

CONCORDIA LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Welcome!

Welcome in the name of our gracious Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. As we assemble to welcome these young people into communicant membership, we pray that you may be reminded of the holy covenant which God made with you at the time of your Baptism and which you publicly acknowledged at the time of your confirmation. May you, then, be led to rededicate yourself to our merciful Savior, Jesus Christ.

Prayer for Parents of Confirmands

Dear Lord, this day brings joy into our hearts and homes. We thank you for the covenant You made with us and our children in Holy Baptism. You have brought our children through the study of Your Word to know the meaning of Baptism, to stand before the world and confess Your name as the only true God, in whom we have life eternal. You have blessed us with a Christian home. For all of this we thank You. We are grateful also for our church, our congregation, our pastors, and teachers who have helped us in teaching our children Your Word. We are thankful, too, for the sponsors who have assisted us in our responsibility.

Equip us all our days for the demands of a bold and constant Christian witness. Renew us each day, along with our child in baptismal grace, so that we honor Your holy name and praise it forever, O Holy Trinity. Amen.

The Confirmands & their Parents

Tanner Brooks Anderson, son of Lane & Debbie Anderson
Dustin Thomas Atkins, son of Dan & Rose Atkins
Justin Lee Bauder, son of Bob Bauder & Lori Burch
Marissa Lynn Bauder, daughter of Bob Bauder & Lori Burch
Laura Rose Bradfield, daughter of Doug & Mary Beth Bradfield
Trevor Hart Davis, son of Kelley Davis
Matthia Elizabeth Marie Duryea, daughter of Chris & Rebecca Duryea
Conner Hugh Herbison, son of Gregg & Sandy Herbison
Ryan Mark Hogrefe, son of Andy & Sandra Hogrefe
Kyle William Kounovsky, son of Bart & Nancy Kounovsky
John Daniel McKenna, son of Dan & Teri McKenna
Randall Lee Nelson, son of Brad & Deb Nelson
Christian Taylor Pettigrew, son of Terry & Janell Pettigrew

Andrew Joseph Ruff, son of Jeff & Lisa Ruff
Brittany Crystal Ryan, daughter of Pat & Tammy Ryan
Hope Ashley Scott, daughter of Hugh & Debbie Scott
Jade Taylor Shevling, son of Bob & Shelli Shevling
Keenan Cyril Starbuck, son of Cy & Donna Starbuck
Elaina Lynn VandeVelde, daughter of Terry VandeVelde

The Rite of Confirmation

Though not a sacrament, it is a solemn rite of great importance to these young people. Here publicly they renew their Baptismal vows and pledge loyalty under the blessing of the Holy Spirit, to the saving faith they received through Baptism.

Confirmation Banner

The confirmation banner is a tradition at Concordia, symbolizing the transition of our children from members to communicant members. The background is white symbolizing the risen Christ and the verse the class used this year is from 1 Corinthians 13. Their motto is: Love equals our class. Be sure to look at their great banner.

The Public Confession of Faith

Christians should be ready at all times to give an account of their faith, not only to the unbeliever but also to fellow believers for the up-building of faith. In the witness and confession these young people make this morning, they are calling you also to reaffirm and receive strengthening for your faith and witness through the Holy Spirit.

The Laying on of Hands (The Blessing)

As each confirmand kneels, the pastor lays his hand on the head of the Confirmand and solemnly blesses them and recites a passage from Scripture, chosen by the pastor to guide the individual's life in the future. In this way the Confirmands are given a general and a special blessing, pronounced by the pastor in the name of the Church and their Lord.

The Candle

The large candle at the center of the altar is the Christ candle, symbolizing Christ who said, "I am the Light of the world." The other candles represent each of the confirmands. On the candle is the youth's name, date of baptism and date of confirmation. They receive their light from Him and take it out to shine in the world.



CONFIRMATION WORSHIP SERVICE

March 20, 2005

10:45 AM

Please rise, turn and face the Processional Cross (in the rear) as it is brought forward, representing Jesus Christ coming into our midst.

PROCESSIONAL HYMN "All Glory Laud and Honor" [LW 102]

Refrain: All Glory, laud, and honor
To You, Redeemer, King,
To Whom the lips of children
Made sweet hosannas ring.

You are the King of Israel
And David's royal Son,
Now in the Lord's name coming,
Our King and Blessed One. REFRAIN:

The company of angels
Are praising You on high;
Creation and all mortals
In chorus make reply. REFRAIN:

The multitude of pilgrims
With palms before You went,
Our praise and prayer and anthems
Before You we present. REFRAIN:

THE PREPARATION

Pastor: We meet in the power of our Baptism.

People: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Pastor: Today we hear the witness of the Confirmation Class, and welcome them as communicant members, brothers, and sisters in Christ.

People: May their witness lead us to reaffirm our own Christian faith.

Pastor: But first let us join our voices in lauding and magnifying God's glorious name, as we sing praises to honor Him and adore Him.

HYMN OF PRAISE “All Glory Laud and Honor” [LW 102]

To You before Your passion,
They sang their hymns of praise.
To You, now high exalted,
Our melody we raise. REFRAIN:

Their praises You accepted;
Accept the prayers we bring,
Great author of all goodness,
O good and gracious King. REFRAIN:

Pastor: O Almighty God, we have often failed to recall our Baptismal covenant.

People: Lord, have mercy on us.

Pastor: We confess as parents and sponsors of these confirmands, that sometimes we have been negligent in our efforts, to surround them with Your Word and a godly example.

People: Lord, forgive us.

Pastor: We confess we have not always carried out our responsibilities to the best of our ability. We are sorry for any offense we have given by word and deed.

People: Spare us, good Lord.

Pastor: We confess that we have not prayed as often and as fervently as we should for these young Christians.

People: Lord, have mercy on us, and grant us your forgiveness, as we remember our Baptism.

Pastor: With joy, then, in the fellowship of Christ, and with gladness of heart, I announce to you the forgiveness of your sins, in the name of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

People: Amen.

THE PRAYER

Pastor: Almighty God on this Palm Sunday, we remember that Your Son Jesus Christ rode into Jerusalem as the people shouted their praises. May our hearts be open to Your Spirit that we, too, welcome Jesus as our Savior and King.

People: Amen.

(sit)

Epistle.....Philippians 2:5-11

Children's Choir..... "Trust" [Scripture Song Medley]
soloists: Tanner Anderson & Matthia Duryea, Kyle Kounovsky Narr.

Holy Gospel.....Matthew 21:1-9

HYMN..... **"Let Us Ever Walk With Jesus"**

Let us ever walk with Jesus,
Follow His example pure,
Through a world that would deceive us
And to sin our spirits lure.
Onward in His footsteps treading,
Pilgrims here, our home above,
Full of faith and hope and love,
Let us do our Father's bidding,
Faithful Lord, with me abide;
I shall follow where You guide.

Let us suffer here with Jesus
And with patience bear our cross.
Joy will follow all our sadness;
Where He is, there is no loss.
Though today we sow no laughter,
We shall reap celestial joy;
All discomforts that annoy
Shall give way to mirth here after.
Jesus, here I share Your woe;
Help me there Your joy to know.

Let us gladly die with Jesus.
Since by death He conquered death,
He will free us from destruction,
Give to us immortal breath.
Let us mortify all passion
That would lead us into sin;
Then by grace we all may win
Untold fruits of His creation.
Jesus, unto You I die,
There to live with You on high.

Let us also live with Jesus.
He has risen from the dead
That to life we may awaken.
Jesus, since You are our head,

We are Your own living members;
Where You live, there we shall be
In Your presence constantly,
Living there with You forever.
Jesus, let me faithful be,
Life eternal grant to me.

THE SERMON..... “Reaching Home” Mark 3:13

THE OFFERING..“Shout to the Lord” arr. by Sherman- Handbells

THE CHOIR ANTHEM..... “Children of God”-Adult Choir
(written by Luther Berntson to the tune of “Morning has Broken”)

THE RITE OF CONFIRMATION/AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM

Commending of Parents and Sponsors

(parents and sponsors please stand)

Pastor: The Church commends you for your faithfulness in the Christian training of these young men and women. Since their Baptism, you have prayed for them, brought them to God’s house for worship, and have insured that they were taught the essentials of the Christian faith. Though today they make public confession of their faith, your prayers and encouragement remain important to them. Will you continue in fervent prayer for them, and, as it is appropriate, support them in their Christian faith and life?

Parents & Sponsors: Yes, with the help of God and each other.

(parents and sponsors may be seated)

Pastor: Beloved in the Lord, our Lord Jesus Christ said, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to Me. 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 and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I will be with you to the very end of the age.”

You have been taught the faith according to our Lord’s command. We now celebrate with thankful hearts and rejoice to confess the faith into which you were baptized and which you yourselves will now confess before the Church.

Jesus said, "Whoever confesses Me before men, I will confess him before My Father in heaven."

Lift up your hearts therefore to the God of all grace and joyfully give answer to what, in the name of the Lord and as minister of His Church, I will now ask you.

Pastor: Do you this day in the presence of God and of this congregation acknowledge the grace and gifts which God gave you in your Baptism?

Confirmands: I do.

Pastor: Do you reject the devil and all his works and all his ways?

Confirmands: I do.

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 God 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.

Pastor: 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 so intend with the help of God.

Pastor: Do you hold all the books of the Bible to be the inspired Word of God and confess the doctrine of the Lutheran Church, drawn from them, as you have learned to know it, to be faithful and true?

Confirmands: I do.

Pastor: Do you desire to be a member of the Lutheran Church and of Concordia congregation?

Confirmands: I do.

Pastor: Do you intend faithfully to conform all your life to the divine Word, to be faithful in the use of God's Word and Sacraments which are His means of grace; and in faith, word, and action to remain true to God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, even to death?

Confirmands: I do so intend by the grace of God.

Pastor: Give then your hand as a pledge of your promise, and kneel to receive the blessing.

The Blessing of Each Confirmand

The Welcome to the Confirmands

THE SOLEMN VOW OF THE CONGREGATION

Pastor: We have just heard these young Christians give their promises, but since these are difficult promises to fulfill, our confirmands need, besides God's help and grace, and besides their parent's support, also our prayers and encouragement. And since a good example is the best encouragement, let us all at this time renew our promise of faithfulness.

People: On this day, in the presence of God, I reaffirm my promise:
...to make diligent use of the Bible in private and public worship.
...to attend the Lord's Supper frequently, for the strengthening of my faith, and the forgiveness of my sins.
...to witness for Christ in all I do or say, because He has called me out of darkness into His marvelous light.
...to seek the company and companionship of fellow Christians, and work with them in the task of spreading the gospel of Jesus Christ.
...to live every day as though Jesus died yesterday, rose today, and is coming back tomorrow.
...to lay my sins on Jesus, the spotless Lamb of God, and daily repent of the evil I have done, and the good that I have failed to do.
...to look forward in faith to my Lord's return, when He shall take me and all believers, to Himself in heaven.

Pastor: With this as our pledge, now let us go to the Lord in prayer.

People: O Lord, our God, give us strength to set a good example, by using God's word daily in our homes, by worshipping regularly in church, and by receiving Holy Communion

frequently. Give us the power to live a more spiritual life,
and to grow more and more like Christ our beautiful Savior.
Amen.

(sit)

THE CONFIRMATION SONG..... “My Confirmation Day”
(sung to the tune of “The Church’s One Foundation”)

*Great God, enthroned in splendor,
And majesty on high,
Who holy angels render;
Loud praises as they fly.
On shining wings around Thee,
Oh bless me Lord I pray
That with Your grace may crowned be,
My Confirmation Day!*

*Oh, heavenly Father bless me,
With Your sustaining love.
I as Your child address Thee,
My gracious God above.
Your own You did create me,
Your counsels to obey.
And so I dedicate Thee,
My Confirmation Day!*

*Oh, Jesus who did save me,
And cleanse my soul from sin
I on my heart embrace Thee,
A new life to begin.
I vow before Your altar,
Let me if I should stray,
Remember when I falter,
My Confirmation Day!*

*Oh, Holy Spirit hallow,
My body, mind and soul.
Grant me to see how shallow,
Is every earthly goal.
How empty earthly pleasure,
How fast it fades away.
Grant me till death to treasure,
My Confirmation Day!*

*Oh, Father, Son and Spirit,
This prayer I raise to Thee.
In tender mercy hear it,
And granted may it be.
In all of my behavior,
Oh, may I ne'er betray,
My faith, my church, my Savior,
My Confirmation Day!*

THE PRAYERS

THE LORD'S PRAYER

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

HYMNS DURING DISTRIBUTION

"Come, O, Almighty King" LW 169

"Praise to the Lord, the Almighty" LW 444

"Christ Be My Leader" LW 365

"Sent Forth By God's Blessing" LW 247

THE BLESSING

Pastor: Go out into the world in peace. Be strong and of good courage, for Christ has overcome the world. Hold fast to everything that is good; reject all that is evil. Love and serve the Lord, rejoice in the power of the Holy Spirit.

People: God alone will be our strength.

Pastor: May God be...above you to bless you; beneath you to uphold you; around you to protect you; within you to sanctify you; and before you to guide you. And may God Almighty, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit be with you always.

People: Amen.

CLOSING HYMN..... "Go My Children"

*Go, My children, with My blessing,
Never alone;
Waking, sleeping I am with you,
You are My own.
In My love's baptismal river,
I have made you Mine forever.
Go, My children, with My blessing,
You are My own.*

**Go, My children, sins forgiven,
At peace and pure,
Here you learned how much I love you,
What I can cure;
Here you heard My dear Son's story,
Here you touched Him, saw His glory,
Go, My children sins forgiven,
At peace and pure.**

**Go, My children, fed and nourished,
Closer to Me;
Grow in love and love by serving,
Joyful and free.
Here My Spirit's power filled you,
Here His tender comfort stilled you;
Go, My children, fed and nourished,
Joyful and free.**

**I the Lord will bless and keep you,
And give you peace,
I the Lord will smile upon you,
And give you peace,
I the Lord will be your Father,
Savior, Comforter and Brother;
Go, My children, I will keep you,
And give you peace.**

Holy Week Services

Maundy Thursday, March 24 7pm

Good Friday, March 25, 7pm

NO service on Saturday March 26

Easter Sunday Services

6:30 am Sunrise Communion Service

8:00 am Worship Service

10:45 am Worship Service

*Easter breakfast will be served
from 7:30 to 10:30am*

Come and Worship with Us.