

Confirmation sunday



“In the likeness of his resurrection.”



August 23rd, 2020

First Lutheran Church, Fergus Falls, MN
9th Grade Class



August 23, 2020 9th Grade
11:00 a.m. Rite of Confirmation
(218) 739-3348, office@flcfff.org
www.firstlutheranchurchfff.org

ORDER OF CONFIRMATION FOR THE AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM

Welcome to First Lutheran Church. Confirmation marks the completion of a period of instruction in the Christian faith. Confirmation includes a public profession of the faith into which the candidates were baptized, thus underscoring God's action in their Baptism.
*Words in **bold** are congregation response.*

PRELUDE

OPENING STATEMENT

Blessed be God who forgives all our sins; **Your mercy endures forever.**

READINGS: DEUTERONOMY 30:15-20

A reading from the book of Deuteronomy: ¹⁵See, I have set before you today life and prosperity, death and adversity. ¹⁶If you obey the commandments of the LORD your God that I am commanding you today, by loving the LORD your God, walking in his ways, and observing his commandments, decrees, and ordinances, then you shall live and become numerous, and the LORD your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to possess. ¹⁷But if your heart turns away and you do not hear, but are led astray to bow down to other gods and serve them, ¹⁸I declare to you today that you shall perish; you shall not live long in the land that you are crossing the Jordan to enter and possess. ¹⁹I call heaven and earth to witness against you today that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Choose life so that you and your descendants may live, ²⁰loving the LORD your God, obeying him, and holding fast to him; for that means life to you and length of days, so that you may live in the land that the LORD swore to give to your ancestors, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob.

Church, hear what the Spirit is saying. **Thanks be to God.**

ROMANS 6:3-10

A reading from the book of Romans. ³Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? ⁴Therefore we have been buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life. ⁵For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. ⁶We know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be destroyed, and we might no longer be enslaved to sin. ⁷For whoever has died is freed from sin. ⁸But if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. ⁹We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. ¹⁰The death he died, he died to sin, once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God.

Church, hear what the Spirit is saying. **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL READING JOHN 3:1-6

The gospel of Jesus Christ, according to St. John. Listen for the Spirit.

¹Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. ²He came to Jesus by night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God." ³Jesus answered him, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above." ⁴Nicodemus said to him, "How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother's womb and be born?" ⁵Jesus answered, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. ⁶What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit.

Church, hear what the Spirit is saying. **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

PASTOR GRETCHEN ENOCH

SPECIAL MUSIC

“Bless the Lord”

ALISE WERNER

Matt Redman

OFFERING

During the special music, please bring your offering forward and place it in the wooden box.

THE AFFIRMATION OF THE BAPTISMAL COVENANT

Brothers and sisters in Christ. Through the Sacrament of Baptism we have been joined into Christ’s holy Church. We share in the story of God’s mighty acts of salvation, and we receive new birth through water and the Spirit. These are the gifts of God, offered freely to all. Let us renew the covenant declared at our baptism, acknowledging what God is doing in, through, and for us, and affirming our commitment to Christ’s holy Church.

THE THANKSGIVING OVER WATER

God be with you. **And also with you.**

Let us give thanks to God. **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

Holy One, we thank you for the gift of water. Over it your Spirit hovered at the creation of the world. Through it you led the Children of Israel out of bondage and into the Promised Land. In the fullness of time you sent Jesus, who was nurtured in the water of Mary’s womb. And in Jesus was baptized and recognized as your beloved child.

With the following words, the Pastor reaches into the water and allows it to pour back into the basin.

We thank you for the water of Baptism. In it we are buried, sharing in Christ’s death. By it we share also in Christ’s resurrection. Through it we are reborn by the power of the Holy Spirit as your sons and daughters.

With the following words, the Pastor extends a hand over the water.

Now bless this water, we pray, by the power of the Holy Spirit. May it remind us that we have been cleansed from sin and born again into new life, that we may remain faithful until we are united with you in the life to come. **Amen.**

APOSTLES' CREED

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.

CONFIRMAND, FAMILY, SPONSORS COME FORWARD FOR BLESSING

Katie Anderson	Cyntreya Lockett	Emma Stans
Reagan Cheshire	Maria Myhre	Caroline Stumbo
Charlie Fuder	William Ness-Ludwig	Annie Trosvig
Aaron Gothier	Sloanne Petersen	Randi Walls
Kaden Haarstad	Yana Prischmann	Ava Werner
Jack Kuhn	Miah Schmidt	
Kelsy Larson	Solvie Smestad	

BLESSING (said for each confirmand)

Father in heaven, for Jesus' sake, stir up in name the gift of your Holy Spirit; confirm his/her faith, guide her/her life, empower him in his serving, give him/her patience in suffering, and bring him/her to everlasting life. **Amen.**

AFFIRMATION OF UNITY

Let us affirm the unity that comes from our baptism into Christ.

We come out of many traditions. We have confessed many understandings of Baptism: sacrament, symbol, sign. Some of us were baptized before we remember. Others only later when we said, "I believe." Whether immersed, poured upon or sprinkled, it is your action, gracious God, that defines our baptism. Having put off the old nature, we have been clothed with Christ. There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female. For we all are one in Christ Jesus – your sons and daughters through faith, heirs to the promise. Old things have passed away. Behold you make all things new.

The Pastor invites the congregation to touch their water. Dip a finger in the water and place on the head and/or heart with these words.

Remember your baptism and be thankful. **Thanks be to God.**

Let us pray. Gracious God, through water and the Holy Spirit you have made us your sons and daughters, brought us into your church, filled us with your Holy Spirit, and given us your promise of eternal life. Renew in us, your children, the covenant you made with us at our baptism. Stir up in us the power of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

SPECIAL MUSIC

"Here I Am Lord"

SVEA SMESTAD

Dan Schutte

THE PEACE

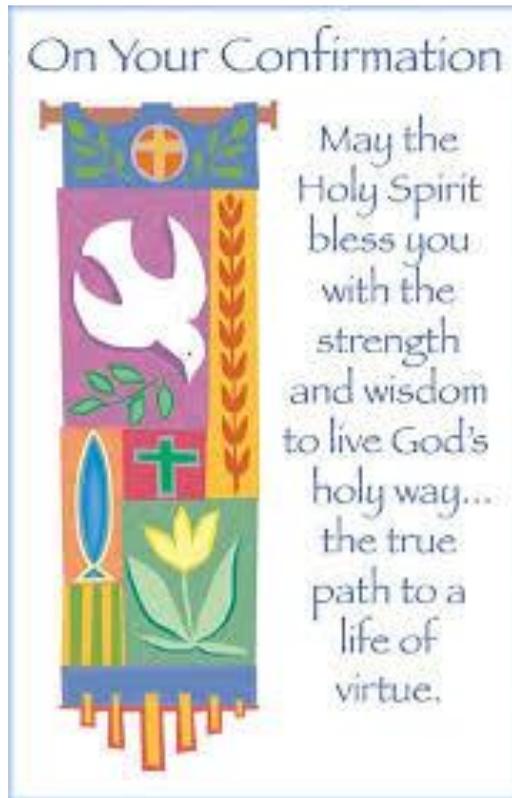
The Peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

BENEDICTION

You are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of the One who called you out of the darkness into marvelous light. Once you were not a people, but now you are the people of God; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy. **Amen.**

POSTLUDE

Thank you to Reagan Cheshire for the cover art on the bulletin.



*Congratulations
Confirmands!*

First Lutheran is proud of you! May God bless you as you continue in your faith journey.

Thank you to the parents, guardians, family, and sponsors for supporting your confirmand in their faith journey.

Many thanks to our Confirmation small group leaders!!

Jeani Trosvig
Jennifer Smestad
Michael Wicklund
Ashley Shuck
Sue Toso
Leslie Flugstad
Dennis Hystead
Elisabeth Abrahams
Vicki Hanneman
Calie Anderson
Jacqueline Ness-Ludwig
Diane Prischmann
Ann Mathison

Thank You to our musicians and sound/camera operators!

*It takes a
village to
raise a child....*

