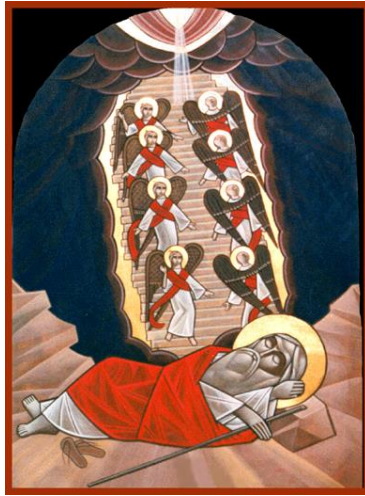




St. John's Lutheran Church

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.



Jacob's Vision from God

September 3, 2017

10:30 Holy Communion

Last week we read about how Jacob and his mother tricked Isaac into giving a blessing to Jacob that really belonged to Esau, his brother. Esau threatens to kill Jacob and Jacob flees in fear. Today we'll read about what happens to Jacob as he journeys to his uncle's home. God meets Jacob in a vision at night. In that vision God reiterates the promises he made to Jacob's ancestors and also promises to be with Jacob and provide for him. Jacob realizes this is grace for him, because he certainly doesn't deserve it!

Welcome to worship today!

If you are visiting with us we invite you to sign the Guest Book in the back of the sanctuary.

Nursery care is available during the service. Please see one of the ushers if you need more information.

† GATHERING †

Prelude and Announcements

Gathering Hymn Isn't He

(For music turn to Hymn 88 in the Songbook binder)

1. **Isn't He** (ECHO)

Beautiful (ECHO)

Beautiful (ECHO)

Isn't He (ECHO)

Prince of Peace Son of God

Isn't He

2. **Isn't He** (ECHO)

Wonderful (ECHO)

Wonderful (ECHO)

Isn't He (ECHO)

Counselor Almighty God

Isn't He isn't He

Isn't He

3. **Yes You are** (ECHO)

Beautiful (ECHO)

Beautiful (ECHO)

Yes You are (ECHO)

Prince of Peace Son of God

Yes You are yes You are

Yes You are

4. **Yes You are** (ECHO)

Wonderful (ECHO)

Wonderful (ECHO)

Yes You are (ECHO)

Counselor Almighty God

Yes You are yes You are

Yes You are

Text and Music: by John Wimber; CCLI# 1541, Copyright 1980 Mercy / Vineyard Publishing (Admin. by Music Services)

Apostles' Greeting

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: **And also with you.**

Confession and Forgiveness

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, the one who fashions us, the one who heals us, the one who reforms us again and again.

C: Amen.

P: Let us confess our sin, calling for God's transforming power.

Silence for reflection and self-examination

P: Source of all life,

C: we confess that we have not allowed your grace to set us free. We still fear that we are not good enough. We hear your word of love freely given to us, yet we expect others to earn it. We turn the church inward, rather than moving it outward. Forgive us. Stir us. Reform us to be a church powered by your will, willing to speak for what is right and work for what is just. Amen.

P: God hears our cry and sends the Spirit to change us and to empower our lives in the world. Our sins are forgiven and God continues to work in us. God's love is unconditional, and we are raised up as God's people who will always be made new, in the name of Jesus our Lord.

C: Amen.

Hymn of Praise He Is Exalted

(For music turn to Hymn 14 in the Songbook binder)

1. He is exalted, the King is exalted on high,

I will praise Him.

He is exalted, forever exalted

And I will praise His name!

Chorus

He is the Lord, forever His truth shall reign.

Heaven and earth

Rejoice in His holy name.

He is exalted, the King is exalted on high!

2. He is exalted, the King is exalted on high,

I will praise Him.

He is exalted, forever exalted

And I will praise His name!

Chorus 2 times

Prayer of the Day

A: Let us pray...

O God our strength, without you we are weak and wayward creatures. Protect us from all dangers that attack us from the outside, and cleanse us from all evil that arises from within ourselves, that we may be preserved through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

† WORD †

First Reading Genesis 28:10-22

¹⁰Jacob left Beer-sheba and went toward Haran. ¹¹He came to a certain place and stayed there for the night, because the sun had set. Taking one of the stones of the place, he put it under his head and lay down in that place. ¹²And he dreamed that there was a ladder set up on the earth, the top of it reaching to heaven; and the angels of God were ascending and descending on it. ¹³And the Lord stood beside him and said, "I am the Lord, the God of Abraham your father and the God of Isaac; the land on which you lie I will give to you and to your offspring; ¹⁴and your offspring shall be like the dust of the earth, and you shall spread abroad to the west and to the east and to the north and to the south; and all the families of the earth shall be blessed in you and in your offspring. ¹⁵Know that I am with you and will keep you wherever you go, and will bring you back to this land; for I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you."

¹⁶Then Jacob woke from his sleep and said, "Surely the Lord is in this place—and I did not know it!" ¹⁷And he was afraid, and said, "How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven." ¹⁸So Jacob rose early in the morning, and he took the stone that he had put under his head and set it up for a pillar and poured oil on the top of it. ¹⁹He called that place Bethel; but the name of the city was Luz at the first. ²⁰Then Jacob made a vow, saying, "If God will be with me, and will keep me in this way that I go, and will give me bread to eat and clothing to wear, ²¹so that I come again to my father's house in peace, then the Lord shall be my God, ²²and this stone, which I have set up for a pillar, shall be God's house; and of all that you give me I will surely give one tenth to you."

After the reading the reader may say: The Word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God.

Scripture Poetry Psalm 22:23-32 (read responsively)

A: I will proclaim your name to my people,
I will praise you in the assembly.

**C: Give praise, all who fear God:
revere and honor the Lord,
children of Israel, people of Jacob.**

A: The Lord never scorns the afflicted,
never looks away, but hears their cry.

**C: I will sing of you in the great assembly,
make good my promise before your faithful.**

A: The poor shall eat all they want.
seekers of God shall give praise.
“May your hearts live forever!”

**C: All peoples shall remember and turn,
all races will bow to the Lord,
who holds dominion over nations.**

A: The well-fed crowd kneel before God,
all destined to die bow low.

**C: My soul lives for the Lord!
My children will serve,
will proclaim God to the future,
announcing to peoples yet unborn,
“God saves.”**

Second Reading Romans 8:31-39

³¹What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? ³²He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else? ³³Who will bring any charge against God’s elect? It is God who justifies. ³⁴Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. ³⁵Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? ³⁶As it is written, “For your sake we are being killed all day long; we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered.” ³⁷No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. ³⁸For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, ³⁹nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

After the reading the reader may say: The Word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation (John 6:68)

C: Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.

Gospel Reading Matthew 6:7-25

The gospel is announced:

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew the 6th chapter.

C: Glory to you O Lord.

[Jesus taught] “When you are praying, do not heap up empty phrases as the Gentiles do; for they think that they will be heard because of their many words.⁸ Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask him.

⁹“Pray then in this way: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name.¹⁰ Your kingdom come. Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.¹¹ Give us this day our daily bread. ¹²And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. ¹³And do not bring us to the time of trial, but rescue us from the evil one. ¹⁴For if you forgive others their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you; ¹⁵but if you do not forgive others, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.

After the reading:

P: The gospel of the Lord

C: Praise to you O Christ.

Children's Sermon

Sermon

Hymn of the Day Blessed Assurance
(for music please turn to Hymn 638 in the Red Hymnal)

**1. Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine!
Oh, what a foretaste of glory divine!
Heir of salvation, purchase of God,
born of his Spirit, washed in his blood.**

Refrain **This is my story, this is my song,
Praising my Savior all the day long:
This is my story, this is my song,
Praising my savior all the day long.**

**2. Perfect submission, perfect delight,
visions of rapture now burst on my sight;**

angels descending bring from above
echoes of mercy, whispers of love. *Refrain*

3. Perfect submission, all is at rest;
I in my Savior am happy and blest,
watching and waiting, looking above,
filled with goodness, lost in his love. *Refrain*

Text: Fanny Crosby, Music Phoebe Knapp

Apostles' Creed

A: We confirm our faith with the Apostles' Creed

**C: I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Prayers of the Church

P: With the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, let us pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

The pastor will begin the prayer with a petition and then invites the congregation to add additional petitions and thanksgivings. Please conclude your petition with: Lord in your mercy,

The congregation will respond: **Hear our prayer.**

The pastor concludes the prayer:

P: Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ our Savior.

C: Amen.

Peace

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

P: We share that peace with one another.

The congregation may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace.

† MEAL †

Offering & Special Music

Hymn of Thanksgiving Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful Lord

For music turn to page 35 in the Blue Hymnal

**Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord,
and fill to the brim our cup of blessing.**

**Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown,
that we may be fed with the bread of life.**

**Gather the hopes and dreams of all;
unite them with the prayers we offer now.**

**Grace our table with your presence, Lord,
and give us a foretaste of the feast to come.**

Offering Prayer

A: Let us pray: God of life,

C: you give us these gifts of the earth, these resources of our life and our labor. Take them, offered in great thanksgiving, and use them to set a table that will heal the whole creation; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Great Thanksgiving

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

P: It is indeed right, our duty, and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus of Nazareth; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of

everlasting life. And so, with church of yesterday, today and tomorrow; and the church here in this place and all churches throughout the world, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

(Isaiah 6:3, spoken)

**C: Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

P: In the night in which he was handed over our Lord Jesus took bread, gave thanks, broke it, and gave it to his disciples saying, "Take and eat. This is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me." Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me."

Lord's Prayer

P: Lord remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

C: 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.

Invitation to Communion

P: Speak to us, O Lord, in the breaking of the bread, and make us one with you.

Communion Distribution

Welcome to the Lord's Supper! All who are baptized are invited to receive communion. You will receive bread from the communion assistant. You may receive wine from either the common cup or in an individual glass. If you would like to receive in a glass please pick one up from the tray as you approach the altar rail. White grape juice is available in the individual glasses for those who do not wish to take wine. As we commune together everyone is invited to sing the following hymns:

Lamb of God (Page 39 of the Blue Hymnal)

659 Will You Let Me Be Your Servant (Red Hymnal)

807 Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing (Red Hymnal)

Communion Blessing After all have communed the pastor will say:

P: The body and the blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C: Amen.

Post Communion Prayer

A: Let us pray.

Holy and compassionate God, in bread and wine you give us gifts that form us to be both humble and courageous. May your word come to life in our serving and in our witness, that we might speak a living voice of healing and justice to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our rock and our redeemer.

C: Amen.

‡ SENDING ‡

Blessing

P: God, creator of all things, speaking reformation into being; Jesus Christ, savior of the world, raising the dead; Holy Spirit, living voice, calling and enlightening the church: Almighty God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit bless you now and forever.

C: Amen.

Sending Hymn I Want Jesus to Walk With Me

(For music turn to Hymn 325 in the Red Hymnal)

1. **I want Jesus to walk with me;
I want Jesus to walk with me;
all along my pilgrim journey,
Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me.**

2. **In my trials, Lord, walk with me;
in my trials, Lord, walk with me;
when my heart is almost breaking,
Lord I want Jesus to walk with me.**

3. **When I'm in trouble, Lord, walk with me;
When I'm in trouble, Lord, walk with me;
when my head is bowed in sorrow,
Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me.**

Dismissal

A: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: God's Work. Our Hands.

Worship assistants TODAY:

Greeters and Ushers	Kim and Gary Boisseau
Acolyte	Sarah Brownlee
Altar Care	Liz Brown
Communion Assistants	Paul and Babette Huber
Nursery Care	Lynne Minkel
Counters	Bruce and Connie Stevenson
Coffee Hour	

Worship assistants for next Sunday, September 10

Greeters and Ushers	Tim and Liz Brown
Acolyte	Ben Deibler
Nursery Care	Kristi Bullwinkle
Counters	Ethan and Alyssa Minkel
Coffee Hour	Linda Morley and Ruth Edmunds

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