

*Fifth Sunday of Easter
Confirmation*

May 7, 2023

10:00 am



<https://www.ourglobetrotters.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/Travel-Tip-s-Feeding-Infants-Bottle-Fed.jpg>

PRESERVICE MUSIC “Praise to the Lord, the Almighty” & “Christ Be My Leader” (*arr. Manz*)

A Reminder: Please be respectful to our brothers and sisters who use the time prior to worship for quiet meditation on God's Word. - Thank you

AS WE GATHER

Family, friends and guests: Today is a special day in the lives of those who have prepared themselves for the Rite of Confirmation. Today they will profess their faith in Jesus Christ and embark upon a special journey in the Church for the remainder of their lives. As important as this day is for them, this day can be a day of reflection for all of us. We can take this opportunity to reflect upon the meaning of our own confirmation experience and how the Holy Spirit has guided us toward a fuller understanding of the Scriptures and how He has guided us toward a more complete participation in this congregation and the Church at large.

605 FATHER WELCOMES

Refrain Father welcomes all His children
 To His fam'ly through His Son.
 Father giving His salvation,
 Life forever has been won.

- 1 Little children, come to Me,
 For My kingdom is of these.
 Life and love I have to give,
 Mercy for your sin. **Refrain**
- 2 In the water, in the Word,
 In His promise, be assured:
 Those who are baptized and believe
 Shall be born again. **Refrain**
- 3 Let us daily die to sin;
 Let us daily rise with Him,
 Walk in the love of Christ our Lord,
 Live in the peace of God. **Refrain**

Text: Robin Mann, 1949

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MEMORY VERSE OF THE MONTH

Faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ. *Romans 10:17*

INVOCATION

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
G Amen.

BAPTISM

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

- P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
G **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

(Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.)

P Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

C **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

BEHOLD OUR GOD

Who has held the oceans in His hands? Who has numbered every grain of sand?
Kings and nations tremble at His voice. All creation rises to rejoice.

CHORUS

Behold our God, seated on His throne. come, let us adore Him.

Behold our King, nothing can compare, come, let us adore Him!

Who has given counsel to the Lord? Who can question any of His words?

Who can teach the One who knows all things? Who can fathom all His wondrous deeds? **CHORUS**

Who has felt the nails upon His hands, bearing all the guilt of sinful man?

God eternal, humbled to the grave, Jesus, Savior, risen now to reign! **CHORUS**

BRIDGE:

You will reign forever! (Let Your glory fill the earth)

You will reign forever! (Let Your glory fill the earth)

You will reign forever! (Let Your glory fill the earth)

You will reign forever! (Let Your glory fill) **CHORUS TWICE**

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SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray. O God, You make the minds of Your faithful to be of one will. Grant that we may love what You have commanded and desire what You promise, that among the many changes of this world our hearts may be fixed where true joys are found; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

FIRST READING

Acts 6:1–9; 7:2a, 51–60

¹Now in these days when the disciples were increasing in number, a complaint by the Hellenists arose against the Hebrews because their widows were being neglected in the daily distribution. ²And the twelve summoned the full number of the disciples and said, "It is not right that we should give up preaching the word of God to serve tables. ³Therefore, brothers, pick out from among you seven men of good repute, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we will appoint to this duty. ⁴But we will devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word." ⁵And what they said pleased the whole gathering, and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, and Philip, and Prochorus, and Nicanor, and Timon, and Parmenas, and Nicolaus, a proselyte of Antioch. ⁶These they set before the apostles, and they prayed and laid their hands on them. ⁷And the word

of God continued to increase, and the number of the disciples multiplied greatly in Jerusalem, and a great many of the priests became obedient to the faith. ⁸And Stephen, full of grace and power, was doing great wonders and signs among the people. ⁹Then some of those who belonged to the synagogue of the Freedmen (as it was called), and of the Cyrenians, and of the Alexandrians, and of those from Cilicia and Asia, rose up and disputed with Stephen. . . . ²And Stephen said: “Brothers and fathers, hear me. . . . ⁵¹You stiff-necked people, uncircumcised in heart and ears, you always resist the Holy Spirit. As your fathers did, so do you. ⁵²Which of the prophets did not your fathers persecute? And they killed those who announced beforehand the coming of the Righteous One, whom you have now betrayed and murdered, ⁵³you who received the law as delivered by angels and did not keep it.” ⁵⁴Now when they heard these things they were enraged, and they ground their teeth at him. ⁵⁵But he, full of the Holy Spirit, gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. ⁵⁶And he said, “Behold, I see the heavens opened, and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God.” ⁵⁷But they cried out with a loud voice and stopped their ears and rushed together at him. ⁵⁸Then they cast him out of the city and stoned him. And the witnesses laid down their garments at the feet of a young man named Saul. ⁵⁹And as they were stoning Stephen, he called out, “Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.” ⁶⁰And falling to his knees he cried out with a loud voice, “Lord, do not hold this sin against them.” And when he had said this, he fell asleep.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE

1 Peter 2:2–10

²Like newborn infants, long for the pure spiritual milk, that by it you may grow up to salvation— ³if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good. ⁴As you come to him, a living stone rejected by men but in the sight of God chosen and precious, ⁵you yourselves like living stones are being built up as a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. ⁶For it stands in Scripture: “Behold, I am laying in Zion a stone, a cornerstone chosen and precious, and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.” ⁷So the honor is for you who believe, but for those who do not believe, “The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone,” ⁸and “A stone of stumbling, and a rock of offense.” They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do. ⁹But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. ¹⁰Once you were not a people, but now you are God’s people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM “Gracious Spirit, Dwell With Me” (*arr. Parrish*) *Junior Choir & Chimes*

HOLY GOSPEL

John 14:1–14

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the fourteenth chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹[Jesus said:] “Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. ²In my Father’s house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? ³And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also. ⁴And you know the way to where I am going.” ⁵Thomas said to him, “Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?” ⁶Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. ⁷If you had known me, you would have known my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.” ⁸Philip said to him, “Lord, show us the Father, and it is enough for us.” ⁹Jesus said to him, “Have I been with you so long, and you still do not know me, Philip? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, ‘Show us the Father’? ¹⁰Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own authority, but the Father who

dwells in me does his works. ¹¹Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me, or else believe on account of the works themselves. ¹²“Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever believes in me will also do the works that I do; and greater works than these will he do, because I am going to the Father. ¹³Whatever you ask in my name, this I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. ¹⁴If you ask me anything in my name, I will do it.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

861 CHRIST BE MY LEADER

- 1 Christ be my Leader by night as by day;
Safe through the darkness, for He is the way.
Gladly I follow, my future His care,
Darkness is daylight when Jesus is there.
- 2 Christ be my Teacher in age as in youth,
Drifting or doubting, for He is the truth.
Grant me to trust Him; though shifting as sand,
Doubt cannot daunt me; in Jesus I stand.
- 3 Christ be my Savior in calm as in strife;
Death cannot hold me, for He is the life.
Nor darkness nor doubting nor sin and its stain
Can touch my salvation: with Jesus I reign.

Text: Timothy Dudley-Smith, 1926

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SERMON “I Hope You Are Hungry” 1 Peter 2:2-10

826 HARK, THE VOICE OF JESUS CRYING

- 1 Hark, the voice of Jesus crying,
“Who will go and work today?
Fields are white and harvests waiting—
Who will bear the sheaves away?”
Loud and long the Master calleth;
Rich reward He offers thee.
Who will answer, gladly saying,
“Here am I, send me, send me”?
- 2 If you cannot speak like angels,
If you cannot preach like Paul,
You can tell the love of Jesus,
You can say He died for all.
If you cannot rouse the wicked
With the judgment's dread alarms,
You can lead the little children
To the Savior's waiting arms.

3 If you cannot be a watchman,
 Standing high on Zion's wall,
Pointing out the path to heaven,
 Offering life and peace to all,
With your prayers and with your bounties
 You can do what God commands;
You can be like faithful Aaron,
 Holding up the prophet's hands.

4 Let none hear you idly saying,
 "There is nothing I can do,"
While the multitudes are dying
 And the Master calls for you.
Take the task He gives you gladly,
 Let His work your pleasure be;
Answer quickly when He calleth,
 "Here am I, send me, send me!"

Text (sts. 1–2, 4): Daniel March, 1816–1909, alt.; (st. 3): unknown, alt.
Text: Public domain

+RITE OF CONFIRMATION+

INTRODUCTION, QUESTIONING, and AFFIRMATION OF HOLY BAPTISM

(Drawn from the Six Chief Parts)

Pastor: What is Baptism?

Confirmands: *Baptism is not just plain water, but it is the water included in God's command and combined with God's Word.*

People: 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. *Matthew 28:19*

Pastor: What benefits does Baptism give?

Confirmands: *It works forgiveness of sins, rescues from death and the devil, and gives eternal salvation to all who believe this.*

People: Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned. *Mark 16:16*

Pastor: How can water do such great things?

Confirmands: *Baptism is a life-giving water, rich in grace, and a washing of the new birth in the Holy Spirit.*

People: He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit, whom He poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that, having been justified by His grace, we might become heirs having the hope of eternal life. *Titus 3:5-8*

Pastor: What does such baptizing with water indicate?

Confirmands: *The Old Adam in us should by daily contrition and repentance be drowned and die with all sins and evil desires, and that a new man should daily emerge and arise to live before God in righteousness and purity forever.*

People: We were therefore buried with Him through Baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life. *Romans 6:4*

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

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

Pastor: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son?

Confirmands: *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.*

Pastor: Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

Confirmands: *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.*

THE SOLEMN VOWS

The Solemn Vows of the Parents

Pastor: These promises which you have heard from the lips of your children need your continued guidance and support. Therefore, I ask you, will you continue to guide and direct, support and encourage your child in your words, in your deeds and in your example?

Parents: **Yes, with the help of God!**

The Solemn Vows of the Sponsors

Pastor: Years ago, you were chosen to serve as sponsors for these confirmands when they were baptized. Through the years you have assisted the parents in bringing up their children in the Christian faith. We commend you for carrying out your responsibility so faithfully. However, these young people need your continued support. Therefore, I ask you, will you continue to encourage, strengthen, and pray for these confirmands, that they may continue to grow in the Christian faith?

Sponsors: **Yes, with the help of God!**

The Solemn Vows of the Congregation

Pastor: The promises made by these youth and parents, these adults and sponsors, are difficult to fulfill. They need God's help, and our prayers and encouragement. Since the best encouragement is a good example, let us join together as we stand and pray:

People: **Give us strength, O God, to set a good example for these confirmands by using God's Word daily in our homes, by worshiping regularly in church, and by receiving Holy Communion frequently. Give us the power to live a more spiritual life, that we may grow more and more like Christ. We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.**

THE BLESSING OF THE CATECHUMINS

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

After each petition, please respond with the following:

P Let us pray to the Lord,

C **Lord, have mercy.**

At the end of the prayer:

C Amen.

BENEDICTION

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.

C **Amen.**

837 LIFT HIGH THE CROSS

Refrain Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim
Till all the world adore His sacred name.

- 1 Come, Christians, follow where our Captain trod,
Our king victorious, Christ, the Son of God. **Refrain**
- 2 Led on their way by this triumphant sign,
The hosts of God in conqu'ring ranks combine. **Refrain**
- 3 All newborn soldiers of the Crucified
Bear on their brows the seal of Him who died. **Refrain**
- 4 O Lord, once lifted on the glorious tree,
As Thou hast promised, draw us all to Thee. **Refrain**
- 5 Let ev'ry race and ev'ry language tell
Of Him who saves our lives from death and hell. **Refrain**
- 6 So shall our song of triumph ever be:
Praise to the Crucified for victory! **Refrain**

Text: George W. Kitchin, 1827–1912; rev. Michael R. Newbolt, 1874–1956, alt.

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POSTLUDE “Hornpipe” (*arr. Handel*)**ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

Divine Service, Setting One from Lutheran Service Book

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Congregation at Prayer and Devotions for the Week

Invocation In the name of the Father, and of the Son ✠ , and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Introit (found on front page)

Catechism Review (found on front page)

Meditation: Portals of Prayer, www.lhm.org/dailydevotions, Other

Daily Scripture Readings

Sunday: Leviticus 20:1-16, 22-27; Luke 11:37-54

Monday: Leviticus 21:1-24; Luke 12:1-12

Tuesday: Leviticus 23:1-22; Luke 12:13-34

Wednesday: Leviticus 23:23-44; Luke 12:35-53

Thursday: Leviticus 24:1-23; Luke 12:54-13:17

Friday: Leviticus 26:1-20; Luke 13:18-35

Saturday: Leviticus 26:21-33, 39-44; Luke 14:1-24

In Our Prayers This Week (as of Thursday morning)

Herb, health issues

Scott, recovery

Diane, recovery

Jack, ongoing health issues

Lauren's mother, Phyllis

Shirley, health issues

Don, health issues

Georgia, recovery

Jim, recovery

Tom, cancer

Lauren, cancer

Judi and Don

Mike's mother - Jean, health issues

Floyd, health issues

Jerry, health issues

Jean, health issues

Sidney, granddaughter of Steinke's with medical issues

For our confirmands: Samantha, Naomi, and Emily

For those who mourn the evil in our world, that God's comfort and peace may point them to the hope of the resurrection.

For those with hearts where evil dwells, that God's kingdom would come and rule over their life.

Our Savior Families: Jacob & Family, Kirk & Family, Rick & Ann, Holly

William, a child with leukemia

Sally, recovery

Pierce, an infant with leukemia

Georgia, recovery

Margo, health issues

Erin, healing and strength

Blake

Nate, cancer

Jim, Parkinson's

Steve, Guillain-Barre Syndrome

Lynn, recovery

Rick, cancer

Jean, recovery

Lisa, health issues

Krystal, healing

Karen, recovery

Hymn of the Week "Church of God, Elect and Glorious" LSB 646

Collect (found on front page)

Apostles' Creed, Lord's Prayer, Benediction