

CONFIRMATION SUNDAY



First Lutheran Church
Fergus Falls, MN
8TH Grade Class
April 25, 2021



April 25, 2021
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

RINGING OF THE BELL

PROCESSIONAL

We Are Called

HYMN #720

OPENING STATEMENT

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

LITANY FOR AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM

Today we gather in the name of God our creator, Jesus our Savior, and the Holy Spirit our Comforter.

We come to worship God and give thanks for the special gifts we enjoy.

In response to the love of God, together with instruction in the Christian faith, the students gathered before you wish to publicly affirm their baptismal promises.

We rejoice in your desire to make public profession of your faith and assume greater responsibility in the life of the Christian community and its mission in the world.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the Holy Trinity, one God, who forgives our sin, heals every illness, saves us from death, enfolds us with tender care, and crowns us with steadfast love. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

God of abundant mercy, we confess that we are more ready to be forgiven than to forgive others. We hold too closely your gifts to us. We trample your vineyard, our good earth. Have mercy, O God; turn us again to you and toward others; and grant that we may live for you and die in you, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Redeemer and Lord.

God is generous and faithful, forgiving sins without number, welcoming all to the feast, giving us a place among the saints. Through the humble obedience of Christ Jesus, who went to the cross for our sake, you are forgiven and made whole, the spirit of God is at work in you, enabling you to live for one another. **Amen.**

FIRST READING: DEUTERONOMY 30:15-20

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.**

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

KRISTY WICKLUND

SECOND READING: JOHN 14:23-27

²³Jesus answered him, "Those who love me will keep my word, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them. ²⁴Whoever does not love me does not keep my words; and the word that you hear is not mine, but is from the Father who sent me. ²⁵I have said these things to you while I am still with you. ²⁶But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything, and remind you of all that I have said to you. ²⁷Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid. Church, hear what the Spirit is saying. **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

Love the Lord!

PASTOR GRETCHEN ENOCH

HYMN OF THE DAY

O Jesus, I Have Promised

HYMN #810, v.1,4

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.**

PRESENTATION OF THE CONFIRMANDS

Jack Anderson
Julianna Flugstad
Hayden Lappegaard
Darius Lockett
Marcus Maack
Mashayla Mau
Kendal Mouritsen

Andrew Muchow
Michael Schmidt
Jaxon Schmitz
Siiri Smestad
Kaitlyn Stans
Alyssa Wagner

CONFESSION OF FAITH IN THE WORDS OF THE APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again 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.

AFIRMATION OF BAPTISMAL PROMISES

You have made public profession of your faith. Do you intend to continue in the covenant God made with you in your holy baptism: to live among God's faithful people, to hear the Word of God and share in the Lord's supper, to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed, to serve all people, following the example of Jesus, and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth? If so answer, "I do and I ask God to help and guide me."

Confirmands: I do, and I ask God to help and guide me.

People of God, do you promise to support these young people and pray for them in their life in Christ?

We do, and we ask God to help and guide us.

Let us pray. **Merciful God, we thank you for these sisters and brothers, whom you have made your own by water and the Word in baptism. You have called them to yourself, enlightened them with the gifts of your Spirit, and nourished them in the community of faith. Uphold your servants in the gifts and promises of baptism, and unite the hearts of all whom you have brought to new birth. We ask this in the name of Christ. Amen.**

CONFIRMAND BLESSING

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.**

COMMUNION

This is the Lord's Table, all are welcome here. In your home is an ordinary table now set apart and holy, Christ is present there. All are welcome to partake in the Lord's Supper, wherever you may be.

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

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

Holy God, throughout the generations you have come to be present with us at our tables, turning ordinary meals into holy moments for us to experience your grace in tangible ways. In an upper room of a guest house 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.

The body of Christ given for you. *(all share in eating the bread)*

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 blood of Christ shed for you. *(all sharing in drinking of the cup)*

Together as the body of Christ, trusting that the distance that separates us is bridged by the Holy Spirit who makes us one, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes:

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

OFFERING

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

OFFERING PRAYER

As we bring our offerings to you, we give back to you from the abundant blessings you have given us. May our gifts be acceptable in your sight, O Lord our God. Blessing and glory, wisdom and thanksgiving, honor, and power and strength, be unto you our God forever and ever. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord, Amen.

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.

BENEDICTON

God our Father, complete the work you have begun and keep the gifts of your Holy Spirit active in the hearts of your people. Make them ready to live his Gospel and eager to do his will. May they never be ashamed to proclaim to all the world Christ crucified living and reigning forever. The blessing of almighty God the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit rest upon you and remain with you forever. **Amen.**

RECESSIONAL

Lift High the Cross

HYMN #660, v.1,2

POSTLUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS APRIL 25, 2021

The radio broadcast and flowers are sponsored by Augustana Lutheran Church.

Today, Sunday, April 25, our 8th graders will be confirmed at 11:00 am. God's Blessings to the 2021 Class of First Lutheran Confirmands.

We are collecting hygiene items for the Lake Region Halfway Home. Items needed include disposable razors, shaving cream, toothbrush, toothpaste, roll-on deodorant, shampoo & conditioner (or combined), soap, soap box, fingernail clipper, toenail clipper and lotion. There is a collection basket in the Narthex. Thank YOU!

Students entering or continuing a nursing degree program next fall have a scholarship opportunity to pursue through the PioneerCare Auxiliary. Applications are now being accepted for the Lillian Saure Nursing Scholarship, with an application deadline of Saturday, May 15, 2021. Candidates may download the application online at www.pioneercare.org. There are also applications on the counter in the Narthex.

Do you have 1-3 hours a week to share on Tuesday or Thursdays? The Welcome House Thrift Store Needs You! A variety of volunteer opportunities are available such as sorting, organizing, tagging, cleaning, etc. Funds raised from the store help support people in need in the community. For more information on volunteering, stop by the store at 1678 College Way (behind Fleet Farm), call 218-998-4779 or email ffwelcomehouse@gmail.com. Ask for Maria.

Sound/Video Operators Needed! Please contact the church office if you are interested in receiving training to run the sound board or camera during worship! Thank you.

Butterflies Vacation Bible School June 29 from 9:15 to 11:15 am at First Lutheran. For ages 0-5 years old and favorite adult! FREE! We will be outside if possible (inside if it rains). Register on the church website, or pick up registration forms in the Narthex on the counter outside the office window.

Luther Crest Day Camp Vacation Bible School K – 6th Grade (First Lutheran & Augustana combined) June 29 from 9 am to 3:00 pm outside at Augustana Lutheran Church. Free! Register on the First Lutheran website, or pick up registration forms in the Narthex on the counter outside the office window.

Coming up in the next few months:

- May 15 Dairyland Outing for FLY 7-9 from 1 to 2:00 pm, and FLY 10-12 from 2 to 3 pm.
- May 16 at 9:30 am – Senior Recognition Sunday.
- June 11 – Relay for Life. Contact Sue at 218 770-5156 for more information or to join the First Lutheran team.
- June 21 at 5:30 pm – Funeral Planning Workshop. Contact the office if interested.
- June 29 VBS for Butterflies and Luther Crest Day Camp – see announcements above!!