

REDEEMER

LUTHERAN CHURCH

CONFIRMATION SERVICE



Sunday, May 28, 2023
Celebration of Confirmation

Family, friends and guests, today is a special day in the lives of Avonlea, Adriana, Maddy, Trey, Mitchell and Gabe who have prepared themselves for the Rite of Confirmation.

Today they will profess their faith in Jesus and embark upon a special journey in the Church for the remainder of their lives.

As important as today is for them, today can be a day of reflection for all of us. We can take this opportunity to reflect upon the meaning of our own confirmation and how the Spirit has guided us toward a fuller understanding of the Scriptures and how He has guided us toward a more complete participation here at Redeemer Lutheran and the Church at large.

Prelude

#497, Come, Holy Ghost, God and Lord

1 Come, Holy Ghost, God and Lord, With all Your graces now outpoured
On each believer's mind and heart; Your fervent love to them impart.
Lord, by the brightness of Your light In holy faith Your Church unite;
From ev'ry land and ev'ry tongue This to Your praise, O Lord, our
God, be sung: Alleluia, alleluia!

2 Come, holy Light, guide divine, Now cause the Word of life to shine
Teach us to know our God aright And call Him Father with delight.
From ev'ry error keep us free; Let none but Christ our master be
That we in living faith abide, In Him, our Lord, with all
our might confide. Alleluia, alleluia!

3 Come, holy Fire, comfort true, Grant us the will Your work to do
And in Your service to abide; Let trials turn us not aside.
Lord, by Your pow'r prepare each heart, And to our weakness
strength impart That bravely here we may contend, Through life and death to You, our Lord,
ascend. Alleluia, alleluia!

Text: tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt.; (st. 1): German, 15th cent.; (sts. 2-3): Martin Luther, 1483-1546
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P: In the name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: For the times we have had other gods in our lives,

C: and for the times we have trusted in things other than You, forgive us, good Lord.

P: For the times we have misused the name of the Lord,

C: and for the times we have failed to call upon You in prayer, forgive us, good Lord.

P: For the times we have forgotten the Sabbath day,

C: and for the times we have despised the preaching of Your Word, forgive us, good Lord.

P: For the times we have not honored father or mother,

C: and for the times we have failed to respect others in authority, forgive us good Lord.

P: For the times we have murdered,

C: by hurting people in thought, word, and deed, forgive us, good Lord.

P: For the times we have committed adultery,

C: with thoughts and actions unbecoming to Your design for love and marriage, forgive us, good Lord.

P: For the times we have stolen,

C: and for the times we have acted dishonestly, forgive us, good Lord.

P: For the times we have given false testimony,

C: and for the times we have hurt someone's good name, forgive us, good Lord.

P: For the times we have coveted our neighbors' possessions or family members,

C: and for the times we have tried to acquire things not belonging to us, forgive us, good Lord.

P: Upon this, your confession, I, by virtue of my office as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Together, we pray,

C: Gracious Lord, through water and the Spirit You have made us Your own. You have forgiven us all our sins and brought us to newness of life. Continue to strengthen us with the Holy Spirit, and daily increase in us Your gifts of grace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever, Amen.

Children's Time

Lead Me Lord

Voice Choir

Exodus 24: 9-18

Then Moses and Aaron, Nadab, and Abihu, and seventy of the elders of Israel went up, and they saw the God of Israel. There was under his feet as it were a pavement of sapphire stone, like the very heaven for clearness. And he did not lay his hand on the chief men of the people of Israel; they beheld God, and ate and drank. The Lord said to Moses, "Come up to Me on the mountain and wait there, that I may give you the tablets of stone, with the law and the commandment, which I have written for their instruction." So Moses rose with his assistant Joshua, and Moses went up into the mountain of God. And he said to the elders, "Wait here for us until we return to you. And behold, Aaron and Hur are with you. Whoever has a dispute, let him go to them." Then Moses went up on the mountain, and the cloud covered the mountain. The glory of the Lord dwelt on Mount Sinai, and the cloud covered it six days. And on the seventh day He called to Moses out of the midst of the cloud. Now the appearance of the glory of the Lord was like a devouring fire on the top of the mountain in the sight of the people of Israel. Moses entered the cloud and went up on the mountain. And Moses was on the mountain forty days and forty nights.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

In Christ Alone

The Middle Cross

1 Corinthians 13

If I speak in the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. If I give away all I have, and if I deliver up my body to be burned, but have not love, I gain nothing. Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice at wrongdoing, but rejoices with the truth. Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never ends. As for prophecies, they will pass away; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will pass away. For we know in part and we prophesy in part, but when the perfect comes, the partial will pass away. When I was a child, I spoke

like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became a man, I gave up childish ways. For now we see in a mirror dimly, but then face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I have been fully known. So now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; but the greatest of these is love.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

P: The Gospel according to St. John, the 10th Chapter.

C: Glory to You, O Lord.

At that time the Feast of Dedication took place at Jerusalem. It was winter, and Jesus was walking in the temple, in the colonnade of Solomon. So the Jews gathered around Him and said to Him, "How long will You keep us in suspense? If You are the Christ, tell us plainly." Jesus answered them, "I told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in My Father's name bear witness about Me, but you do not believe because you are not part of My flock. My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me. I give them eternal life, and they will never perish, and no one will snatch them out of My hand. My Father, who has given them to Me, is greater than all, and no one is able to snatch them out of the Father's hand. I and the Father are one."

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to You, O Christ.

#709, The King of Love My Shepherd Is

1 The King of love my shepherd is, Whose goodness faileth never; I nothing lack if I am His
And He is mine forever.

2 Where streams of living water flow, My ransomed soul He leadeth And, where the verdant
pastures grow, With food celestial feedeth.

3 Perverse and foolish oft I strayed, But yet in love He sought me And on His shoulder gently
laid And home rejoicing brought me.

4 In death's dark vale I fear no ill With Thee, dear Lord, beside me, Thy rod and staff my
comfort still, Thy cross before to guide me.

5 Thou spreadst a table in my sight; Thine unction grace bestoweth; And, oh, what transport of
delight From Thy pure chalice floweth!

6 And so through all the length of days Thy goodness faileth never; Good Shepherd, may I sing
Thy praise Within Thy house forever!

Text: Henry W. Baker, 1821–77
Text: Public domain

The Sermon *No, Not The No Bueno Road*

The Gathering of our Gifts and Tithes *Jesus Loves Me* Martha Diekelmann

The Rite of Confirmation

#689 [Tune: 527], *Let Me Be Yours Forever*

1 Let me be Thine forever, My faithful God and Lord; Let me forsake Thee never Nor wander
from Thy Word. Lord, do not let me waver, But give me steadfastness, And for such grace
forever Thy holy name I'll bless.

2 Lord Jesus, my salvation, My light, my life divine, My only consolation, O make me wholly
Thine! For Thou hast dearly bought me With blood and bitter pain. Let me, since Thou hast
sought me, Eternal life obtain.

3 And Thou, O Holy Spirit, My comforter and guide, Grant that in Jesus' merit, I always may
confide, Him to the end confessing Whom I have known by faith. Give me Thy constant
blessing And grant a Christian death.

Text: tr. Matthias Loy, 1828–1915, alt.; (st. 1): Nicolaus Selnecker, 1532–92; (sts. 2–3): Gesang-Büchlein, 1688, Rudolstadt
Text: Public domain

Adam: On behalf of the Board of Elders of Redeemer Lutheran Church, we would like share with the congregation that we have reviewed with the confirmands, their studies with Pastor Carney of both the Holy Scriptures and Luther's Small Catechism. It is with great joy that we recommend Adriana, Avonlea, Gabe, Maddy, Mitchell, and Trey for communicant membership.

Adam: Beloved in the Lord, our Lord Jesus Christ said to His apostles, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age."

You have been baptized and catechized in the Christian faith according to our Lord's direction. Jesus said, "Whoever confesses Me before men, I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven. But whoever denies Me before men, I will also deny before My Father who is in heaven."

Lift up your hearts, therefore, to the God of all grace and joyfully give answer to what Pastor will now ask you in the name of Jesus.

P: Do you, in the presence of God, and your family of faith, acknowledge the gifts that God gave you in your Baptism?

R: Yes, I do.

P: Do you renounce the devil?

R: Yes, I renounce him.

P: Do you renounce all his works?

R: Yes, I renounce them.

P: Do you renounce all his ways?

R: Yes, I renounce them.

P: Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty?

R: Yes, I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

P: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord?

R: Yes, I believe in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

P: Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

R: Yes, I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.

P: Do you hold all the prophetic and apostolic Scriptures to be the inspired Word of God?

R: I do.

P: Do you confess the doctrine of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod, drawn from the Scriptures, as you have learned to know it from the Small Catechism, to be faithful and true?

R: I do.

P: Do you intend to hear the Word of God and receive the Lord's Supper faithfully?

R: I do, by the grace of God.

P: Do you intend to live according to the Word of God, and in faith, word, and deed to remain true to God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, even to death?

R: I do, by the grace of God.

P: Do you intend to continue steadfast in this confession and Church and to suffer all, even death, rather than fall away from it?

R: I do, by the grace of God.

Adam: We rejoice with thankful hearts that you have been baptized and have received the teaching of the Lord. You have confessed the faith and been absolved of your sins. As you continue to hear the Lord's Word and receive His blessed Sacrament, He who has begun a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.

R: Amen.

P:, the Almighty God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given you the new birth of water and of the Spirit and has forgiven you all your sins, strengthen you with His grace to life everlasting.

R: Amen.

Blessing with the Confirmation Verse

P: Almighty God, in the waters of Baptism You joined Your children in the suffering and death of Your Son Jesus, cleansing them by His blood. Renew in them the gift of Your Spirit, that they may live in daily contrition and repentance with a faith that ever clings to their Savior. Deliver them from the power of satan and preserve them from false and dangerous doctrines, that they may remain faithful in hearing Christ's Word and receiving His body and blood. By the Lord's Supper strengthen them to believe that no one can make satisfaction for sin but Jesus alone. Enable them to find joy and comfort only in Him, learning from this Sacrament to love You and their neighbor and to bear the cross with patience and joy until the day of the resurrection of their bodies to life immortal; through Jesus, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns

with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever,

C: Amen.

Prayers of His Children

P: Let us pray for those who have recently come to faith, that You would nurture them through the Word; let us pray to the Lord,

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: We pray for those who have had faith in Jesus from their day of Baptism, that You would guide them to fuller service in the Church; let us pray to the Lord,

P: We pray for those who are weary of life's hardships, that You would bring them strength; let us pray to the Lord,

P: We pray for those who are worried, that they would put their trust in You; let us pray to the Lord,

P: We pray for those who have asked us to keep them in prayer.....that You would bring to them healing; let us pray to the Lord,

P: Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy; through Your Son, Jesus, our Lord. **Amen.**

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

The Words of our Lord

P: Together as a family of faith, we pray,

C: LORDS PRAYER

The Distribution of Holy Communion

[The Confirmation students and their families will commune first, then the congregation.]

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The Middle Cross

#744, *Amazing Grace*

sts. 1–5

1 Amazing grace—how sweet the sound— That saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost but now am found, Was blind but now I see!

2 The Lord has promised good to me, His Word my hope secures;
He will my shield and portion be As long as life endures.

3 Through many dangers, toils, and snares I have already come; His grace has brought me safe
thus far, His grace will lead me home.

4 Yes, when this flesh and heart shall fail, And mortal life shall cease, Amazing grace shall then
prevail In heaven's joy and peace.

5 When we've been there ten thousand years, Bright shining as the sun, We've no less days to
sing God's praise Than when we'd first begun.

Text (sts. 1–4): John Newton, 1725–1807, alt.; (st. 5): A Collection of Sacred Ballads, 1790, Richmond
Text: Public domain

#657, *A Mighty Fortress Is Our God*

sts. 1–4

1 A mighty fortress is our God, A sword and shield victorious; He breaks the cruel oppressor's
rod And wins salvation glorious. The old satanic foe Has sworn to work us woe. With craft and
dreadful might He arms himself to fight. On earth he has no equal.

2 No strength of ours can match his might. We would be lost, rejected. But now a champion
comes to fight, Whom God Himself elected. You ask who this may be? The Lord of hosts is He,
Christ Jesus, mighty Lord, God's only Son, adored. He holds the field victorious.

3 Though hordes of devils fill the land All threat'ning to devour us, We tremble not, unmoved
we stand; They cannot overpower us. Let this world's tyrant rage; In battle we'll engage. His
might is doomed to fail; God's judgment must prevail! One little word subdues him.

4 God's Word forever shall abide, No thanks to foes, who fear it; For God Himself fights by our
side With weapons of the Spirit. Were they to take our house, Goods, honor, child, or spouse,
Though life be wrenched away, They cannot win the day. The Kingdom's ours forever!

Text: tr. Lutheran Book of Worship, 1978; Martin Luther, 1483–1546

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#727, *On Eagle's Wings*

1 You who dwell in the shelter of the Lord, Who abide in His shadow for life, Say to the Lord:
“My refuge, My rock in whom I trust!” Refrain

ref And He will raise you up on eagles' wings, Bear you on the breath of dawn, Make you to
shine like the sun, And hold you in the palm of His hand.

2 The snare of the fowler will never capture you, And famine will bring you no fear; Under His
wings your refuge, His faithfulness your shield. Refrain

3 You need not fear the terror of the night, Nor the arrow that flies by day; Though thousands
fall about you, Near you it shall not come. Refrain

4 For to His angels He's given a command To guard you in all of your ways; Upon their hands
they will bear you up, Lest you dash your foot against a stone. Refrain

Text: Michael Joncas, 1951

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A Prayer for all Children

Let us pray... We pray for children who sneak snacks before dinner, who erase holes in their homework, who can never find their shoes when it's time to leave. And we pray for those who stare at photographers from behind barbed wire and bombed out homes, who cannot skip down the street in a new pair of sneakers, who never play video games, who are born in places where we would not go on a dare, who never go out for ice cream, and who live in an X-rated world. We pray for children who give us sticky kisses and fistfuls of Dandelions, who hug us in a hurry and forget their lunch money. And we pray for those who never get dessert, who have no blankie to carry around, who watch their parents watch them die, who cannot find any food to steal, who don't have any rooms to clean up, whose pictures aren't on anybody's refrigerator, and whose monsters are real. We pray for children who spend all their allowance before Tuesday, who throw tantrums in the store, who pick at their food, who like ghost stories, who shove dirty clothes under the bed, who never rinse out the tub, who get visits from the tooth fairy and Easter bunny, who don't like to be kissed in front of their friends, who quietly answer your questions and scream into their phone, whose tears we sometimes cry at and whose smiles can make us laugh. And we pray for those whose nightmares come in the daytime, who will eat anything, who have never been to a dentist, who aren't spoiled by anybody, who go to bed hungry and cry themselves to sleep, who live and move, but have no being. We pray for children who want to be carried and for those who must, who we never give up on, and for those who don't get a second chance. We pray for those we smother with hugs and for those who will grab the hand of anybody kind enough

to offer it. We pray for children who have already, and will, welcome home their proud parents who have served us well in the Armed Forces. And we pray for those children whose Mom or Dad will return home in a flag-draped box. We pray for children who never had to deal with tragedy and loss and we pray for children who live lives where aimless tragedy and violence take those they love, when wrenching loss becomes their daily bread and acts of violence crush their life dreams. We pray for all children, dear Lord. Bless them all. **Amen.**

God's Benediction

#790, Praise To The Lord, The Almighty

790 Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

1 Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation! O my soul, praise Him, for He is your health and salvation! Let all who hear Now to His temple draw near, Joining in glad adoration!

2 Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things is wondrously reigning And, as on wings of an eagle, uplifting, sustaining. Have you not seen All that is needful has been Sent by His gracious ordaining?

3 Praise to the Lord, who has fearfully, wondrously, made you, Health has bestowed and, when heedlessly falling, has stayed you. What need or grief Ever has failed of relief? Wings of His mercy did shade you.

4 Praise to the Lord, who will prosper your work and defend you; Surely His goodness and mercy shall daily attend you. Ponder anew What the Almighty can do As with His love He befriends you.

5 Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me adore Him! All that has life and breath, come now with praises before Him! Let the Amen Sound from His people again;
Gladly forever adore Him!

Text: Joachim Neander, 1650–80; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.
Text: Public domain

Postlude