

## Session #2: Realities and Relationships

# Texts

### From the Small Catechism

#### The First Article of the Apostles' Creed with Explanation

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.**

*What does this mean?* I believe that God has made me and all creatures; that He has given me my body and soul, eyes, ears, and all my members, my reason and all my senses, and still takes care of them.

He also gives me clothing and shoes, food and drink, house and home, wife [spouse] and children, land, animals, and all I have. He richly and daily provides me with all that I need to support this body and life.

He defends me against all danger and guards and protects me from all evil.

All this He does only out of fatherly, divine goodness and mercy, without any merit or worthiness in me. For all this it is my duty to thank and praise, serve and obey Him.

This is most certainly true.

### From the Liturgies

#### From all services: The Lord's Prayer, Fourth Petition

"Give us this day our daily bread"

#### From the Divine Service, all settings: The First Article of the Nicene Creed

"I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible."

#### From the Divine Service, Settings 1 and 2: Offertory

"What shall I render to the Lord for all His benefits to me?"

#### From the Divine Service, Settings 1, 2 and 3: Sanctus

"Holy, holy, holy Lord God of [pow'r and might] or [Sabaoth]: Heaven and earth are full of your glory."

#### From the Divine Service, Settings 1 and 2: Prayer of Thanksgiving

Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for you have has mercy on those whom you created . . .

#### From the Divine Service, Settings 3, 4 and 5: Opening Versicles

"Our help is in the Name of the Lord, who made heaven and earth"

#### From the Divine Service, Setting 4: Preface

"It is truly good, right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, for the countless blessings you so freely bestow on us and all creation."

**From the Divine Service, Setting 4: Prayer of Thanksgiving**

“Blessed are Your, O Lord our God, king of all creation . . .”

**From the Divine Service, Setting 4 and 5: The Kyrie, Hymn # 942, “Kyrie! God Father”, v. 1**

Kyrie!

God, Father in heav’n above,  
You abound in gracious love,  
Of all things the maker and preserver.  
Eleison! Eleison!

**From the Divine Service, Setting 5: The Creed, Hymn # 954, “We All Believe in One True God”, v. 1**

We all believe in one true God,  
Who created earth and heaven,  
The Father, who to us in love  
Has the right of children given.

He in soul and body feeds us;  
All we need His hand provides us;  
Through all snares and perils leads us,  
Watching that no harm betide us.  
He cares for us by day and night;  
All things are governed by His might.

**From Matins, the Venite (Ps 95)**

For the Lord is a great God  
and a great king above all gods.  
The deep places of the earth are in His hand;  
The strength of the hills is His also.  
The sea is His, for He made it,  
and His hand formed the dry land.

**From Matins and Morning Prayer: Collect for Grace**

“O Lord, our heavenly Father, almighty and everlasting God, You have safely brought us to the beginning of this day. Defend us in the same with our mighty power . . .”

**From Vespers and Evening Prayer: Collect for Peace**

“O God, from whom come all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works, give to us, your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey your commandments and also that we, being defended from the fear of our enemies, may live in peace and quietness . . .”

**From Evening Prayer: Thanksgiving for Light**

“Blessed are you, O Lord our God, king of the universe . . . You are merciful, and You love Your whole creation, and we, Your creatures, glorify You . . .”

**From Evening Prayer: Ps 141**

“Set a watch before my mouth, O Lord, and guard the door of my lips. Let not my heart incline to any evil thing; let me not be occupied in wickedness with evildoers.”

**From Vespers Evening Prayer: The Magnificat**

“The mighty One has done great things to me, and Holy is His name.  
His mercy is on those who fear Him from generation to generation.  
He has shown strength with His arm; He has scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.  
He has cast down the mighty from their thrones and has exalted the lowly.  
He has filled the hungry with good things, and the rich He has sent empty away.”

**From the Scriptures:**

Gen 1:1-3; 1:26-27; 1:28; 1:31; 2:2; Gen 2:15; Gen 2:24; Gen 8:21-22; Ps 8:3-8; Ps 23; Ps 46; Ps 91; Ps 93; Ps 95; Ps 96; Ps 103; Ps 121; Ps 127; Ps 128; Ps 139; Ps 145; Isaiah 6:1-4; Is 44:1-8; Is 45:15-23; Mat 6:25-34; Matt 10:28-31; Lk 1:46-55