

Joseph – Characteristic of One Who Rises to the Top



The Story of Joseph

Week 7

August 30, 2026

9:30 a.m.

For you have not come to what may be touched, a blazing fire and darkness and gloom and a tempest and the sound of a trumpet and a voice whose words made the hearers beg that no further messages be spoken to them. For they could not endure the order that was given, "If even a beast touches the mountain, it shall be stoned." Indeed, so terrifying was the sight that Moses said, "I tremble with fear." But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the Living God, the Heavenly Jerusalem, and to innumerable angels in festal gathering, and to the assembly of the firstborn who are enrolled in Heaven, and to God, the Judge of all, and to the spirits of the righteous made perfect, and to Jesus, the Mediator of a New Covenant, and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better Word than the blood of Abel.

Hebrews 12:18–24

The cup of blessing that we bless, is it not a participation in the Blood of Christ? The bread that we break, is it not a participation in the Body of Christ? Because there is one bread, we who are many are one body, for we all partake of the one bread . . . For I received from the Lord what I also delivered to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when He was betrayed took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it, and said, "This is My Body, which is for you. Do this in remembrance of Me." In the same way also He took the cup, after supper, saying, "This Cup is the New Covenant in My Blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me." For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until He comes. Whoever, therefore, eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty concerning the body and blood of the Lord. Let a person examine himself, then, and so eat of the bread and drink of the cup. For anyone who eats and drinks without discerning the body eats and drinks judgment on himself.

1 Corinthians 10:16–17; 11:23–29

Who receives this sacrament worthily? Fasting and bodily preparation are certainly fine outward training. But that person is truly worthy and well prepared who has faith in these words: "Given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins." But anyone who does not believe these words or doubts them is unworthy and unprepared, for the words "for you" require all hearts to believe.

Luther's Small Catechism: The Sacrament of the Altar

Falsely are our churches accused of abolishing the Mass; for the Mass is retained among us and celebrated with the highest reverence. Nearly all the usual ceremonies are also preserved . . . For ceremonies are needed to this end alone: that the unlearned be taught what they need to know of Christ . . . The people are accustomed to partake of the Sacrament together, if any be fit for it, and this also increases the reverence and devotion of public worship. For none are admitted except they be first examined.

Augsburg Confession XXIV: Of the Mass

A Welcome to Our Visitors

Welcome to St. Paul Lutheran Church. We are glad that you have joined us this morning to receive from our gracious God and to offer Him your prayer, praise, and thanksgiving. If this is your first visit to St. Paul, or you have never received the Lord's Supper from Pastor, we ask that you speak with him or one of the elders before receiving Holy Communion. Children and adults who are not permitted to the Sacrament of the Altar may come forward and cross their arms against their chest to indicate they would like to receive a blessing at the rail. We offer gluten free wafers, please advise Pastor Ermeling as he comes by during communion.

As We Gather

Today we come to God's house to honor and praise Him for all He has done for HIS people.

This is week number seven of our series on the life and times of Joseph. Each week we look at a stage of his life and see what we can learn from him that applies to us today.

Our life application for today: When God's people rise to the top, it is no accident. **They meet God's requirements for promotion.**

God bless your worship with us today.

✠ PREPARATION ✠

Call to Worship

Stand

Hymn

Seek Ye First

712

Invocation

based on Psalm 143

P In the Name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P O Father, Who creates and sustains all life,

C may Your Word keep us mindful of Your unfailing love.

P O Son, Who restores life to us by His own death and resurrection,

C may Your Word keep us mindful of Your unending love.

P O Spirit, Who daily regenerates life within us,

C may Your Word keep us mindful of Your renewing love.

✠ CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION ✠

- P** Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.
- P** Our help is in the Name of the Lord,
C **who made Heaven and earth.**
- P** I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,
C **and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**
- P** O Almighty God, Merciful Father,
C **I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your Beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.**
- P** Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the Name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** **Amen.**

✠ SERVICE OF THE WORD ✠

Introit

Psalm 37:5–7; antiphon: v. 4

Delight yourself in the Lord,
and he will give you the desires of your heart.

Commit your way to the Lord;
trust in him, and he will act.

**He will bring forth your righteousness as the light,
and your justice as the noonday.**

Be still before the Lord and wait patiently for him;
fret not yourself over the one who prospers in his way, over the man who carries out evil
devices!

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

**Delight yourself in the Lord,
and he will give you the desires of your heart.**

Kyrie



Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -
on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

Gloria in Excelsis



The musical score is written on ten staves, each with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The lyrics are printed below the staves, with some words aligned under specific notes. The score begins with a common time signature 'C' and a repeat sign. The lyrics are: 'Glory be to God on high: and on earth peace, good - will toward men. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we wor - ship Thee, we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory. O Lord God, heav'n - ly King, God the Fa - ther Al - mighty. O Lord, the only begotten Son, Je - sus Christ; O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy up - on us. Thou that takest away the sin of the world, re - ceive our prayer. Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy up - on us. For Thou only art holy; Thou on - ly art the Lord. Thou only, O Christ, with the Ho - ly Ghost, art most high in the glory of God the Father. A - men.'

P Glory be to God on high: **C** and on earth peace, good - will toward
men. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we wor - ship Thee,
we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory.
O Lord God, heav'n - ly King, God the Fa - ther Al - mighty.
O Lord, the only begotten Son, Je - sus Christ;
O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy up - on us.
Thou that takest away the sin of the world, re - ceive our prayer.
Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy up -
on us. For Thou only art holy; Thou on - ly art the Lord.
Thou only, O Christ, with the Ho - ly Ghost,
art most high in the glory of God the Father. A - men.

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of Your people and kindle in us the fire of Your love as we begin to realize that regardless of what happens in our lives the bottom line is that God is in charge; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who with You and the Father are one God, our Triune God, now and always. Amen.

✠ SERVICE OF THE WORD ✠

Sit

Old Testament

Genesis 41: 28-57 (selected verses)

(God moves Joseph into a position of trust and responsibility.)

Congregation reads the text in bold

“It is just as I said to Pharaoh: God has shown Pharaoh what he is about to do. Seven years of great abundance are coming throughout the land of Egypt, ³⁰ but seven years of famine will follow them. Then all the abundance in Egypt will be forgotten, and the famine will ravage the land. The abundance in the land will not be remembered, because the famine that follows it will be so severe. The reason the dream was given to Pharaoh in two forms is that the matter has been firmly decided by God, and God will do it soon...”

Then Pharaoh said to Joseph, **“Since God has made all this known to you, there is no one so discerning and wise as you. ⁴⁰ You shall be in charge of my palace, and all my people are to submit to your orders. Only with respect to the throne will I be greater than you.**

I hereby put you in charge of the whole land of Egypt.”

Then Pharaoh took his signet ring from his finger and put it on Joseph’s finger. He dressed him in robes of fine linen and put a gold chain around his neck.

He had him ride in a chariot as his second-in-command, and men shouted before him, **“Make way!”** Thus he put him in charge of the whole land of Egypt.

Then Pharaoh said to Joseph, **“I am Pharaoh, but without your word no one will lift hand or foot in all Egypt.”**

Joseph was thirty years old when he entered the service of Pharaoh king of Egypt. And Joseph went out from Pharaoh's presence and traveled throughout Egypt.

During the seven years of abundance the land produced plentifully

Joseph stored up huge quantities of grain, like the sand of the sea; it was so much that he stopped keeping records because it was beyond measure.

The seven years of abundance in Egypt came to an end,⁵⁴ and the seven years of famine began, just as Joseph had said. There was famine in all the other lands, but in the whole land of Egypt there was food.⁵⁵ When all Egypt began to feel the famine, the people cried to Pharaoh for food.

Then Pharaoh told all the Egyptians, **"Go to Joseph and do what he tells you."**

When the famine had spread over the whole country, Joseph opened the storehouses and sold grain to the Egyptians, for the famine was severe throughout Egypt. And all the countries came to Egypt to buy grain from Joseph, because the famine was severe in all the world.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Gradual

Psalm 34:9, 19, alt.

Fear the LORD, you his saints,
for those who fear him lack nothing!
**Many are the afflictions of the righteous,
but the LORD delivers him out of them all.**

Epistle

2 Peter 3:8-9

(To be successful in the Lord's eyes one must be "spirit filled")

Be very careful, then, how you live—not as unwise but as wise, making the most of every opportunity, because the days are evil. Therefore, do not be foolish, but understand what the Lord's will is. Speak to one another with psalms, hymns and spiritual songs. Sing and make music in your heart to the Lord, always giving thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

Alleluia & Verse

Matthew 16:25

Alleluia. Whoever would save his life will lose it,
but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it. Alleluia.

Holy Gospel

Luke 16:10-13

(Jesus tells us not to worry – even when things look bad.)

☐ The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the sixteenth chapter.

☑ Glory to You, O Lord.

“Whoever can be trusted with very little can also be trusted with much, and whoever is dishonest with very little will also be dishonest with much. So if you have not been trustworthy in handling worldly wealth, who will trust you with true riches? And if you have not been trustworthy with someone else’s property, who will give you property of your own?

“No servant can serve two masters. Either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and Money.”

☐ This is the Gospel of the Lord.

☑ Praise to You, O Christ!

Nicene Creed

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of Heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible. And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from Heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the Virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into Heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose Kingdom will have no end. And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and Giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in One Holy Christian and Apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life ☩ of the world to come. Amen.

Sit

Hymn of the Day

In Thee Is Gladness

818 sts. 1

Sermon

Offering

Stand

Offertory



C Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -
new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -
way from Thy pres - ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it
from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va -
tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir - it. A - men.

Prayer of the Church

At the end of each petition:

P Let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

✠ ORDER OF HOLY COMMUNION ✠

Preface

P The Lord be with you.



C And with thy spir - it.

P Lift up your hearts.



C We lift them up un - to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks unto the Lord our God.

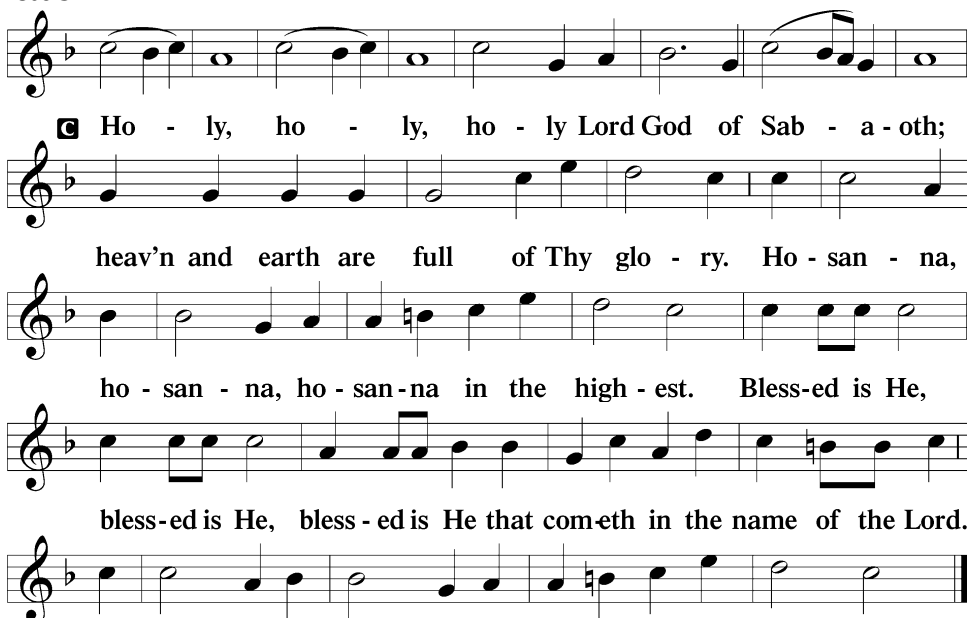


C It is meet and right so to do.

Proper Preface

It is truly meet, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth;
heav'n and earth are full of Thy glo - ry. Ho - san - na,
ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He,
bless - ed is He, bless - ed is He that com - eth in the name of the Lord.
Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father who art in Heaven, hallowed be Thy Name, Thy Kingdom come, Thy Will be done on earth as it is in Heaven; give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but ✠ deliver us from evil. For Thine is the Kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

The Words of Our Lord

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✠ Body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the New Testament in My ✠ Blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Pax Domini

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.



G A - men.

Agnus Dei



G O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the sin of the
world, have mer-cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that
tak-est a-way the sin of the world, have mer-cy up - on us.
O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the sin of the
world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

Sit

Distribution Hymns

I Come, O Savior, to Thy Table

618

Jesus, Thy Blood and Righteousness

563

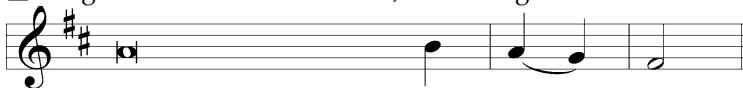
Nunc Dimittis



Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac-
cord-ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation,
which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,
a light to light - en the Gen - tiles and the glo - ry of Thy
peo-ple Is - ra - el. Glo - ry be to the Father and
to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,
is now, and ev - er shall be, world without end. A - men.

Thanksgiving

P O give thanks unto the LORD, for He is good.



C and His mercy endureth for - ev - er.

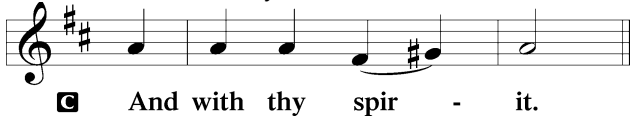
P Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, Almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

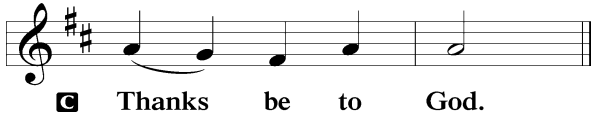


Salutation and Benedicamus

P The Lord be with you.



P Bless we the Lord.



Benediction and Blessing

P The Lord bless you and give you peace.

C May His peace be with you and with us. Thanks be to God!

P To God be the Glory!

A In the name of the Father, the Son ✠ and the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Sending Hymn

With the Lord Begin Your Task

869 sts. 3-4, 5

ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH

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"To Shine Forth the Light of God's Love into Our World"

BULLETIN NEWS

THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>
Sunday, August 30	9:30am	Divine Service	Sanctuary
	11:00am	Spanish Worship Service	Sanctuary
		Adult Bible Class	Irmer Hall
		Sunday School	Library
	12:30pm	Spanish Bible Study	Irmer Hall
Friday, September 4	6:30pm	Spanish Family Bible Study	Irmer Hall

BIRTHDAYS

09/04 – Dorothy Paxton	09/05 – Catherine Johnson
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SOCIAL MINISTRY – CODE RED WATER DRIVE FOR AUGUST

In August, we are collecting bottled water for the Salvation Army's Code Red heat-relief program. Please place your donations on the Social Ministry cart in the narthex.

SUMMER SERMON SERIES

Twelve Weeks of Life-Changing Character Studies on Joseph

Week 8 – *How to Survive a Crisis*

Week 9 – *The Power to Overcome...*

Week 10 – *The Steps of Christ-like...*

Week 11 – *Why Joseph Received...*

Week 12 – *How to Reach Your...*

If you miss a Sunday, you can watch the recorded service on YOUTUBE at [St. Paul Lutheran Church Phoenix](#).

LUTHERAN CENTER FOR RELIGIOUS LIBERTY

As August wraps up, Congress is back to doing what it does best — keeping the LCRL very, very busy. Thankfully, Lutherans read policy, quote Luther, and still make it to Bible study on time. See www.LCRLFreedom.org.

BOOK OF PROVERBS BIBLE STUDY

The Word of the Lord Endures Forever is a daily 15-minute verse-by-verse Bible study produced by Lutheran Public Radio in Collinsville, IL and hosted by LCMS Pastor Will Weedon. Pastor Weedon recently started a study on the Book of Proverbs 21–31. You can listen at your convenience at thewordendures.org, Amazon Alexa, Google Home, Apple HomePod, Tune In, the LPR mobile app and a podcast provider. This information is updated weekly. <http://issuesetc.org/support/>

LET US PRAY FOR...

Please keep this list available for your daily devotions. *For prayer requests Church office (623) 846-2228, or email at info@stpaulslutheran-az.com. Prayer requests are removed after three weeks.*

ON-GOING CONCERNS:

Dorothy Paxton – recovering from a fall.

Jorge Jimenez – fighting cancer

Nicholas Jimenez – health issues

Suzi Riley – health issues

Wayne Bartels – ongoing health issues

Jim Rucker – health issues

FAMILY AND FRIENDS:

Deaconess Carmen Cabrales, Pastor Ramon's wife, has lost her job and needs employment.

Jeanette, Cymantha's sister, suffered a mini-stroke and has a mass on her brain.

THOSE WHO ARE GRIEVING:

Lizabeth, Cymantha's sister, lost her son this past weekend.

Pray for everyone affected by the recent disaster in Nepal. Homes and farms have been destroyed by massive landslides and flooding. Lives have been lost, and thousands of people who survived have lost everything and may be displaced for a long time.

MISSIONARIES SUPPORTED BY ST. PAUL:

Rev. Dr. Daniel Jastram and wife, Joan, serving in Japan.

PSWD Missions

PRAY FOR ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH/THE LUTHERAN CHURCH—MISSOURI SYNOD:

The Rev. Vernen Ermeling and family

Sunday School teachers & children

Maryvale Preparatory Academy families & staff

The Rev. Ramón Cabrales and Deaconess Carmen

LCMS officers, congregations & schools

Achieve Academy families & staff

OUR NATION: For all elected and appointed public servants, and all who labor to maintain peace and order.

FOR THOSE IN THE MILITARY *(members, friends, or relatives):*

Jackson Buffington (*Ahrens*), **Maxwell Buffington** (*Ahrens*), **Andy Smiley** (*Parker*)

OUR SHUT-INS: Anne Smith

Acknowledgments

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