

CONFIRMATION CEREMONY
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2020 – 2:00 P.M.

LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

RINGING OF THE BELL

WELCOME

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

“My Hope is Built on Nothing Less”

LSB 575

- 1 My hope is built on nothing less
 Than Jesus’ blood and righteousness;
 No merit of my own I claim
 But wholly lean on Jesus’ name. **Refrain**

Refrain

On Christ, the solid rock, I stand;
All other ground is sinking sand.

- 2 When darkness veils His lovely face,
 I rest on His unchanging grace;
 In ev’ry high and stormy gale
 My anchor holds within the veil. **Refrain**

- 3 His oath, His covenant and blood
 Support me in the raging flood;
 When ev’ry earthly prop gives way,
 He then is all my hope and stay. **Refrain**

- 4 When He shall come with trumpet sound,
 Oh, may I then in Him be found,
 Clothed in His righteousness alone,
 Redeemed to stand before His throne! **Refrain**

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INVOCATION

P: In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

RESPONSIVE READING from PROVERBS

Leader: Hear God's Word to our Confirmands taken from the Book of *Proverbs, chapters 1-4*:

Pastor and Congregation:

My children, if you accept My words and store up My commands within you, turning your ear to wisdom and applying your heart to understanding, then you will understand the fear of the LORD and find the knowledge of God.

Confirmands, Parents, and Sponsors:

For the LORD gives wisdom, and from His mouth comes knowledge and understanding.

Pastor and Congregation:

Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding;

Confirmands, Parents, and Sponsors:

In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make your paths straight.

Pastor and Congregation:

Listen, My children, to a Father's instruction; pay attention and gain understanding. I give you sound learning, so do not forsake My teaching. Lay hold of My words with all your heart; keep My commands and you will live.

Confirmands, Parents, and Sponsors:

Hold on to instruction, do not let it go; guard it well, for it is your life.

Pastor and Congregation:

Do not set foot on the path of the wicked or walk in the way of evil men.

Confirmands, Parents, and Sponsors:

Avoid it, do not travel on it; turn from it and go on your way.

Pastor and Congregation:

Above all else, guard your heart, for it is the wellspring of life.

CONFESSION

Leader: Let us, together, make confession of our sins to our Heavenly Father.

People: **Have mercy on me, O God, according to Your unfailing love; according to Your great compassion blot out my transgressions. Wash away all my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin. For I know my transgressions, and my sin is always before me. Surely You desire truth in the inner parts; You teach me wisdom in the inmost place. Cleanse me with hyssop, and I will be clean; wash me, and I will be whiter than snow. Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me. (from Psalm 51)**

Leader: The LORD works righteousness and justice for all the oppressed. He made known His ways to Moses, His deeds to the people of Israel: The LORD is compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, abounding in love. He will not always accuse, nor will He harbor His anger forever; He does not treat us as our sins deserve or repay us according to our iniquities. For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is His love for those who fear Him; as far as the east is from the west, so far has He removed our transgressions from us. *(from Psalm 103)*

People: **Praise the LORD, O my soul!**

ABSOLUTION

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 the Word, and by His authority, I therefore announce the grace of God to you that your sins are forgiven in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

SHARING GOD'S PEACE

HYMN OF PRAISE (*Sung*)

“This is the Feast”

LSB p. 155

This is the feast of victory for our God.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God.

This is the feast of victory for our God.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Power, riches, wisdom and strength, and honor, blessing, and glory are His.

This is the feast of victory for our God.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation. Blessing, honor, glory, and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.

This is the feast of victory for our God.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

For the Lamb who was slain has begun His reign. Alleluia.

This is the feast of victory for our God.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

FIRST READING*James 1: 2 - 12*

Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing. If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him. But let him ask in faith, with no doubting, for the one who doubts is like a wave of the sea that is driven and tossed by the wind. For that person must not suppose that he will receive anything from the Lord; he is a double-minded man, unstable in all his ways. Let the lowly brother boast in his exaltation, and the rich in his humiliation, because like a flower of the grass¹ he will pass away. For the sun rises with its scorching heat and withers the grass; its flower falls, and its beauty perishes. So also will the rich man fade away in the midst of his pursuits. Blessed is the man who remains steadfast under trial, for when he has stood the test he will receive the crown of life, which God has promised to those who love him.

SECOND READING*Ephesians 2: 8 - 10*

For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

GOSPEL READING*Matthew 16: 24 - 28*

Then Jesus told his disciples, "If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. For whoever would save his life² will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it. For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world and forfeits his soul? Or what shall a man give in return for his soul? For the Son of Man is going to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay each person according to what he has done. Truly,

I say to you, there are some standing here who will not taste death until they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom.”

HYMN OF THE DAY

“A Mighty Fortress Is Our God”

LSB 656

A mighty fortress is our God,
A trusty shield and weapon;
He helps us free from ev'ry need
That hath us now o'ertaken.
The old evil foe
Now means deadly woe;
Deep guile and great might
Are his dread arms in fight;
On earth is not his equal.

With might of ours can naught be done,
Soon were our loss effected;
But for us fights the valiant One,
Whom God Himself elected.
Ask ye, Who is this?
Jesus Christ it is,
Of Sabaoth Lord,
And there's none other God;
He holds the field forever.

Though devils all the world should fill,
All eager to devour us,
We tremble not, we fear no ill;
They shall not overpower us.
This world's prince may still
Scowl fierce as he will,
He can harm us none.
He's judged; the deed is done;
One little word can fell him.

The Word they still shall let remain
Nor any thanks have for it;
He's by our side upon the plain
With His good gifts and Spirit.
And take they our life,
Goods, fame, child, and wife,
Though these all be gone,
Our vict'ry has been won;
The Kingdom ours remaineth.

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SERMON

SOLO

“Holy Spirit”

*Holy Spirit living Breath of God
Breathe new life into my willing soul
Let the presence of the risen Lord
Come renew my heart and make me whole
Cause Your word to come alive in me
Give me faith for what I cannot see
Give me passion for Your purity
Holy Spirit breathe new life in me*

*Holy Spirit come abide within
May Your joy be seen in all I do
Love enough to cover ev'ry sin
In each thought and deed and attitude
Kindness to the greatest and the least
Gentleness that sows the path of peace
Turn my strivings into works of grace
Breath of God show Christ in all I do*

*Holy Spirit from creation's birth
Giving life to all that God has made
Show Your power once again on earth
Cause Your church to hunger for Your ways
Let the fragrance of our pray'rs arise
Lead us on the road of sacrifice
That in unity the face of Christ
May be clear for all the world to see*

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RITE OF CONFIRMATION

CONFIRMATION VOWS

LSB p. 272

Leader: 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 bidding. 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 I now ask you in the name of the Lord.

Leader: Do you this day in the presence of God and of this congregation acknowledge the gifts that God gave you in your Baptism?

Confirmands: Yes, I do.

Leader: Do you renounce the devil?

Confirmands: Yes, I renounce him.

Leader: Do you renounce all his works?

Confirmands: Yes, I renounce them.

Leader: Do you renounce all his ways?

Confirmands: Yes, I renounce them.

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

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

Leader: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

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.**

Leader: 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.**

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

Confirmands: **I do.**

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

Confirmands: **I do.**

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

Confirmands: **I do, by the grace of God.**

Leader: 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?

Confirmands: **I do, by the grace of God.**

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

Confirmands: **I do, by the grace of God.**

Leader: 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.

Confirmands: Amen.

THE BLESSING OF THE CONFIRMANDS

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

LORD'S PRAYER

ALL:

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

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

L: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me." In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

DISMISSAL AND 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. (*Spoken*)

RECESSIONAL HYMN

“Christ Is Our Cornerstone”
LSB 912

1 Christ is our cornerstone,
On Him alone we build;
With His true saints alone
The courts of heav’n are filled.
On His great love
Our hopes we place
Of present grace
And joys above.

2 Here may we gain from heav’n
The grace which we implore,
And may that grace, once giv’n,
Be with us evermore
Until that day
When all the blest
To endless rest
Are called away.

3 Oh, then, with hymns of praise
These hallowed courts shall ring;
Our voices we will raise
The Three in One to sing
And thus proclaim
In joyful song,
Both loud and long,
That glorious name.

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POSTLUDE

SERVING THE LORD IN OUR WORSHIP SERVICE:

SOLOIST: *Joanna Eden*

ORGAN: *Julie Sawusch*

SOUNDBOARD & PROJECTION: *Chris Errera*

SPEAKER: *Reverend Jerry D. Hays*

LITURGIST: *Reverend Greg Hintz*

THE CONFIRMATION CLASS OF 2020

Madeline Bracci

Eric Carpenter

Olivia Ceryance

Ava Eklund

Matthew Eden

Jaclyn Hoffman

Zach Kaspari

Katie Martin

Nicholas Martinez

Otto Megger

Olivia Mickelson

Lyla Miltz

Emma Nelson

Kaylin Prouza

Bryce Schoo

Emma Schultz

Peiten Steinbrenner

Violet Wojkowski