



Sunday, June 26, 2022 VBS Celebration Sunday

Welcome

Opening Song: "He's Got the Whole World In His Hands"—Children

He's got the whole world in His hands.
He's got the whole world in His hands.
He's got the whole world in His hands.
He's got the whole world in His hands.

He's got the little bitty baby in His hands.
He's got the little bitty baby in His hands.
He's got the little bitty baby in His hands.
He's got the whole world in His hands.

He's got you and me brother in His hands.
He's got you and me sister in His hands.
He's got you and me brother in His hands.
He's got the whole world in His hands.

He's got everybody here in His hands.
He's got everybody here in His hands.
He's got everybody here in His hands.
He's got the whole world in His hands.

He's got the whole world in His hands.
He's got the whole world in His hands.
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VBS Introduction: Kris Crow

**LIVING WATER LUTHERAN CHURCH
VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL
2022**



VBS DAY 1

Today's Theme: Roots of Creation

**"What a wildly wonderful world God! You made it all so wisely."
Psalm 104:24**

Bible Story: On the first day we read a Psalm. A psalm is a song to God, just like the songs we are singing in this worship service today. Psalms, like songs, can be happy or sad, silly or serious. Psalm 104 is thanking God for all God created, from the highest mountains to the deepest oceans, from the birds that fly to the fish that swim, from tiny insects to huge elephants to each one of us. God made all creatures different and blessed them with gifts. We learned how we can help heal God's creation and how God's creation helps heal us. Creation shows us that God loves to create and play, and we can play and create too.

World Hunger Program: We traveled to Eswatini, a small country in the southeast corner of Africa, about the size of New Jersey. We met a boy who had trouble concentrating in school sometimes because he was hungry. A church in his community started a garden project to help people grow their own fresh, healthy vegetables. Because of the garden, the boy can now get the food he needs for his body to grow and his family can trade and sell the vegetables for other foods, like chickens. By working with our neighbors and other churches, we can be part of God's work in the world, helping everyone enjoy the gifts of creation and the healthy lives God wants for us.

Song: "God is Good"—Children

God is good, all the time.
He put a song of praise
in this heart of mine.
God is good, all the time
through the darkest night,

His light will shine.
God is good, God is good, all the time.

If you're walking, through the valley,
there are shadows all around.
Do not fear, He will guide you.

He will keep you safe and sound.
For He has promised, to never leave you,
nor forsake you, and His word is true.

God is good, all the time.
He put a song of praise
in this heart of mine.
God is good, all the time.
Through the darkest night,
His light will shine.
God is good, God is good.
God is good, He's so good.
God is good, God is good, all the time.

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Don Moen | Paul Overstreet
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VBS DAY 2

Today's Theme: Healthy Minds and Body

"Beloved, I pray that all may go well with you and that you may be in good health, just as it is well with your soul."

3 John 1:1

Bible Story: On the second day we read from the book of 3rd John in the New Testament. We learned that the whole book is a letter that was written by an elder - an elder is a leader in the church, like a pastor. The letter was written to a friend of the elder named Gaius. The elder prays the Gaius will be healthy in his body and his soul. He also tells his friend to be like the good people he sees and not the mean or dishonest people. This story reminds us to be thankful for all of the people we love and those who love us. God wishes us to have not just healthy bodies but also healthy minds, relationships and lives. As part of our Bible Time, we wrote our own letters just like this letter in the Bible to tell someone in our lives that we are thankful for them, and we wish them to be healthy in mind, body and heart. God teaches us to care for our loved ones and this is one way we can do it - by telling them we are thankful for them!

World Hunger Program: God created us with all kinds of emotions for all kinds of situations. For our second day, we traveled to South Sudan and learned about a family

who went through some challenges after they moved to Egypt. The two girls in the family were having trouble in school because their parents were sad and overwhelmed and struggling to make enough money for the family. A group called St. Andrew's Refugee Services, helped the family by paying for the children to go to school and providing money for transportation and counseling. God wants us to help others to be healthy and hopeful for their future.

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VBS DAY 3

Today's Theme: Different Bodies, Different Gifts

"I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made." Psalm 139:14a

Bible Story: God made each of us different and each of us special, with our own gifts and talents. In Psalm 139 we learned that God knows everything about us, because God created us and loves us. Despite our differences, we are all made in God's image. We talked about how the Psalm writer is amazed that God knows everything about each of us. God knows us better than even the person that might know us best. And God doesn't just know us, God loves us! The Psalm reminds us to be thankful for God's love and to see all that God loves in everyone around us. We love to remember the verse from this Bible story, each of us IS fearfully and wonderfully made and loved by God! Praise God!

World Hunger Program: God gave us a community to support and help us be healthy and happy. On Wednesday, we visited the country of Bangladesh to learn about a young man who became blind. He had to work hard to learn Braille and find new ways to succeed in school and support himself. He learned to make crafts from jute at a center supported by our church. Just as God creates each of us in beautiful and wonderful ways, God also gives us friends, family, neighbors and the church to love us and help us be the best we can be.

Song: "They Will Know we are Christians by our Love"—Children

We are one in the Spirit
We are one in the Lord
We are one in the Spirit
We are one in the Lord
And we pray that all unity
will one day be restored
And they'll know we are Christians
by our love, by our love
Yes, they'll know we are Christians
by our love

We will walk with each other,
We will walk hand in hand
We will walk with each other,
We will walk hand in hand
And together we'll spread the
news that God is in our land
And they'll know we are Christians
by our love, by our love
Yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love

We will work with each other
We will work side by side
We will work with each other
We will work side by side
And we'll guard each one's
dignity and save each one's pride
And they'll know we are Christians
by our love, by our love
Yes they'll know we are Christians by our love.

We are one in the Spirit
We are one in the Lord
We are one in the Spirit
We are one in the Lord
And we pray that all unity
will one day be restored
And they'll know we are Christians
by our love, by our love
Yes they'll know we are Christians by our love

And they'll know we are Christians
by our love, by our love
Yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love

CCLI Song # 26997
Peter Scholtes

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Prayers of Intercession

United in Christ and guided by the Spirit, we pray for the church, the creation, and all in need.

A brief silence.

God of faithfulness, set the face of your church firmly on you. Rooted in your self-giving love, may the church find freedom in loving our neighbors. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of gentleness, strengthen the earth's ability to heal. Where there are dangerous storms, bring calm. Where there are destructive fires, bring rain. Protect homes, habitats, and livelihoods threatened by climate disasters. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of peace, guide all who govern, that they place the good of their citizens above self-promotion. Anoint leaders of nations with your Spirit of neighborly love. Protect refugees and all who live under tyranny or conflict, *especially the people of Ukraine*. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of kindness, reveal your healing presence to all who are sick or dying, *especially Mary Ann, Don, Barbara, Christi, Larry, Kristina, Sue & Dave, Dominic & Megan, Vicki, Jenna, Joe, Dave & Joy, Barbara, Tyler, Michael, Hannah, Mary, Richard, Henry, Ron, Ruth, Bonnie, Jim & Carolyn, Gavin, Sumi & Celine, Bonnie, Cole, Stephen & Katherine, Justin, Eric, the family and friends of Heidi Gerrish, the family and friends of Paula Grimsley, the family and friends of Marty Shubert, and the family and friends of Bonnie Stemm*. Uphold those who grieve. Support the needs of any who are unemployed, hungry, or have nowhere to lay their heads. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of love, attend to those struggling with addiction, depression, or uncontrolled anger. Provide support systems and loving companions as they work toward health, that they may rest in hope and know the fullness of joy in your presence. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of joy, we give thanks for all who have died and now celebrate the inheritance of life in you. Keep their examples of faithfulness always before us, that we trust your promises in life and in death. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of every time and place, in Jesus' name and filled with your Holy Spirit, we entrust these spoken prayers and those in our hearts into your holy keeping.
Amen.

Sharing of the Peace

The peace of the Lord be with you all.

And also with you.

Offering

Offering Prayer

God of abundance:
you have set before us a plentiful harvest.
As we feast on your goodness,
strengthen us to labor in your field,
and equip us to bear fruit for the good of all,
in the name of Jesus.

Amen.

Thanksgiving at the Table

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and 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.

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.

Invitation to the Table

In Christ's presence there is fullness of joy. Come to the banquet.

Distribution

We will be using the intinction method for distribution. You will be handed bread and asked to dip the bread in the chalice. Gluten-free bread and grape juice are available. Please make your way forward by the center aisle, returning down the side. If mobility is a problem for you, please notify an usher and you will be served at your seat.

Post Communion Prayer

Jesus, Bread of life, we have received from your table more than we could ever ask. As you have nourished us in this meal, now strengthen us to love the world with your own life. In your name we pray.

Amen.

Blessing

The blessing of God, who provides for us, feeds us, and journeys with us, ☩ be upon you now and forever.

Amen.

Video—Our Week at Vacation Bible School

VBS DAY 4

Today's Theme: Being Filled

"And they ate and were well filled, for God gave them what they craved." Psalm 78:29

Bible Story: In Thursday's Bible story we read from the book of Exodus about the Israelite's journey from Egypt to the Promise Land. During that long journey, God's people were in the wilderness and God provided food and water for them. From this story we learned that God gives us what we need and enough to share. God provided the Israelites with manna from heaven, quail to eat, water that flowed from rocks and rules to help them share the blessings. God also gave the people each other. To get through their long journey, the people needed to depend on the gifts of each other. God saved the Israelites when they were really struggling! God also gives us everything we need today and asks us to share our blessings with others. Just as God provided a way for the Israelites to get back to the Promise Land safely and with food, God provides for us today. God loves us and God saves us every day.

World Hunger Program: On Thursday we learned about a ministry in Palestine that helps neighbors when their health keeps them from getting food on their own. The food the ministry delivers helps neighbors stay healthy and builds relationships that can keep the whole community thriving. This program was especially important during the pandemic when people with medical problems had to stay home to be safe. Our church supported delivery of meals to these people's homes. God's love is always with us in the food we share and the friendships we make. God is with us when we share food and make sure everyone has enough to eat.

Song: "Awesome God"—Children

Our God is an awesome God
He reigns from heaven above
With wisdom, power, and love
Our God is an awesome God

Our God is an awesome God
He reigns from heaven above
With wisdom, power, and love

Our God is an awesome God

Our God is an awesome God
He reigns from heaven above
With wisdom, power, and love
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CCLI Song # 41099

Rich Mullins

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VBS DAY 5

Today's Theme: Bearing Fruit

"Just as I have loved you, you should also love one another." John 13:34b

Bible Story: Our Bible Story taught us that God loves us and teaches us how to love one another. Back in the time of Jesus, everyone wore sandals and walked around on dusty roads. This made people's feet very dirty. Jesus washed the disciples' feet to show he loved them. Then he asked the disciples to do the same for others. We learned that prayer time with God is a time to talk to God and a time to listen to God. Prayer can help us hear from God on how to love and care for one another and how to serve those around us in love. We read how Jesus washed the disciples' feet and then Jesus said, "I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another." A lot of us decided this was one of our favorite things Jesus teaches in the whole Bible.

World Hunger Program: On our final day, we stayed right here in the US and learned about a program in Minnesota. God is at work through a community where neighbors are joining together to grow a garden that provides more than just food. It is a place where everyone is welcome and can share in the healthy food they grow and the healthy friendships that make it possible. The Rice Street Garden is supported by our church and has 250 garden plots. Many of the plots are planted and maintained by refugee

families that are new to our country and helps them to grow food, practice their English and belong to a community. When we work together to make sure everyone is healthy and welcomed, we can see God working through us in amazing ways.

Closing Song: “He’s Got the Whole World in His Hands” Congregation and Children

He’s got the whole world in His hands.
He’s got the whole world in His hands.
He’s got the whole world in His hands.
He’s got the whole world in His hands.

He’s got the little bitty baby in His hands.
He’s got the little bitty baby in His hands.
He’s got the little bitty baby in His hands.
He’s got the whole world in His hands.

He’s got you and me brother in His hands.
He’s got you and me sister in His hands.
He’s got you and me brother in His hands.
He’s got the whole world in His hands.

He’s got everybody here in His hands.
He’s got everybody here in His hands.
He’s got everybody here in His hands.
He’s got the whole world in His hands.

He’s got the whole world in His hands.
He’s got the whole world in His hands.
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Dismissal

Go in peace, serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God.



THANK YOU to EVERYONE at LWLC for supporting our VBS 2022 program. We couldn't have done it without your support and prayers!