



FEBRUARY 2023



Financial Peace Introduction and Profit First Financial Labs

MAST Whiz Kids learn from an early age the importance of math and understanding money. Kindergarten students and new students will receive their own personal Financial Peace, Jr. kit to take home. New and returning students learn the importance of work and how to spend, save, give, and invest.

Coin Wars MAST students enjoyed competing in coin wars. Coin wars are an interactive way to practice counting money while honing math skills.

Whiz Kids "Show me your coins!" Whiz Kids students practiced identifying coins by looking closely at their differences. Students used the color, size, and texture of the edges to identify each coin.

Whiz Kids used the laptop and Zoomy microscope to magnify the details of each coin and bill money. They saw Lincoln sitting on his chair in the Lincoln Memorial Monument on the penny. They examined all the different details on the dollar bill. Hands on learning is the best with real money!

MAST Labs are strategically designed to promote critical thinking, experimentation, implementation, problem solving, and perseverance. Do you remember the MAST Mater Company from last year? Most students did not make the profit they envisioned. They learned that work and making a business profitable are more challenging than they expected.

Good news! The MAST Whiz Kids curriculum scaffolds year over year. This year's Profit First Financial Labs build upon the concepts of Financial Peace, Jr. The Profit First Financial Labs will help students learn how to evaluate the potential for earning and growing profits for a business. (Think Shark Tank sharks in training.)

What's Next? Students launch the MAST Candy Company. Students will learn about the five categories of Profit First: Income, Profit, Owner's Compensation, Taxes and Operating Expenses.





Rise & Shine
Lutheran Schools Week
2023

Adult Devotions for Individuals or Groups

Monday

Read Isaiah 60:1-7

- How does this passage make you feel? What about it makes you feel that way?
- What is your favorite line in this passage? Why?
- What are some promises God gives us that this passage helps you remember.

Use this song and video for meditation on Isaiah 60 [Praises Of Israel - Kumi Ori\(Arise Shine\)\[Live\] - YouTube](#)

Pray: Gracious God, help us to rise and shine each day this week for you, for our friends and family, for our students and co-workers. Amen.

Tuesday

Read Isaiah 9:2-7

- Think about times God has brought people in the Bible out of darkness.
- What is a time in your life God met you in darkness?
- Where have you experienced holy darkness?

Reflect on darkness and light by reading or listening to [God's Holy Darkness](#):

- Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-sqF3ZnUMz0>
- Book listing: [God's Holy Darkness | Beaming Books](#)

Pray: Mighty Lord, you have been with us for all of creation. Help us remember you are with us in the dark and the light. Amen.

Wednesday

Malachai 4 - focus v. 2

- Meditate on the image of the “sun of righteousness.” How does this “look” and feel to you?
- How do you experience God’s healing? Do you need healing now?
- “Righteousness” in this passage refers to those who serve God (notes Lutheran Study Bible p. 1593). How do you express righteousness in your faith?

Use this song for quiet reflection on Malachai [Sun of Righteousness \(ft. Jules Burt\) // Official Lyric Video - YouTube](#)

Pray: Holy Creator, you have the power to hold and heal us. Help us live out your gift of healing and be righteous with you each day. Amen.

Thursday

Matthew 5:1-16 - focus v. 16

- What beatitude hits your heart most today? Why?
- How do the beatitudes help your “light shine before others”?
- How have you experienced God this week? How have others shown/shone God’s light on you?

Reflect on the Beatitudes by reading or listening to [The Beatitudes From Slavery to Civil Rights:](#)

- Video: [The Beatitudes From Slavery to Civil Rights by Carole Boston Weatherford, Illustrated by Tim Ladwig - YouTube](#)
- Book listing: [The Beatitudes: From Slavery to Civil Rights: Weatherford, Carole Boston, Ladwig, Tim: 9780802853523: Amazon.com: Books](#)

Pray: Friend Jesus, thank you for your example of God’s love and how to live. Let us remember the lessons of the beatitudes and live them out so we may also be God’s light to others. Amen.

Friday

Ephesians 5: 1-20 - focus v. 14

- How does Christ shine on you today?
- From what have you awakened in your life?
- What about Jesus would you like to imitate more of (v. 1)?
- How can the things that have become visible help you shine for God? (v. 13)

Use these songs for reflection on Ephesians 5 and our *Rise & Shine* week:

- [Awake, O Sleeper - YouTube](#)
- [Shine - YouTube](#)

Pray: Christ, shine on me and help me awake so I can see the needs of the world and live out your love. Amen.



Rise & Shine
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Chapel Service for Schools

The following service is designed to provide a 20-25 minute chapel service for Lutheran Schools and Centers. This service is designed to incorporate Bible, prayer, and music, which can be led by a teacher, director, pastor, or lay leader. This service gives thanks to God for the gift of education, highlights the work of Lutheran Schools, and asks for God's blessing and protection within the schools.

Gathering

L: We gather in the name of the Triune God: Father, Son + and Holy Spirit.

ALL: Amen.

L: This chapel service is being held in sanctuaries around the United States. We are a part of the body of Christ in the time and place, and through the Holy Spirit, we are united with other Lutheran schools and centers. Today, we will sing, pray, hear God's Word in the Bible, and ask God to bless and protect us.

Gathering Song: *This Little Light of Mine*

ELW #677

Prayer

L: Let us pray:

Mighty God,

We thank you for making each of us your children. Bless the schools, centers, and congregations that celebrate Lutheran Schools Week 2023. Help us to shine the light of your Son, Jesus, on all the world. Amen.

Word

Isaiah 60:1-3

¹Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you. ²For darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the LORD will arise upon you, and his glory will appear over you. ³Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn.

Matthew 5:14-16

¹⁴"You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. ¹⁵No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. ¹⁶In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.

Interactive Reflection:

One Idea:

- 1) Start with your worship space with no, or minimal lights on.
 - a. What do you notice right now?
 - b. Why do you think we are starting without lights?
- 2) Turn on a few lights:
 - a. What do you notice now?
 - b. Do we need more lights?
- 3) Turn on a few more lights:
 - a. What sources of light do we depend on each day?
 - b. What is the difference between generating light and reflecting light?
- 4) Use a mirror to reflect light onto a wall that everyone can see.
 - a. The mirror helps reflect light- it doesn't generate its own.
 - b. The moon depends on the reflection of the sun's light.
 - c. You reflect the light of Christ into the world.
- 5) Engage with the idea that the light of Christ is reflected off of us
 - a. The Holy Spirit works in us, around us, and through us, so others may see the light of Christ.
 - b. When our neighbors experience peace, healing, or hope, Christ's light shines

Hymn of Praise: *Shine, Jesus, Shine*

ELW #671

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.

Sending

Closing Prayer:

ELW Page 231

Let us pray.

We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give your daughters and sons new birth, cleanse them from sin, and raise them to eternal life. Sustain all your children with the gift of your Holy Spirit: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever.

Amen.

Sending Song: *We Are Marching in the Light of God*

ELW #866

Worship Elements for Congregations

Happy Lutheran Schools Week 2023! As the mission and ministry of our Lutheran churches, schools, and learning centers, we give God thanks for the ways we gather to love and service our neighbors, while asking God to bless and protect those who learn and grow at our Lutheran Schools. Here are some worship elements that can be added to weekend worship. This is available for all, whether or not you have a school/center as a part of your ministry.

Blessing of students, teachers, directors, and boards:

Prior to the Gathering Hymn or after the hymn of the Day, all those involved with the school/center are invited to come to the front for a special introduction, prayer, and blessing.

PM: As a part of our worship service today, we highlight and pray for the work of our Lutheran schools and centers. The Evangelical Lutheran Education Association is a professional group that helps connect, develop, and inspire Lutheran education throughout the ELCA.

Assembled in the front of our worship space are the _____, who are entrusted to care for, and teach, children at the _____ school/center. Now, we ask God to bless them in their work.

Modeled after the "Prayer for the Care of Children," Pastoral Care Handbook, page 371

Let us pray: Holy God, with a mother's love and father's care you have blessed us with the joy and responsibility of caring for, and teaching, children. Bless these *teachers/students/administrators/board members* as they continue in the work of education; give them patience, strength, protection, wisdom, and guidance, so the students may learn of your love, and be empowered to work for justice and truth. Help us all, to love others, following the example of our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

Prayers of Intercession- Petition:

We pray for all those who are called to teach in a Lutheran school or center. Guide teachers, administrators, boards, students, and their families in the way of Jesus. Bless the work of the Evangelical Lutheran Education Association, to build a network of connecting, developing, and inspiring schools. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Announcement:

This week, we celebrate the mission and ministry of Lutheran Schools and centers, across the ELCA and the world! Lutheran Schools Week 2023 is a week spent highlighting the ministry of Lutheran Schools and Centers, highlighting the work of the professional association for Lutheran Schools and Centers (Evangelical Lutheran Education Association), and providing resources to help schools and centers focus on spiritual growth among students, families, and staff. You will notice that there is a bulletin insert that provides more information, along with connection points with the ELEA.

Here are some ways you can incorporate the school/center into worship leadership.

1. Include information about your school/center in the bulletin and weekly announcements.

2. Add the ELEA bulletin insert into your worship bulletins.
3. Invite the families at your school and center to attend worship this weekend.
4. Have the Director help lead some or all of worship.
5. Invite your teachers to help lead worship.
6. Share the celebrations of the school/center during announcements.
7. Incorporate music that reflects the theme from Isaiah 60:1- "Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you!"
8. Follow the ELEA on social media and share posts through your social media pages.