scripture has said, rivers of living water will flow from within them.”** <sup>39</sup> By this he meant the Spirit, whom those who believed in him were later to receive. Up to that time the Spirit had not been given, since Jesus had not yet been glorified.

<sup>40</sup> On hearing his words, some of the people said, “Surely this man is the Prophet.”

<sup>41</sup> Others said, “He is the Messiah.”

Still others asked, “How can the Messiah come from Galilee? <sup>42</sup> Does not Scripture say that the Messiah will come from David’s descendants and from Bethlehem, the town where David lived?” <sup>43</sup> Thus the people were divided because of Jesus. <sup>44</sup> Some wanted to seize him, but no one laid a hand on him.

<sup>45</sup> Finally the temple guards went back to the chief priests and the Pharisees, who asked them, “Why didn’t you bring him in?”

<sup>46</sup> “No one ever spoke the way this man does,” the guards replied.

<sup>47</sup> “You mean he has deceived you also?” the Pharisees retorted. <sup>48</sup> “Have any of the rulers or of the Pharisees believed in him? <sup>49</sup> No! But this mob that knows nothing of the law—there is a curse on them.”

<sup>50</sup> Nicodemus, who had gone to Jesus earlier and who was one of their own number, asked, <sup>51</sup> “Does our law condemn a man without first hearing him to find out what he has been doing?”

<sup>52</sup> They replied, "Are you from Galilee, too? Look into it, and you will find that a prophet does not come out of Galilee."

## 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 stood up for Jesus?*

**For the grownups:** *The people were awestruck by Jesus' teaching because it was unlike anything else they heard. In what ways is the message about Jesus unique and different from any other truth you might hear in the world still today?*

## 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.*

**Jesus Christ, my sure defense  
And my Savior, now is living!  
Knowing this, my confidence  
Rests upon the hope he's giving,  
Though the night of death be fraught  
Still with many anxious thought.  
(CW 167)**

*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**

#### *Wives*

Wives, submit to your husbands as to the Lord, like Sarah, who obeyed Abraham and called him her master. You are her daughters if you do what is right and do not give way to fear.