Creation Station - Art
Martin Luther
Gloria Dei Lutheran Church, Olympia, WA

Scripture Verse: Romans 5:1
“Therefore, since we are justified by faith, we have peace with
through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have obtained
access to this grace in which we stand.”

Memory Verse: Ephesians 2:8 (NRSV)
“For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not
your own doing; it is the gift of God.”

Bonus Verse: Psalm 46:1 (NRSV)
“God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.”

Overview:
Create Luther’s Seal out of paper and discuss the parts of his seal in order to better
understand his theology.

OBJECTIVES:
At the end of this workshop students will:
1. be able to differentiate between Martin Luther and Martin Luther King, Jr.
2. identify that the Lutheran Church is founded on Martin Luther’s Biblical teachings.
3. understand that what makes us Lutheran is our belief in “Justification by grace
   through faith for Christ’s sake.” Romans 5:1
4. understand that God comes to us in the Word (Bible) and Sacraments of Holy
   Communion and Baptism. This is one of the reasons why worship is so
   important for us.
5. understand the importance of the Word as law and gospel: the law exposes us
   and our mistakes and our sins and it drives us to the gospel where we
   understand that in spite of our wrong doings, we are loved and forgiven -
   Children of God.
6. understand that our Vocation is to be a child of God - to praise and serve God. We
   can carry out that vocation in any occupation. eg: student, doctor, mail carrier,
   waitress, teacher, pastor, truck driver, farmer etc.
7. know that Luther and other reformers often encouraged people to read the Bible
   for themselves.
8. be able to repeat the memory verse.

Supplies:
• Luther Seal Templates
• Yellow, Blue, Red, Black and White cardstock paper
• Scissors, glue and colored pencils
• Faith Journal Page
• Masking tape
Lesson:
Introduce yourself and welcome everyone to class. Explain that today we will be learning about Martin Luther, whose Bible teachings became the foundation of the Lutheran church and other churches too. “One of the ways Luther helped people to understand his Bible teaching was to develop a symbol. This symbol represented what he believed from reading the Bible. Luther used this symbol as his Family Crest.” Show the children a sample of the art project.

“Today, you will get to make this same symbol to take home with you after Reformation Sunday, which is October 26, this year. It’s called “Luther’s Rose” or "Luther’s Seal" and it is used in many Lutheran churches today to help us remember Luther's teachings about God's Word. Each year, on the last Sunday in October, we celebrate Reformation Sunday and the fact that Martin Luther helped get the Word of God in the hands of many people so everyone could read the Word of God.” [At the end of the lesson today, students get to tape their seal up on any door in the church! We will leave them up until All Saints Sunday, the Sunday after Reformation Sunday, November 2, 2014.]

“Let’s explore the colors and the meanings behind Luther’s Seal.” Pass out the worksheet and colored pencils. As you describe each part, have the children color in the appropriate color. The bottom two circles will be done later or at home.

Pass out the colored paper and begin the art project together. You may need to have younger children work on the same parts together, or you may choose to have some parts pre-cut to save time. Make sure each child's name and the date are written on the back of each symbol.

As children are working on their project, use the following talking points.
• The Lutheran Church is founded on Martin Luther’s Biblical teachings. God comes to us in the Word (Bible) and Sacraments of Holy Communion and baptism. This is one of the reasons why worship is so important for us.
• The importance of the Word as law and gospel: the law exposes us and our mistakes and our sins and it drives us to the gospel where we understand that in spite of our wrong doings, we are loved and forgiven - Children of God.
• Our Vocation is to be a child of God - to praise and serve God. We can carry out that vocation in any occupation. eg: student, doctor, mail carrier, waitress, teacher, pastor, truck driver, farmer etc. Luther and other reformers often encouraged people to read the Bible for themselves.
• Practice the memory verse.

Luther was a great teacher and Bible scholar at the time. His dad wanted him to be a lawyer, but Luther felt called to learn more about God. He was very smart and became a great teacher of the Bible. It was really important to Luther that everyone be able to read the Bible so that everyone could read God's Word. Luther translated the Bible into the language of his people, German. God calls all of us to do His work too. Some of us
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are doctors, some are mail carriers, and some are truck drivers. What are some other jobs that people do?

These are all good jobs. We also have a vocation. Our vocation is to be children of God. This means no matter what our job is or where we go or what we do, we are always a child of God. He loves us: no matter what- forever and ever. And, because God loves us so much, we want to share that love with others, and let others know about God's love.

As children of God, it's so important for us to go to worship each week. During worship we hear God's Word read to us. This is one of the ways God comes to us. Another way God comes to us is through Communion. We are forgiven for our sins, and we share a meal with God and other members of our church family. We are cleaned by God because Jesus died on the cross for us because He loves us all so much. He just does that for us. That is God's grace. We are children of God. We make mistakes, but we are always forgiven when we ask to be forgiven. We are always loved.

Because of God's love, we want to do good things for others and follow His commandments. We do our best. Sometimes we mess up, ask for forgiveness, and do our best again - always knowing God is with us through it all.

Read or say from memory Ephesians 2:8 (NRSV); our memory verse:
"For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God."

God loves us because we are His children. That will never ever change.

(Another way to relate wanting to do well is by pleasing a teacher at school or pleasing your parents.)

Continue discussing the Faith Journal sheet - which is the Luther Seal worksheet - and talk about the last two circles. If there is time, work through it with the class. Please make sure it goes home, whether it is completed or not.

Show students how to roll masking tape into circles. Stick four or five circles on the back of each seal. Shepherds can walk students around the building to hang their art work. We are hanging the art on doors because in Luther’s time, posting things on doors was a way to start a discussion, and that’s what Luther did.

Closing Prayer:
"Dear Lord,
Thank you for always being with us and loving us no matter what. Help us to do your work no matter where we are. Amen”