



# First Lutheran Church

*We are believers seeking to invite all into the caring, sharing and growing ways of Christ.*

## Joseph in Prison

Saturday September 22, 2018

5:30pm

Prelude

Welcome/Announcements

Hymn

***How Firm a Foundation***

ELW 796

### Prayer of the Day

***God of presence, thank you for blessing Joseph when he was in prison for a crime he did not commit. Help us see that you are always with us, so that we too might live to serve you. We pray these things in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.***

Reading

Genesis 39:1-23

pew Bible p. 35

“The word of the Lord” Response: ***Thanks be to God!***

Gospel Acclamation

***Lord, Let My Heart Be Good Soil***

ELW 512

Gospel Reading

Matthew 5:11-12

pew Bible p. 882

Response after the announcement: ***Glory to you, O Lord.***

Response after the reading: ***Praise to you, O Christ.***

Hymn

***Lord, Speak to Us, That We May Speak***

ELW 676

Sermon

Hymn

***Great Is Thy Faithfulness***

ELW 733

**Apostles' Creed** (inside back cover of hymnal)

Prayers of the People

**The Lord's Prayer** (inside back cover of hymnal)

Offering

Offertory

***Sing to the Lord of Harvest*** (v. 1)

ELW 694

Benediction

Sending Hymn

***Canticle of the Turning***

ELW 723

Postlude



# First Lutheran Church

*We are believers seeking to invite all into the caring, sharing and growing ways of Christ.*

## **This Changes Everything**

Sunday September 23, 2018  
8:30am & 10:45am

Prelude

Welcome/Announcements/Temple Talk

Milestone Presentation

**Call to Worship**                      **Alive Again**

(CCLI Song # 7071500 Joth Hunt | Sam Evans © 2016 Planetshakers Ministries Int. Inc. (Admin. by Music Services, Inc.) CCLI License # 473052)

***When I think about Your goodness, My heart is overcome***

***How could I begin to thank You, For ev'rything You've done***

***'Cause You keep on loving me, And You cause my heart to sing (yeah)***

***(For) You You make me come alive again, (Oh) You You make me come alive again***

***Woah this is the moment, Woah ev'rything changes***

***Woah You are my breakthrough, I praise You I praise You***

***So come on ev'rybody, It's time to celebrate***

***We will never stop singing, And lifting up Your name***

***You are good (You are good), You are good (You are good)***

***You are good (You are good), You are good (You are good)***

## **Thanksgiving for Baptism**

One: In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**All: Amen.**

One: People of God, in the waters of baptism you traveled with Christ from death to life. Your past, your sin, your failure, your doubt, are no more.

**All: God's love washes them away.**

One: Your fear, your confusion, your self-righteousness, your despair...

**All: God's grace washes them away.**

One: Your pride, your judgment, and other people's opinions of you...

**All: No longer define us.**

One: The Spirit lives and moves through you now.

**All: A great and joyful mystery.**

One: So you may bring love and mercy in to the world.

**All: As the body of Christ.**

One: Rejoice that God has claimed you in this baptismal grace,

**All: Not by our own doing or believing,**

One: But by God's mercy and love alone.

**All: This changes everything.**

One: And so as we begin worship, we give thanks to God

**All: For the gracious gift of baptism,**

One: That joins us together in Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit.

**All: Thanks be to God!**

**Song** *This Changes Everything* (James Kocian/Judi Tyler)

*When the walls around me crumble, When the ground beneath me shakes  
When the skies above me rumble, or when my heart breaks*

*You're there, with me, with me, Oh God, You never leave*

*This changes everything, everything  
This changes everything, this changes everything, everything  
This changes everything, everything, This changes everything, everything*

*Now we're learning to surrender, In our weakness, You are strong  
When we're desperate for a breakthrough, We find hope in You alone*

*You're there, with us, with us. Jesus, You never leave*

*It's by grace we are saved, we belong to Jesus.  
It's by grace we are saved, we belong to Jesus.*

**Greeting**

One: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,

**All: *Who speaks truth to our world,***

One: The love of God,

**All: *Who calls us to new life***

One: And the communion of the Holy Spirit,

**All: *Who gathers us together into one body of believers***

One: Be with you all.

**All: *And also with you.***

**Prayer of the Day**

1st Reading	Psalm 130 (The Message version)	pew Bible p. 562
2nd Reading	Ephesians 2:1-10 (The Message version)	pew Bible p. 1066

Gospel Acclamation ***Thy Word*** (used by permission 1984 Meadowgreen Music, Song #14301 CCLI 473052)  
***Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.*** (repeat)

Gospel Reading John 3:16-18 (The Message version) pew Bible p. 970  
Response after the announcement: ***Glory to you, O Lord.***  
Response after the reading: ***Praise to you, O Christ.***

**Song** *Amazing Grace (My Chains Are Gone)*  
(CCLI Song # 4768151 © 2006 sixsteps Music (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing) CCLI License # 473052)

*Amazing grace how sweet the sound, That saved a wretch like me  
I once was lost but now I'm found, Was blind but now I see*

*'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, And grace my fears relieved  
How precious did that grace appear, The hour I first believed*

**Chorus**

*My chains are gone I've been set free. My God my Savior has ransomed me.  
And like a flood His mercy rains. Unending love amazing grace.*

*The Lord has promised good to me. His word my hope secures.  
He will my shield and portion be. As long as life endures.*

*The earth shall soon dissolve like snow. The sun forbear to shine.  
But God who called me here below Will be forever mine* (Chorus 2x)

*Unending love amazing grace. Unending love amazing grace.*

Speakers

**Song** *How Great Is Our God* (CCLI Song # 4348399 Chris Tomlin | Ed Cash | Jesse Reeves © 2004  
sixsteps Music (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing) CCLI License # 473052)

*The splendor of the King, Clothed in majesty  
Let all the earth rejoice, all the earth rejoice.  
He wraps Himself in light & darkness tries to hide.  
And trembles at His voice & trembles at His voice.*

Chorus: *How great is our God, sing with me  
How great is our God, all will see  
How great, how great is our God*

*Age to age He stands and time is in His hands.  
Beginning and the end, beginning and the end.  
The Godhead, three in one - Father, Spirit, Son.  
The Lion and the Lamb, The Lion and the Lamb.* (Chorus)

*You're the name above all names -  
Worthy of all praise  
My heart will sing how great is our God.* (Chorus)

Speakers

Slideshow

**Apostles' Creed**

Prayers of the People

**The Lord's Prayer**

Offering

*I Have this Hope*

**Offertory**

*What Have We to Offer* (used by permission 1983 Ray Makeever, CCLI 473052, No. 806722 )

*What have we to offer? What have we to share? Coins from the coffer. Hearts filled with care.  
God will not falter, if we will dare; Lay it at the altar there. What have we to offer? What have  
we to give? Lives we will live.*

One: God is good.

**All: All the time.**

One. All the time.

**All: God is good.**

One: God, your generosity never ends. Everything we call our own is a gift from you receive our  
humble offerings of money, time and skills. Make us wise stewards of all your gifts and use

them to heal the world you love, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**All: Amen.**

Blessing

One: You are called by God. You are loved by God. You are saved by God's grace. You are God's hope for the world. God has given you a holy vocation: Stand up – using your gifts to serve God. Stand for – using your talents to care for all people. Stand with – God's creation using your passions to better God's creation and change the world. We go out with the words of St. Paul: "For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God."

Jesus changes everything! Jesus is everything.

**All: Thanks be to God!**

**Closing Song**                      ***My Redeemer Lives***

(Used by permission Reuben Morgan/Hillsong Publishing, Song No. 2397964, CCLI #473051)

***I know He rescued my soul, His blood has covered my sin, I believe, I believe;  
My shame He's taken away, my pain is healed in His name, I believe, I believe,  
I'll raise a banner; my Lord has conquered the grave.***

***My Redeemer lives, my Redeemer lives;***

***My Redeemer lives; my Redeemer lives.*** (repeat verse)

***My Redeemer lives, my Redeemer lives; My Redeemer lives; my Redeemer lives.***

***You lift my burden, I'll rise with you I'm dancing on this mountaintop  
To see your kingdom come.***

***My Redeemer lives, my Redeemer lives; My Redeemer lives; my Redeemer lives.*** (repeat)

Postlude



# Announcements

## September 22 & 23, 2018

Today's radio broadcast is sponsored by Jim and Chris Fischer in honor of their children Miranda and Zach.

**Prayer List:** John Doyle, Curt Sorum, Sierra Waege (granddaughter of Dorothy and Harlen Barck), Brian Brandt, Susan Atkinson, Tonya Ormberg, Rob Yant, Pat Leary, Casey Porisch (great nephew of Karl & Shirley Porisch), Lois Dellwo (sister of Linda VanOverbeke), Vi Thomasson, Brian Gelster & Family (deployment), Val Krogstad, David Valentin (son of Jim & Joanne), Darlene Newman (sister of Janet Landby), Marilyn Green (sister of Shirley Anderson-Porisch), Jenifer Klein's sister, Carla, Judy Benton (mother of Karen Meister), Don Ebbinga (father of Mary Mortland), Dave Koster, Vincent & Lucella VanOverbeke (parents of Linda), Kitsi Marks (at the death of her cousin), Doris Ast (sister of Sharon Miller).

Thank you for serving!	5:30pm	8:30am	10:45am
Acolytes		Paige Christianson	Carter Gehrke
Greeters	Karen Murphy	Houston Youth	
Ushers			
Lectors	Karen Murphy		
Music	Angela Fischer	Praise Team: David Landby, Karla Luther, Elizabeth Maxwell, Elly Sprik, Tim Tomasek, John Voit, Diane Wright	
Coffee Servers		Tammy Dulas, Twila Henning	
Video and Projection	Ed Henning	Ernie Moe Janet Landby	Ernie Moe Shelly Maes
Altar Guild	Kelly Deutz, Pam Neet, Ann Nielsen, DeAnna Zimmer		
Van Driver	Dan Marks - call 828-1769 by 5pm Friday if ride is needed		
Donut Hole Pickup	9/23: Dennis Jensen 9/30: No Donut Holes		

### Sunday September 23

8:30am & 10:45am Worship - Houston  
 Recap, 9th, 10th & 11th grade Milestones  
 9:30am TLC  
 12:00pm Houston Stockholders Lunch

### Tuesday September 25

See You At the Poles  
 9:00am Senior Coffee  
 10:15am Staff Meets

### Monday September 24

6:30pm Beginning Experience

### **Wednesday September 26**

9:30am Rejoice Bible Study  
2:30pm TLC  
3:30pm Adopt a Highway (Gr. 7-8)  
5:15pm Worship  
5:45pm Confirmation  
6:00pm G3  
7:00pm Chancel Choir  
7:00pm Faith Chats/Game Changers  
7:00pm Junior High Alive  
7:00pm Women's Bible Study  
8:00pm Senior High Alive

### **Thursday September 27**

5:30pm Bible & Brew

### **Friday September 28**

7:00am Grub Club

### **Saturday September 29**

5:30pm Worship

### **Sunday September 30**

8:30am & 10:45am Worship  
9:30am TLC  
9:30am Foundation Meeting  
7:00pm Kitchen Planning Meeting

### **Monday October 1**

1:00pm Quilting

### **Tuesday October 2**

9:00am Senior Coffee  
10:15am Staff Meets  
5:30pm Outreach Committee  
6:00pm Worship & Music Committee  
6:30pm Social Ministries Committee

### **Wednesday October 3**

6:30am Men's Bible Study @ Mike's  
9:30am Rejoice Bible Study @ Boulder  
2:30pm TLC  
5:15pm Women's Board Meeting  
5:15pm Worship  
5:45pm Light Supper \$2/person  
5:45pm Confirmation  
6:00pm G3  
6:15pm Confirmation Parent Forum  
7:00pm Chancel Choir  
7:00pm Faith Chats/Game Changers  
7:00pm Junior High Alive  
7:00pm Little League  
7:00pm Women's Bible Study  
8:00pm Senior High Alive

## **News & Notes**

**The participants from the ELCA Youth Gathering** in Houston TX will be leading worship today: Avery Anderson, Mason Anderson, Sophie Anderson, Addison Arndt, Aubrey Bjella, Malia Bloemker, Tonya Tomasek, Jack Bly, Maia Brooks, Eli Cole, Stacy Frost, Michael DeVaan, Krista Bjella, Zach DeVaan, Kathy Bloemker, Brennan DeVos, Sara Larson, Chase Douglas, Eric Luther, Rebecca Downing, Karen Meister, Spencer Ehlers, Steve Meister, Makenzie Enderson, Ryne Myhrberg, Tanner Fales, Karen Peterson, Trevor Fales, Bill Weber, Landon Frost, Hans Zahrbock, Skylar Gilbertson, Taylor Gilbertson, Izach Harris, Eli Houseman, Izabella Hunsley, Allie Kock, Megan Kock, Bensen Kuecker, Regan Luther, Sydney Meister, Orion Morrow, Jenna Mortier, Courtni Nielsen, Samantha Nielsen, Jack Pedersen, Olivia Peterson, Gabby Reese, Dawson Reese, Natasha Reinsma, Cole Remme, Kelli Remme, Brevin Runia, Madi Schumacher, Austin Sommervold, Liz Stucker, Kaia Sueker, Brooklyn Sukalski, Rachel Thomsen, Trey Weber, Peyton Whitesitt, Simon Zahrbock.

**The Theme was "This Changes Everything"** based from the bible verse Ephesians 2:8  
"For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing, it is the gift

of God.” Daily themes were: God’s Call Changes Everything, God’s Love Changes Everything, God’s Grace Changes Everything, God’s Hope Changes Everything, Jesus Changes Everything!

Other sites they experienced were Oceans and Worlds of Fun; Oklahoma City National Museum and Symbolic Memorial; NASA Space Center; and the Gulf Coast in Galveston.

### **The 2018 Youth Gathering had six stated goals:**

#### **1. Faith formation in teens**

**2. Each youth is affirmed and challenged in faith** - Each young person feels the undeniable presence of God and is affirmed in their beliefs. Likewise, each participant has a moment where something troubles their heart or their mind enough to challenge their faith.

**3. Experience a new perspective** - Be it a story different from the listener’s experiences, or by learning the history and work of the organization they serve during Service Learning Day.

**4. To ponder who is God calling them to be** - We want participants to understand vocation as a baptismal responsibility and work toward developing it in Youth Gathering participants.

**5. Ministry strengthens a congregation group** - The goal is for various parts of this ministry to deepen the connection youth have to their peers and adults in their home congregation.

**6. To learn more about the ELCA** - Young people (and adults) have a lot to learn when it comes to how the ELCA is present with our global Lutheran siblings and doing ministry across the world. We hoped that young people would meet ministry partners in the hall of NRG Center during the Youth Gathering and be amazed at the many and creative ways we are Church together.

### **Why Houston?**

- Houston is a great host city and had excellent venues for all of the gathering program needs. It is one of the most multicultural cities in the US and has a rich history we learned from by being there.
- 4th largest city in US
- Most diverse US metropolitan region in the US
- If Houston were an independent nation, it would rank as the world’s 30<sup>th</sup> largest economy.
- More than 90 languages are spoken throughout the metro region. 92 countries have consular offices in Houston, the most outside of Washington DC.
- Houston grew out instead of up like many cities. At 655 square miles, Houston could fit the cities of New York Washington DC, Boston, San Francisco, Seattle, Minneapolis, and Miami all within its borders.
- Nearly a quarter of Houstonians are between 5-19 years old, making it one of the youngest cities in the US.

### **Blast Off For Books:**

The Gathering recognized the need to lift up literacy in Houston. Building a foundation of literacy starts before entering Kindergarten. Students who read at home become strong writers, critical thinkers, and more successful students than those who do not. Houston

Independent School District estimates that 74% of the students in the district come from families who struggle to provide books for their children. This means the students begin each school year at a disadvantage. The gathering created the campaign “Blast Off For Books”. They collected books for students in Pre-K through 6th grade for our in kind offering. By participating in this, we helped ensure bright futures for Houston’s students. The books donated were distributed at community book fairs, camps and other events around the city as part of the Gathering’s Service Learning experience. By putting books in the hands of Houston’s economically disadvantaged students, we helped change lives.

**Gifts we gave at the gathering:** Thanks to 31,242 registered gathering participants we gave:

- 437 Locks of Love hair donations to children with hair loss
- 1,248 units of blood donated from 987 donors
- 40,000 books donated at Blast Off for Books
- \$260,000+ raised for ELCA’s Global Farm Challenge

Links you might enjoy pertaining to the 2018 ELCA Youth Gathering in Houston TX:

1. [www.FLYhouston.blogspot.com](http://www.FLYhouston.blogspot.com) - the Daily Blog written by our group so you could “come along with us” on our faith journeys.

2. WELCABlog: “No Cellphone Rule got Teens Talking” written by Sara Larson

<https://www.womenoftheelca.org/blog/post/no-cell-phone-rule-got-teens-talking>

3. WELCA interviewed Sara’s small group at the gathering. It was on their facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/WomenoftheELCA/videos/10155904326058043/>

4. [www.youtube.com](http://www.youtube.com) Various speakers and artists from the gathering were recorded and put on youtube.

### **Milestones Celebrations for 9th, 10th, and 11th grades**

9th Grade students and their parents will celebrate the start of high school. The freshman year is a time to be reminded that they are baptized children of God, created in God’s own image, and how knowing that will help them when facing the trials and tribulations of High School.

10th Grade - getting your driver’s license! When you get your driver’s license, it is an exciting time for both youth and parents. The preparing for and receiving of the license brings many new rites and responsibilities. The license requires new stewardship of time and resources, challenges and opportunities for communication, and occasions for service. It is a time to celebrate also, what it can mean for you in your faith life. Even if you may not have gotten your official license yet because of when your birthday is, please join us at one of the services so that we can celebrate YOU and your families in worship.

11th grade will celebrate their quest milestone. A “QUEST” is the act or an instance of seeking or pursuing something; a search. When you become juniors, it seems like college, careers, interests, etc. all start becoming a part of people’s conversations with you. It may

seem like a time with unknowns or a lot of questions. But at First Lutheran, we want to celebrate this time with you as an opportunity to listen to where God is calling you in your life and how the cross is the central part of this compass.

**National “See You at the Poles”** Tuesday, Sept 25th: Marshall students grades 5-12 are encouraged to come out to pray with their peers around the flagpole at 7:25am at both the Middle School and the High School.

**First Lutheran Youth and Family Ministry Fall Fundraiser:** The youth and family ministry committee and the youth are excited to again have their fall fundraiser the month of October. Check out the information that will be up on the bulletin board in the narthex to get “the scoop” in further detail. We are hoping that the congregation will continue to be as excited as we are to continue with this concept. Just take an envelope with the amount of a minimum donation you would like to give. It’s that simple. Return the envelope to the church office. And, incorporated with this fundraiser is our SR HIGH YOUTH’S RAKE AND ROLL scheduled for Sunday, October 28<sup>th</sup> at 1pm. As a way to give back to the church with this fundraiser, we will be raking lawns. If you would like to have your lawn raked and leaves carried away, just call Tonya. If you know of someone who could benefit by the youth raking their lawn, call Tonya and give her the information.

**Parent Forum: October 3rd:** We will be continuing our parent forums again this school year. Join us at 6:15pm in the Fellowship Hall. A variety of topics to help parents help their teens. October’s topic will be on Anxiety and Teens. It takes a village to raise a child and this village (First Lutheran) comes together to learn, pray, and ask questions together!

**Shetek’s Octoberfest is Oct 19-20** The deadline to sign up is Oct 9<sup>th</sup> (grades 3-6). Information will be emailed out. Forms can also be found at the church or on the website. Checks payable to “Shetek”. Questions? Just ask Tonya.

**Junior High!!** Be looking for the information about Klein Ranch this next summer!! Yes! Already! (Deadline to sign up will be Wednesday, October 24)

**Grades 3-6: the next Little League Wild Wednesdays** is Wednesday Oct 3rd from 7-8pm in the back of Gethsemane Chapel (old sanctuary)! Invite your friends! See you there!

**Hy-Vee Cards are available** for purchase in the church office! Proceeds go to the 2019 Senior High Mystery Mission Trip.

**Who is sitting next to you in the pew? Pay attention...**Do you see a confirmation student taking sermon notes? As part of the Confirmation requirements, we ask the students to take sermon notes. New to this year’s form is a space for an adult signature. We want them to talk with an adult about something they found interesting in the sermon, bible passage or worship service. Because these are 7th and 8th graders, they may be apprehensive talking to someone they don’t know, but that is the point. It would be great if you could reach out to

them as congregational members and offer to talk with them and sign their form. We're not just adding more work to their parents or teachers. We're hoping to create a community of faith surrounding these students, so your effort is appreciated. As an adult, you know how much it means to have positive interactions with a kid – so just imagine how much it means to them!

**As you may have noticed, there is a table, tree and box in the narthex.** On this tree and on the table are examples of what you could donate to Operation Christmas Child. The social ministries committee is starting a new project from Samaritan's Purse, which is collecting gift items to be sent to underprivileged children around the world. There is information on the table which gives you ideas of items to donate. We are in need of items for 5-8 year old's, boy or girl and things that will fit in a shoebox. We also ask for Christmas wrapping as we will be wrapping the boxes on Oct 14, God's Work our Hands day. Another way to contribute to this cause is by giving a check for \$9.00 to cover the postage for each box. There is a box on the table for monetary donations. Thank you in advance for your support.

**A formal meeting of the full First Lutheran Church Foundation** membership of First Lutheran Church in Marshall, MN will take place in the Fellowship Hall between services on Sunday, September 30, 2018, for the purpose of voting on proposed changes to the FLC Foundation Bylaws, as developed and approved by the Board. Sweet rolls, juice and coffee will be served with a free-will offering requested to benefit the FLC Youth. The agenda will consist of a short explanation of the proposed changes to the Bylaws, a Q&A session, final voting, and a short informational presentation about the FLC Foundation. Voting ballots will be made available to FLC Foundation members in the church office beginning Sunday, September 16<sup>th</sup>. Members will be allowed to vote either in person on 9/30/2018, or by written ballot submitted to the First Lutheran Church office anytime between 9/16/2018 and 9/30/2018. All votes will be in writing on pre-printed ballots. Members will be required to write their names on each ballot, to ensure that all votes come from legitimate FLC Foundation members, and that no member votes more than once.

**Fall Gathering for Prairie Conference WELCA** will be Saturday October 6th 8:30am-noon, at Danebod Church Campus in Tyler. Speaker is Barbara Rechtzigal "My Journey Back to God". Registration is \$10, lunch included.

**In honor of the Feast of St. Francis Day** (October 4th), we'll celebrate a BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS during worship here at First Lutheran on the weekend of Oct. 6th and 7th. Dogs, cats, hamsters, goldfish – all creatures of our God and King – will be welcomed and prayed for at our scheduled worship times (Sat. the 6th at 5:30 pm & Sun. the 7th at 8:30 am and 10:45 am).

**Guitar Players!** The First Lutheran worship team called "Te Deum" (which means "To God") is actively seeking a guitarist. We primarily play music found in the red hymnal, with an emphasis on songs of diverse backgrounds. We lead worship approximately once every 5

weeks. Please contact Connie Knott in person, through the church office, or by phone at 507-859-2766. We would love to have you join us!

**Coats for Kids** Collection barrels are currently located in the area by the office and in the Narthex. Your help is greatly appreciated in helping to provide area children with warm coats and winter items this year. Barrels will be here at First Lutheran for you to drop off your new or gently used items until October 17th. Distribution dates for coats will be October 22nd 4-8pm and October 23rd 10am-7pm at the Marshall Area YMCA.

**A First Lutheran “Church Kitchen Remodel”** planning event is scheduled for Sunday, September 30, 2018 at 7:00 pm meeting in the church kitchen/fellowship hall. Please come to help with this visionary project of a NEW Kitchen for our church. Everyone is welcome to come with ideas for the purpose and service of the church kitchen in/of the future! Jesus said to his disciples in Matthew, Mark and Luke during the Feeding of the Five Thousand Stories: “YOU GIVE THEM SOMETHING TO EAT” Luke 9:13 “Everyone ate all they wanted. What was left over filled twelve baskets”..Jesus is concerned about eating and extremely extravagant!!

**First Lutheran Appare!** Now available online thru Sept 24<sup>th</sup> New features:

- New Design
- Choose design color on original design
- Embroidery- with new polo and ¼ Zip pullovers

Go to : [www.western-printing.com](http://www.western-printing.com) select SHOP select FIRST LUTHERAN

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[www.1stlutheran.org](http://www.1stlutheran.org)

# Today's Readings

## Genesis 39:1-23

39 Now Joseph was taken down to Egypt, and Potiphar, an officer of Pharaoh, the captain of the guard, an Egyptian, bought him from the Ishmaelites who had brought him down there. <sup>2</sup>The Lord was with Joseph, and he became a successful man; he was in the house of his Egyptian master. <sup>3</sup>His master saw that the Lord was with him, and that the Lord caused all that he did to prosper in his hands. <sup>4</sup>So Joseph found favour in his sight and attended him; he made him overseer of his house and put him in charge of all that he had. <sup>5</sup>From the time that he made him overseer in his house and over all that he had, the Lord blessed the Egyptian's house for Joseph's sake; the blessing of the Lord was on all that he had, in house and field. <sup>6</sup>So he left all that he had in Joseph's charge; and, with him there, he had no concern for anything but the food that he ate. Now Joseph was handsome and good-looking. <sup>7</sup>And after a time his master's wife cast her eyes on Joseph and said, 'Lie with me.' <sup>8</sup>But he refused and said to his master's wife, 'Look, with me here, my master has no concern about anything in the house, and he has put everything that he has in my hand. <sup>9</sup>He is not greater in this house than I am, nor has he kept back anything from me except yourself, because you are his wife. How then could I do this great wickedness, and sin against God?' <sup>10</sup>And although she spoke to Joseph day after day, he would not consent to lie beside her or to be with her. <sup>11</sup>One day, however, when he went into the house to do his work, and while no one else was in the house, <sup>12</sup>she caught hold of his garment, saying, 'Lie with me!' But he left his garment in her hand, and fled and ran outside. <sup>13</sup>When she saw that he had left his garment in her hand and had fled outside, <sup>14</sup>she called out to the members of her household and said to them, 'See, my husband has brought among us a Hebrew to insult us! He came in to me to lie with me, and I cried out with a loud voice; <sup>15</sup>and when he heard me raise my voice and cry out, he left his garment beside me, and fled

outside. <sup>16</sup>Then she kept his garment by her until his master came home, <sup>17</sup>and she told him the same story, saying, 'The Hebrew servant, whom you have brought among us, came in to me to insult me; <sup>18</sup>but as soon as I raised my voice and cried out, he left his garment beside me, and fled outside.'

<sup>19</sup>When his master heard the words that his wife spoke to him, saying, 'This is the way your servant treated me', he became enraged. <sup>20</sup>And Joseph's master took him and put him into the prison, the place where the king's prisoners were confined; he remained there in prison. <sup>21</sup>But the Lord was with Joseph and showed him steadfast love; he gave him favour in the sight of the chief jailer. <sup>22</sup>The chief jailer committed to Joseph's care all the prisoners who were in the prison, and whatever was done there, he was the one who did it. <sup>23</sup>The chief jailer paid no heed to anything that was in Joseph's care, because the Lord was with him; and whatever he did, the Lord made it prosper.

"The word of the Lord"

Response: ***Thanks be to God!***

## Matthew 5:11-12

<sup>11</sup> 'Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. <sup>12</sup>Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

Response after the announcement:

***Glory to you, O Lord.***

Response after the reading:

***Praise to you, O Christ.***

# Today's Readings

## Psalm 130

Help, God—the bottom has fallen out of my life! Master, hear my cry for help! Listen hard! Open your ears! Listen to my cries for mercy.

If you, God, kept records on wrongdoings, Who would stand a chance? As it turns out, forgiveness is your habit, and that's why you're worshiped.

I pray to God—my life a prayer—and wait for what he'll say and do. My life's on the line before God, my Lord, waiting and watching till morning, waiting and watching till morning.

O Israel, wait and watch for God—with God's arrival comes love, with God's arrival comes generous redemption. No doubt about it—he'll redeem Israel, buy back Israel from captivity to sin.

"The word of the Lord"

Response: ***Thanks be to God!***

## Ephesians 2:1-10

It wasn't so long ago that you were mired in that old stagnant life of sin. You let the world, which doesn't know the first thing about living, tell you how to live. You filled your lungs with polluted unbelief, and then exhaled disobedience. We all did it, all of us doing what we felt like doing, when we felt like doing it, all of us in the same boat. It's a wonder God didn't lose his temper and do away with the whole lot of us.

Instead, immense in mercy and with an incredible love, he embraced us. He took our sin-dead lives and made us alive in Christ. He did all this on his own, with no help from us! Then he picked us up and set us down in highest heaven in company with Jesus, our Messiah.

Now God has us where he wants us, with all the time in this world and the next to shower grace and kindness upon us in Christ Jesus. "For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God"

Saving is all his idea, and all his work. All we do is trust him enough to let him do it. It's God's gift from start to finish! We don't play the major role. If we did, we'd probably go around bragging that we'd done the whole thing! No, we neither make nor save ourselves. God does both the making and saving. He creates each of us by Christ Jesus to join him in the work he does, the good work he has gotten ready for us to do, work we had better be doing.

"The word of the Lord"

Response: ***Thanks be to God!***

## John 3:16-18

16-18 "This is how much God loved the world: He gave his Son, his one and only Son. And this is why: so that no one need be destroyed; by believing in him, anyone can have a whole and lasting life. God didn't go to all the trouble of sending his Son merely to point an accusing finger, telling the world how bad it was. He came to help, to put the world right again.

Response after the announcement:

***Glory to you, O Lord.***

Response after the reading:

***Praise to you, O Christ.***