

Lessons from the Life of  
**JOSEPH**



**Our Theme:**

**"Your Will Be Done"**

# Grace Lutheran Church & School



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Member: *CHURCH OF THE LUTHERAN CONFESSION*

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**Grades:** Kindergarten-8<sup>th</sup>

**Church Year:** Pentecost 8/VBS Review

**Date:** July 31, 2022

Welcome to our service this morning. Today we will be reviewing the lessons from this week's Vacation Bible School. Our children learned about the life of Joseph. From his life we learn that God has an ultimate plan for all His people. We, as Christians, can have confidence that no matter how difficult things might seem to get during life, ultimately everything works out for our good. Because the Lord has given us the forgiveness of sins in Jesus Christ's sacrificial death on the cross, it is the Lord's will that we rely upon and trust in His grace during all tribulations. This is why we are undertaking the theme this morning taken from the Third Petition of the Lord's Prayer: "Your Will Be Done." You will notice that there is a fitting connection between the lessons from Joseph and the various petitions of the Lord's Prayer, giving us all an opportunity to publicly confess what we learned about these in Luther's Small Catechism. Our children will be participating throughout the service. May your worship be blessed and may His will be done!

## "Your Will Be Done"

**Worship Preparation:** ..... Psalm 77, TLH p. 139

**Opening Prayer:** ..... Luther's Morning Prayer

**C:** In the name of God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen.  
We thank You, our heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have kept all harm and danger away from us last night; and we pray that You would also protect us today from sin and every evil, that our lives and all our behavior may please You. Into Your hand we entrust our bodies and souls and everything else. Let Your holy angel be with us, that the devil may have no power over us. Amen.

**Hymn:** .....TLH 457: What A Friend We Have in Jesus

**Invocation:** .....Luther's Explanation to the Address

P: We begin our service in the name of the  
Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

P: Through faith in Christ Jesus, who paid the full penalty of judgment for our sins by dying on the cross, we are now children of God. He has granted us access to Him by addressing Him in the Lord's Prayer as "Our Father, who art in heaven." What does this mean?

**C: With these words God tenderly encourages us to believe that He is our true Father and we are His true children, so that we may ask Him boldly and with complete confidence as dear children ask their dear father.**

**Responsive Psalm:** .....Psalm 105:1-5, 16-22

P: Oh, give thanks to the LORD! Call upon His name;

**C: Make known His deeds among the peoples!**

P: Sing to Him, sing psalms to Him;

**C: Talk of all His wondrous works!**

P: Glory in His holy name;

**C: Let the hearts of those rejoice who seek the LORD!**

P: Seek the LORD and His strength;

**C: Seek His face evermore!**

P: Remember His marvelous works which He has done,

**C: His wonders, and the judgments of His mouth,**

P: Moreover He called for a famine in the land;

**C: He destroyed all the provision of bread.**

P: He sent a man before them; Joseph; who was sold as a slave.

**C: They hurt his feet with fetters, He was laid in irons.**

P: Until the time that his word came to pass,

**C: The word of the LORD tested him.**

P: The king sent and released him,

**C: The ruler of the people let him go free.**

P: He made him lord of his house,

**C: And ruler of all his possessions,**

P: To bind his princes at his pleasure,

**C: And teach his elders wisdom. ...**

P: Oh, give thanks to the LORD! Call upon His name;

**C: Make known His deeds among the peoples!**



**Hymn:** .....TLH 529:1,3,5: I Leave All Things to God's Direction

## 1. Your Will Be Done . . . In Adversity

**Sermonette:**..... Genesis 37:3-4, 18, 26-28; 39:1-2

**Our Confession:**...Luther's Explanation to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Petition

P: What is the 3<sup>rd</sup> Petition of the Lord's Prayer?

C: Thy will be done on earth as it is heaven.

P: What does this mean?

C: God's good and gracious will is certainly done without our prayer all by itself, but we pray in this petition that it be done among us also.

P: How is God's will done?

C: God's will is done when He breaks and stops every evil will and plan of those who do not want us to hallow His name or let His kingdom come, such as the will of the devil, of the sinful world, and of our own flesh. His will is also done when He gives us strength and keeps us firm in His word and in faith for as long as we live. This is God's good and gracious will.

**VBS Recitation:**..... Romans 8:31b; Romans 8:28

Children (All): If God is for us, who can be against us?

Children (Grades 3-8): And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose.

**Hymn:**..... TLH 427:3-5: How Firm a Foundation

## 2. Your Will Be Done . . . In Temptation

**Sermonette:**..... Genesis 39:6b-12

**Our Confession:**...Luther's Explanation to the 6<sup>th</sup> Petition

P: What is the 6<sup>th</sup> Petition of the Lord's Prayer?

C: And lead us not into temptation.

P: What does this mean?

C: God indeed tempts no one; but we pray in this petition that He would guard and keep us so that the devil, the world, and our flesh do not deceive us nor lead us into misbelief, hopelessness, or any other shameful or sinful acts. And although we are tempted by them, we ask that we win in the end and keep the victory.

**VBS Recitation:**..... Matthew 26:41

Children (Grades 3-5): "Watch and pray, lest you enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak."

**Hymn:**..... TLH 517:1,3: The Will of God Is Always Best

### 3. Your Will Be Done . . . In Service to Others

**Sermonette:** .....Genesis 42:6-7a; 45:1-8

**Our Confession:** ...Luther's Explanation to the 1<sup>st</sup> Petition

P: What is the 1<sup>st</sup> Petition of the Lord's Prayer?

C: Hallowed be Thy name.

P: What does this mean?

C: God's name is certainly holy all by itself, but we pray in this petition that we also keep it holy.

P: How is God's name kept holy?

C: God's name is kept holy when the word of God is taught in its truth and purity, and we as the children of God also live a holy life according to it. Help us do this, dear heavenly Father. But whoever teaches and lives contrary to the word of God dishonors God's name among us. Keep us from doing this, heavenly Father.



**VBS Recitation:** .....John 13:34a

Children (Grades 1-2): "A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another; ..."

**Hymn:** ...TLH 424:1-4: My God, My Father, Make Me Strong

### 4. Your Will Be Done . . . In Forgiving Others

**Sermonette:** .....Genesis 50:15-21

**Our Confession:** ...Luther's Explanation to the 5<sup>th</sup> Petition

P: What is the 5<sup>th</sup> Petition of the Lord's Prayer?

C: And forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us.

P: What does this mean?

C: We pray in this petition that our Father in heaven would not look on our sins nor deny our prayer because of them. We are not worthy of things for which we are asking, neither have we deserved them. However, we ask that our Father would by His grace give us what we ask even though we sin often every day and indeed deserve nothing but punishment. We too will from our hearts gladly forgive and do good to all those who sin against us.

**VBS Recitation:** .....Ephesians 4:32

Children (Grades 6-8): And be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, just as God in Christ forgave you.

**Hymn:** .....TLH 412: May We Thy Precepts, Lord, Fulfill

## 5. Your Will Be Done . . . In Final Victory

**Sermonette:** .....Genesis 50:24-26

**Our Confession:**...Luther's Explanation to the 7<sup>th</sup> Petition

P: What is the 7<sup>th</sup> Petition of the Lord's Prayer?

**C: But deliver us from evil.**

P: What does this mean?

**C: We pray in this petition that our Father in heaven would deliver us from every evil to body and soul, property or reputation, and finally, when our last hour comes, give us a joyful end and take us in grace from this valley of sorrows to Himself in heaven.**

**VBS Recitation:** .....John 14:19b

Children (Pre-S-K): Because I live, you shall live also.

**VBS Hymn:**.....TLH 528:1-2, 15: If God Himself Be For Me

Note: Please join with the children on the 3<sup>rd</sup> & final stanza below:

**My heart for joy is springing And can no more be sad,  
'Tis full of mirth and singing, Sees naught but sunshine glad.  
The Sun that cheers my spirit Is Jesus Christ, my King;  
That which I shall inherit Makes me rejoice and sing.**

**Offering & Prayer:**

**Lord's Prayer:**

**Benediction:**.....Luther's Explanation to the Doxology

P: Now receive the Lord's blessing: Fear not, for the LORD is with you; Be not dismayed, for the LORD is your God. The LORD will strengthen you, Yes, the LORD will help you, The LORD will uphold you with His righteous right hand.

**C: His is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.**

P: What does "Amen" mean?

**C: "Amen" means that I should be certain that these petitions are really heard by the Father in heaven; for He Himself has instructed us to pray in this way and promised that He will hear us. "Amen, amen," that is, "Yes, indeed, it shall be so."**

**Hymn:** .....WS 785: Children of the Heavenly Father

**Silent Prayer:**

## ✝ ***THE ANNOUNCEMENTS*** ✝

➔ **Vacation Bible School:** Thanks to our children for presenting to us truths from God's Word. It was wonderful to have them participate in Vacation Bible School this past week. We had the opportunity to minister to 27 young souls, 12 non-members, and an average daily attendance of 23. A big "thank you" to our teachers, teaching assistants, craft coordinators, music staff, and providers of snacks. Such efforts are only successful by the terrific volunteer services of our members.



➔ **Our Christian Day School:** Grace Lutheran Church believes that a thorough Christian education is rudimentary for the spiritual growth and preservation of faith of all Christians, children no less. This is why we support and operate a Christian Day School with grades K through 8<sup>th</sup>. We welcome all parents, even non-members, to consider this as a valuable resource for the upbringing of their children. If you are interested in enrolling, please speak with Mrs. Janelle Hein or Pastor Hein. Our school year begins on August 29.

➔ **School Volunteers:** Grace Lutheran School is looking for volunteers to assist the teachers with the upcoming school year. In particular the following activities would be helpful: recess monitor, lunch monitor, study hall monitor, assisting with children reading, etc. Those interested, please speak with or contact Janelle Hein (janellehein@gmail.com) or James Bomber.

➔ **Sunday School Teachers:** Sunday School begins the Sunday after Labor Day and we are looking for volunteers to teach. It is a great opportunity to instruct our youth about the truths of scripture. If you are interested in teaching or subbing, please let Pastor know.

➔ **Summer Hospitality:** If anyone wishes to host any of the Sundays in summer, please sign up on the bulletin board in the fellowship hall.

➔ **Organ Fund:** The Voters at their past meeting closed the Organ Fund given that more than sufficient funds are available to pay off the new organ and its associated setup expenses. Any extra funds will be transferred to Project Undesignated for future projects.

- ➔ **Harvest Festival:** Prince of Peace Lutheran of Hecla, SD, welcomes you to its annual Harvest Festival, 4 pm, Sun., Aug. 14, at the historic Guelph School (Guelph, ND), followed by a turkey barbecue dinner. For more info., contact pastor\_daub@hotmail.com/605.994.2145.
- ➔ **CLC Education Fund:** The CLC Convention established a new fund now called the "Education Fund." A proposal is expected at the 2024 Convention to potentially fund the establishment of new Christian Day Schools and provide support to already established schools. The new fund will collect offerings to prepare for that possible reality.
- ➔ **CLC News:** Pastor Samuel Naumann of Resurrection Lutheran in Corpus Christi, TX, has returned the call to Immanuel Lutheran in Winter Haven, FL.

## *Thy Will be Done*

*Prayer by Martin Luther on "Thy will be done":*

*O Lord God, heavenly Father, I am Thy creature; do Thou with me whatever Thou dost please; it is all the same to me, for I know that I am surely Thine. And if it please Thee that I die this hour or suffer some great misfortune, I would still be very glad to suffer it. Never do I want to consider my life, honor, goods, and whatever I have as higher and greater than Thy will. Thy will shall please me at all times throughout my life.*

*Prayer from TLH 420, stanza 1:*

*My Jesus, as Thou wilt; Oh, may Thy will be mine!  
 Into Thy hand of love I would my all resign.  
 Through sorrow or through joy Conduct me as Thine own  
 And help me still to say: My Lord, Thy will be done.*

**Welcome to our guests and visitors. We appreciate the opportunity to share God's Word with you today. Please come again! Those interested in learning more about the Scriptures and our doctrinal position, please speak with the Pastor. He would be delighted to visit with you!**



# Follow-up from the 2022 CLC Convention:

From CLC President Michael Eichstadt in a letter sent this past week:

**WELS/ELS:** This summer's CLC Convention resolved the following:

*RESOLVED that the CLC president, in conjunction with the Joint Committee and the Board of Doctrine, bring the three points outlined on page 30 of the Prospectus to the WELS and ELS to see if they are willing to accept them.*

- 1. All three church bodies must clearly state their agreement on what Scripture teaches in Romans 16:17-18 concerning the termination of fellowship with false teachers.***
- 2. It is necessary that the WELS and ELS reject past official, synodical statements on this subject which disagree with the doctrine of Scripture.***
- 3. It is necessary that current official synodical statements that conflict with the doctrine of Scripture are removed or corrected, not merely annotated in online format.****(Prospectus, p. 30)*

I forwarded the resolution to President Obenberger of the ELS and to President Schroeder of the WELS, along with a note expressing my hope that they would be willing to meet with us at least one more time to discuss the three points. In part, their response reads:

*"The conventions of both the ELS and WELS have already agreed to that provision of the Joint Statement.*

*Having said all that, we believe that the CLC, in the resolution passed by its convention, has erected an insurmountable barrier to further talks. This is truly a sad day, because we had sincerely hoped that the Joint Statement would be the first step towards re-establishing fellowship based on our synods' agreement in biblical doctrine. We believe that the Joint Statement, crafted carefully and in good faith, showed that there really is no doctrinal difference on this specific question. And with the stipulations of the three points, along with a lack of specific examples of ambiguity in the Joint Statement and specific examples of doctrinal statements and synodical resolutions that would need to be changed, it seems that further talks cannot take place. It's not because we are unwilling to talk, but because we are unable to meet the conditions set before us."*

## Our Quilted Banners

A pair of quilted banners now hangs in our sanctuary. While the artistry may be immediately apparent to the viewer, a deeper value comes from understanding the symbols that bring to mind the Bible history accounts that inspired each block.

The two banners are divided into Old Testament and New Testament themes. The Old Testament banner begins in the upper left corner with “In the Garden.” Fabrics were specially selected to show leaves and flower buds in the fresh creation of Eden.

Directly to the right of “In the Garden” is “Tree of Life.” While Gen. 3 reminds us that mankind’s sin barred us from partaking of this tree, Rev. 22 promises that those who are washed in Christ’s righteousness will have the right to eat from it and live forever.

The second row shows a representation of “Noah’s Ark.” If you look closely at the sky above the ark, you can see a hint of the rainbow of promise. To the right of that is a more abstract “Jacob’s Ladder.” The repeating pattern of the block colors guides the eye upward.

The next row begins with “David and Goliath.” Its story is more beautifully told through its construction. The center blocks are made first, looking like crossed spears, but in the end, Goliath’s spears came to nothing and the corner pieces look like trees that have been toppled in the mighty name of the Lord.

Across from “David and Goliath” is the “Fiery Furnace.” The four identical quadrants pivot around a central point. Although three men were sent into the flames, a fourth, the Angel of the Lord, was with them - Christ himself, who is the center of our meditation.

The final row shows the “Shepherd.” The center is the Good Shepherd himself. Look for his staff in dark blue. There are 5 sheep hidden in the



block. Four are at his back, safe in the fold, and one is at his feet, recently found. There is a hint of a rainbow in the upper corners.

Also inspired by the psalms is our final Old Testament block, “Harp.” The strings are visible in the center, reminding us to “Sing to the Lord with thanksgiving.” (Ps 147:7).

The New Testament banner begins with the “Bethlehem Star,” a variation on a classic quilt pattern. It heralds the events symbolized in the block to the right, “Christ is Born,” which is a representation of the newborn King in the manger. Notice the same fabric in the star is repeated in the manger itself.

The next two blocks also go together to represent Palm Sunday: “Hosanna,” a Hebrew word meaning “save us” was the cry of the people on that day. If you look from the outer corners inward you can see a palm branch pattern but the background field is the cross. “Road to Jerusalem” is the next block that shows the way Jesus traveled to accomplish our salvation.



The “Road to Jerusalem” leads directly to the “Crown of Thorns” and “Cross” blocks in the next row. Look closely in the circle for the four thorns pointing in towards the center.

To close the New Testament banner, there is a celebration of salvation accomplished with “Holy Spirit” and “Sound the Trumpets.” While it is impossible to conceptualize the Holy Spirit in simple triangles and squares, there is a sense of both a radiating outward from the center and also a bringing together of individual triangles into a whole just as He brings each of us into the Holy Christian Church by creating faith in our hearts through the Word and Sacraments. The trumpets in the final block sound loudly and point back in the direction of the “Holy Spirit” block.

May these artistic representations enrich and encourage your meditation on God’s Word today.

## ✠ TODAY AT GRACE ✠

Organist: Sue Nelson

Elder: Dave Rust

Ushers: Gary Gunther; Daniel Hein; Aliou Kanneh; Bob Maki; Bill Rust; David Stifter; Jeff Stifter; Joel Stifter

Counting Team 3: Duane Enns; Tom Graham; Kevin Hulke; Dan Degnan; Benno Sydow

Church Cleaners: Wales

## ✠ NEXT WEEK AT GRACE ✠

Ushers: Gary Gunther; Daniel Hein; Aliou Kanneh; Bob Maki; Bill Rust; David Stifter; Jeff Stifter; Joel Stifter

Counting Team 4: James Bomber; David Hein; Roger Ochsner; Al Rosendahl; Dave Rust

Church Cleaners: Anderson

## ✠ OUR SCHEDULE ✠

**Sun., July 31:** 9:00 am – Worship (VBS Review/Pentecost 8)

**Sat., Aug. 6:** 9:00 am – Grace School Work Day

**Sun., Aug. 7:** 9:00 am – Worship w/Lord's Supper (Pentecost 9)

**Sun., Aug. 21:** 3:00 pm – Immanuel Opening Service

**Tues., Aug. 23:** 7:00 pm – Grace School Ice Cream Social

**Mon., Aug. 29:** 8:00 am – Opening Day of Grace School

**Last Week's Stats:** July 24, 2022 Sun.: 72

Sun. Offering:	Grace:	\$3,128	CLC:	\$1,380	
Weekly Need:	Grace:	4,250	CLC:	1,020	
-Under / +Over:	Grace:	-1,122	CLC:	+360	
Year-to-Date Offering:	Grace:	\$132,176	CLC:	\$35,415	
Year-to-Date Need:	Grace:	127,500	CLC:	30,600	
Year-to-Date (+/-)	Grace:	+4,676	CLC:	+4,815	
GLC Other:	50	Living Faith:	0	Tuition Aid:	50
SAF Endowment:	0	MDF:	0	Kinship:	100
ILC Student Aid:	0	ILC Bldg.	0	IIF: 0	CEF: 0
Current Balances:		Tuition Aid:	\$2,407	Organ:	\$56,126



For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; *it is* the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast. - Ephesians 2:8-9