

Name _____



ST PAUL'S LUTHERAN

*So that we keep learning and remembering the various parts of worship, from time to time we plan to include explanations of the different parts of service. Today: **The Invocation.***

In our hymnal we follow the practice of the ancient church with the greeting known as the Invocation, because we proclaim or invoke the name of God. We remember that the God we worship here together is the one true God, and we call to mind the words of our baptism. The congregation responds “Amen,” which means “This is most certainly true,” because this is certainly true that we have come to worship the one true God. And so we say: “In the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.”

Luke 14:25-35

- Does Jesus mean that it's okay to hate our parents?
- If not, then what does he mean?
(This type of speech is called hyperbole).
- Is Jesus talks about the crucifixion when he says that we must pick and carry our crosses?
- The theology of the cross is about the cross of Jesus Christ, who died for us, but it is also about another cross. What is that other cross?
- What is the lesson of the farmer who wants to build a watchtower?

- What is the lesson of the king who wants to go to war?
- What is the lesson of the bad salt?
- Characteristics of the Christian's cross:
 - It is the consequence, not a cause, of discipleship.
 - It is a necessary consequence. No cross, no Christian!
 - The cross we carry is heavy and painful.
- Luther: “Where God's word is preached, accepted, or believed, and bears fruit, there the holy and precious cross will also not be far behind. And let no one think we will have peace; rather, we must sacrifice all we have on earth—possessions, honor, house and farm, spouse and children, body and life. Now, this grieves our flesh and the old creature, for it means that we must remain steadfast, suffer patiently whatever befalls us, and let go whatever is taken from us.”^a
- What parts of our worship services address the pain of bearing our crosses?
 - The invocation
 - The confession of sins and absolution
 - The “Lord have mercy”
 - The benediction
 - Others?
- Farmer without resources, king without a strong enough army, salt without any more saltiness—we come to worship without enough of what we need. We come to be refreshed. Where does this pick-me-up and refreshing come from?

Parent/Guardian signature _____

^a Large Catechism, Third Petition, par. 65-66.