



Welcome to Good Shepherd

Called by God to: Grow; Serve; Love; Care and Worship

Today's Worship

September 25, 2016

Created By Our God, God Hears Me - Joseph the Dreamer. Joseph was his father's golden child, gifted with a beautiful coat of many colors, as proof. His life was faced with challenges, though, making us wonder how he could prevail in the face of jealousy, danger, and lies.

The only way he could survive was with the help of God.

Welcome & Announcements

***Gathering Hymn** "Christ, Be Our Light" ELW 715

Confession and Forgiveness

P: Let us confess our sins before God and one another.

Pause for silent confession

P: God of grace and mercy,

C: We confess that we have sinned against you and one another. It is too easy for us to be jealous of the gifts and popularity of others. We are often tempted to lash out at those we dislike. We have not always loved our neighbors as ourselves. We struggle to love our enemies. In your great mercy, forgive us and use us for good. Amen.

P: Our God is a God of great compassion and mercy, able to bring good out of even the greatest evil. Know that you are forgiven and be at peace.

C: We are all forgiven. Thanks be to God.

Prayer of the Day

C: God of dreams and hopes, you used the challenges in Joseph's life to save the lives of others. You work in and through us to bring healing out of brokenness. Help us know that you are with us and capable of turning all evil to good. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

Children's Message

Choir Anthem "There Is a Balm in Gilead" Adult Choir

Psalm 105:1-5, 16-24 (read responsively)

- ¹O give thanks to the Lord, call on his name, make known his deeds among the peoples.
- ²**Sing to him, sing praises to him; tell of all his wonderful works.**
- ³Glory in his holy name; let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice.
- ⁴**Seek the Lord and his strength; seek his presence continually.**
- ⁵Remember the wonderful works he has done, his miracles, and the judgments he has uttered,
- ¹⁶**When he summoned famine against the land, and broke every staff of bread,**
- ¹⁷he had sent a man ahead of them, Joseph, who was sold as a slave.
- ¹⁸**His feet were hurt with fetters, his neck was put in a collar of iron;**
- ¹⁹until what he had said came to pass, the word of the Lord kept testing him.
- ²⁰**The king sent and released him; the ruler of the peoples set him free.**
- ²¹He made him Lord of his house, and ruler of all his possessions,
- ²²**to instruct his officials at his pleasure, and to teach his elders wisdom.**
- ²³Then Israel came to Egypt; Jacob lived as an alien in the land of Ham.
- ²⁴**And the Lord made his people very fruitful, and made them stronger than their foes.**

Announcement of Scripture Reading:

P: A reading from the book of Genesis chapter 37.

C: Praise to you, O Lord.

Bible Story Genesis 37:3-8, 17b-22, 26-28; 50:15-21

³Now Israel loved Joseph more than any other of his children, because he was the son of his old age; and he had made him a long robe with sleeves. ⁴But when his brothers saw that their father loved him more than all his brothers, they hated him, and could not speak peaceably to him. ⁵Once Joseph had a dream, and when he told it to his brothers, they hated him even more. ⁶He said to them, "Listen to this dream that I dreamed. ⁷There we were, binding sheaves in the field. Suddenly my sheaf rose and stood upright; then your sheaves gathered around it, and bowed down to my sheaf." ⁸His brothers said to him, "Are you indeed to reign over us? Are you indeed to have dominion over us?" So they hated him even more because of his dreams and his words. ^{17b}Joseph went after his brothers, and found them at Dothan. ¹⁸They saw him from a distance, and before he came near to them, they conspired to kill him. ¹⁹They said to one another, "Here comes this dreamer. ²⁰Come now, let us kill him and throw him into one of the pits; then we shall say that a wild animal has devoured him, and we shall see what will become of his dreams." ²¹But when Reuben heard it, he delivered him out of their hands, saying, "Let us not take his life." ²²Reuben said to them, "Shed no blood; throw him into this pit here in the wilderness, but lay no hand on him" — that he might rescue him out of their hand and restore him to his father. ²⁶Then Judah said to his brothers, "What profit is it if we kill our brother and conceal his blood? ²⁷Come, let us sell him to the Ishmaelites, and not lay our hands on him, for he is our brother, our own flesh." And his brothers agreed. ²⁸When some Midianite traders passed by, they drew Joseph up, lifting him out of the pit, and sold him to the Ishmaelites for twenty pieces of silver. And they took Joseph to Egypt.

¹⁵Realizing that their father was dead, Joseph's brothers said, "What if Joseph still bears a grudge against us and pays us back in full for all the wrong that we did to him?" ¹⁶So they approached Joseph, saying, "Your father gave this instruction before he died, ¹⁷'Say to Joseph: I beg you, forgive the crime of your brothers and the wrong they did in harming you.' Now therefore please forgive the crime of the servants of the God of your father." Joseph wept when they spoke to him. ¹⁸Then his brothers also wept, fell down before him, and said, "We are here as your slaves." ¹⁹But Joseph said to them, "Do not be afraid! Am I in the place of God? ²⁰Even though you intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good, in order to preserve a numerous people, as he is doing today. ²¹So have no fear; I myself will provide for you and your little ones." In this way he reassured them, speaking kindly to them.
P: Word of God, Word of Life.

C: Thanks be to God!

Hymn "It Began in Silence" Chorus, vs, Chorus Printed Sermon

Hymn "Joseph Was His Father's Favorite". Printed Apostle's Creed. page 105

***Sharing the Peace**

Offering

Offertory "Create In Me a Clean Heart" ELW 186

***Prayers of the Church**

The Lord's Prayer

***Benediction**

***Sending Hymn** "My Life Flows on in Endless Song" vs 1. ELW 763

***Dismissal**

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord!

C: Thanks be to God!

Presiding & Preaching: Rev. Mary Iverson

Scripture Reader: Megan Ehlert

Birthdays - Sept 25-Oct 1 (If your birthday is not listed please contact the church office with mm/dd/yy.)

25-Amy Anderson	Hannah Warmka	Melany Ehlert	1-Tammy Mandler
27-Charlene Harris	29-Greg Alger	30-Nick Niebuhr	Dennis Sellner
28-Jon Huper	Russ Bathke		

September Food Collection - During the month of September we will collect food donations of macaroni and cheese. A grocery cart will be parked in the sanctuary, collecting your donations, which will all go to the Wells Area Food Shelf. Thank you for your generous August donations.

Women of the ELCA General Meeting - Sept. 25th following worship. We will meet in the Parlor. Election of officers and nominating committee. All are invited.

Thinking ahead to next week: Our Bible Story is about the Passover and the Deliverance (Exodus 12). Consider these questions as you prepare for worship next week: Moses begged that the people of God be set free from slavery. In what ways has God set you free? In what ways do you still feel bound?

Lutheran Social Service Man-Fair Region Auxiliary Fall Rally - Tues., Sept. 27th at North Blue Earth Lutheran Church, Briceyn MN at 1:30 p.m. The program is on Camp Noah Experiences. Ingathering is quilts, Treasure Boxes, cleaning supplies, paper products, Kids Kits and fleece blankets for Camp Noah.

Opening the Bible for the First Time-Introducing the Bible to 3rd Graders-Mon., Sept. 26-6:30 pm. Pastor Mary will lead an introduction to the Bible for 3rd Graders and a parent on Monday, September 25 from 6:30 – 7:30 p.m. in the Church Social hall near the stage. This class will be an overview of the Bible and prepare the students to receive their first Holy Bible.

Volunteers needed to fill Backpacks for USC students. Every Wednesday at 1:30 p.m. in Room A112 for 30-60 min. depending on the amount of volunteers that day. No lifting required, just helping hands. Use the Elementary entrance. Check in as guest at the office.

Joseph Was His Father's Favorite

BEACH SPRING 8.7.8.7 D ("God Whose Giving Knows No Ending")

1. Joseph was his father's favorite out of all his family there,
And his brothers did not like it when he got his coat to wear.
It was different from the others--brighter, bolder than the rest.
So he bragged to all his brothers that his father loved him best.
2. Joseph's nights were filled with dreaming; in his mind, he'd always win.
Soon his brothers started scheming so they could get rid of him.
In a pit they took and threw him, then they sold him. Who could save?
To a land where no one knew him, he was taken as a slave.
3. Bought in Egypt, Joseph labored for a man named Potiphar.
In that house he soon was favored--once again, a rising star.
What went wrong? That star was falling--falsely charged and locked up tight.
In his dreams, he heard a calling in the middle of the night.
4. Joseph, dreamer, there in prison saw a famine on the way.
So his wondrous gift of vision set him free and saved the day.
When his brothers came in hunger, begging, "Help us! Give us food,"
Joseph told them, "Weep no longer! "God intended this for good."
5. Soon the family reunited; so began new, joyful days.
And through Joseph, we're reminded God can work in wondrous ways.
God, we trust in you to guide us when we cannot see your plans.
Always, always you're beside us; all of life is in your hands.

Wednesday School Classes Begin September 28 - Wednesday School Classes begin on Wednesday, September 28 and will be held from 7:00 – 7:45 p.m. Our Wednesday School Class is for students who are in kindergarten through grade 6. Students can be dropped off and picked up at Classroom 1, which is near the church office. Please make sure there is a teacher or an adult in the classroom before you leave your child. Please make sure that you have filled out a registration form for your children (it is found on page 12 in this newsletter). Students (and their families) are encouraged to attend worship from 6:15 – 7:00 p.m. where the students can take part in worship by ringing the bell or collecting offering.

PB & J “Parents, Babies and Jesus” Class - A Wednesday School Class for preschoolers and their families. Wednesdays 7:00-7:45 p.m. beginning Sept. 28. Good Shepherd is excited to continue our Wednesday School Class for preschool students – ages 2, 3 & 4. The class is held in the church nursery, on the north end of the education hall. A parent, grandparent or older sibling attends each class with the child, which includes “circle time,” a Bible story, music, simple crafts and a snack.

Confirmation Classes for 7 & 8th Graders - Begins September 28 - The first regular class of confirmation will begin on Wednesday, September 28. It begins with worship at 6:15 p.m. in the sanctuary followed by class from 7:00 – 7:45 p.m. in the basement Social Hall near the stage. Please remember that the Wednesday Night Supper is served from 5:00 – 6:00 p.m. and all youth (grades 12 and below) eat free.

Dessert Bake Off

Do you make a dessert that is to die for? Good Shepherd members would like to taste your fantastic creation. On Sunday, October 2. We will hold a “Dessert Bake Off” Anyone any age from Good Shepherd can enter their favorite dessert creation in the contest. Those attending Sunday morning coffee will taste the various dessert selections and vote on the ones they feel qualify for the prizes.

Daily Scripture Readings

Sep 19 - Jeremiah 32:1-3a, 6-15

Psalm 91:1-6, 14-16

Sep 20 - Psalm 119:49-56

Jeremiah 32:16-35

Sep 21 - Psalm 119:49-56

Jeremiah 32:36-44

Sep 22 - Psalm 119:49-56

Jeremiah 33:1-13

Sep 23 - Lamentations 3:19-26

Jeremiah 52:1-11

Sep 24 - Lamentations 3:19-26

Jeremiah 52:12-30