

CONFIRMATION SUNDAY

May 29th, 2022, 10:00 AM

As we Gather We come together to praise God, to hear the Word, and to witness the miracle of the faith passed from one generation to the next. Through the Sacrament of Baptism, we are initiated into Christ's Holy Church. We are incorporated into God's mighty acts of salvation and given new birth through water and the Spirit. All this is God's gift, offered to us without price. Through Confirmation, we remember and renew the promise declared at our baptism, acknowledge what God is doing for us, and affirm our faith in Christ and our commitment to His holy church. We welcome you to this service and invite you to join with our confirmands in this profession of faith.

THE LORD'S SUPPER The Apostle John writes, "This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us" – I John 3:16. St. Paul reminds us, "Whenever you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes" – I Corinthians 11:26. Therefore, by God's definition, our reception of Holy Communion is a proclamation of God's love for us in Christ Jesus. That love is so amazing that Jesus' true Body and Blood of the New Covenant are present in the Sacrament and whose blessings of forgiveness, life and salvation are received through faith. This is a meal for those who comprehend the mystery of the Supper through instruction in God's Word and who can then publicly confess their unity of faith with us at the altar. Having been instructed in God's Word, today, our Confirmands celebrate the Lord's Supper with us for the first time and join us in proclaiming Jesus's death – God's love for us. We invite you to do the same. However, if you are not a member of one of our sister congregations, please speak with Pastor before communing. We truly want you to receive the Sacrament to your benefit and God's glory!



Processional Hymn: Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty *LSB 901*

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION – LSB Page 184

SERVICE OF THE WORD – LSB Page 186

Introit *Ps. 119:1-3, 9-13, 105-106; antiphon: Ps. 119:160*

All your words are true;*

all your righteous laws are eternal.

Blessed are those whose ways are blameless,*

who walk according to the law of the LORD.

Blessed are those who keep his statutes and seek him with all their heart*

they do no wrong but follow his ways.

How can a young person stay on the path of purity?*

By living according to your word.

I seek you with all my heart;*

do not let me stray from your commands.

I have hidden your word in my heart*

that I might not sin against you.

Praise be to you, Lord; teach me your decrees.*

With my lips I recount all the words that come from your mouth.

Your word is a lamp for my feet,*

a light on my path.

I have taken an oath and confirmed it,*

that I will follow your righteous laws.

Sung: Glory be to the Father and to the Son

and to the Holy Ghost;

as it was in the beginning, is now,

and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

All your words are true;*

all your righteous laws are eternal.

Kyrie and Gloria in Excelsis

Salutation and Collect of the Day

All: Gracious God, as we gather this day to witness and celebrate the rite of confirmation, touch us all again with the grace of our baptism. Give us new lives for old, new spirits, new faith, and new commitment, in place of all that has grown tired and stale and dead in our lives. Renew in us a heart for Christ, dedication to the work for his church, and love for each other in Christ, who lives and reign with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

Sit - Old Testament Reading

1 Samuel 3:1-10

¹ Now the boy Samuel was ministering to the LORD in the presence of Eli. And the word of the LORD was rare in those days; there was no frequent vision. ² At that time Eli, whose eyesight had begun to grow dim so that he could not see, was lying down in his own place. ³ The lamp of God had not yet gone out, and Samuel was lying down in the temple of the LORD, where the ark of God was.

⁴ Then the LORD called Samuel, and he said, "Here I am!" ⁵ and ran to Eli and said, "Here I am, for you called me." But he said, "I did not call; lie down again." So he went and lay down. ⁶ And the LORD called again, "Samuel!" and Samuel arose and went to Eli and said, "Here I am, for you called me." But he said, "I did not call, my son; lie down again." ⁷ Now Samuel did not yet know the LORD,

and the word of the LORD had not yet been revealed to him. ⁸ And the LORD called Samuel again the third time. And he arose and went to Eli and said, "Here I am, for you called me." Then Eli perceived that the LORD was calling the boy. ⁹ Therefore Eli said to Samuel, "Go, lie down, and if he calls you, you shall say, 'Speak, LORD, for your servant hears.'" So Samuel went and lay down in his place. ¹⁰ And the LORD came and stood, calling as at other times, "Samuel! Samuel!" And Samuel said, "Speak, for your servant hears."

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Epistle

2 Timothy 3:1-5, 14-17

¹ Understand this, that in the last days there will come times of difficulty. ² For people will be lovers of self, lovers of money, proud, arrogant, abusive, disobedient to their parents, ungrateful, unholy, ³ heartless, unforgiving, slanderous, without self-control, brutal, not loving good, ⁴ treacherous, reckless, conceited, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God, ⁵ having the appearance of godliness, but denying its power. Have nothing to do with such people. ... ¹⁴ But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have become convinced of, because you know those from whom you learned it, ¹⁵ and how from infancy you have known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. ¹⁶ All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting, and training in righteousness, ¹⁷ so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Stand – The Alleluia – LSB Page 190

Holy Gospel

John 17:20-26

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

C **Glory be to Thee, O Lord.**

(Jesus Said) ²⁰ "My prayer is not for them alone. I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message, ²¹ that all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me, and I am in you. May they also be in us so that the world may believe that you have sent me. ²² I have given them the glory that you gave me, that they may be one as we are one – ²³ I in them and you in me – so that they may be brought to complete unity. Then the world will know that you sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me. ²⁴ "Father, I want those you have given me to be with me where I am, and to see my glory, the glory you have given me because you loved me before the creation of the

world. ²⁵ “Righteous Father, though the world does not know you, I know you, and they know that you have sent me. ²⁶ I have made you known to them, and will continue to make you known in order that the love you have for me may be in them and that I myself may be in them.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise be to Thee, O Christ.**

THE NICENE CREED – LSB Page 191

Sit - Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation *LSB 909*

READING OF CONFIRMATION ESSAYS (see page 6)

THE SERMON- “Jesus’ Prayer for You” John 17:20-26

OFFERTORY

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P: For our congregations, their mission and their people; for the ability to meet the needs that arise as we do the work God has given us to do; and for the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace, let us pray to the Lord:

C: Lord, have mercy.

(Additional Petitions are Prayed)

P: All these things and whatever else You know that we need, grant us, Father, for the sake of Him who died and rose again and now lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God forever.

C: Amen.

Sit - O Gracious Lord, with Love Draw Nea *LSB 599*

Sung to the Melody for “Ride On, Ride On in Majesty”

RITE OF CONFIRMATION - LSB Page 272

Alyson Marie Baehnman’s Confirmation verse: “For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the Lord, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future”. Jeremiah 29:11

Baptismal Date: May 18, 2008

Mariah Anneatte Baehnman’s Confirmation Verse: Be content with what you have, because God has said, “Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you.” Hebrews 13:5

Baptismal Date: September 27, 2009

Rylan James Konen's Confirmation Verse: Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go." Joshua 1:9

Baptismal Date: January 13, 2008

Sophia Nora Jo McCoy's Confirmation Verse: I know whom I have believed, and I am convinced that he is able to guard until that day what has been entrusted to me. 2 Timothy 1:12

Baptismal Date: March 2, 2008

Olivia Marie Schneider's Confirmation Verse: For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. Romans 1:16

Baptismal Date: March 9, 2008

Alivia Jo Zastrow's Confirmation Verse: And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose. Romans 8:28

Baptismal Date: July 13, 2008

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT - LSB Page 194

Distribution – After the pastor and the Elder are communed, the Confirmands and their families come to the Altar to receive Communion. It is then distributed to those who come forward to receive it.

Draw Near and Take the Body of the Lord LSB 637

Jesus Comes Today with Healing LSB 620

At the Lamb's High Feast, We Sing LSB 633

Stand - Nunc Dimittis - LSB Page 199

Thanksgiving, Post Communion Collect, Benediction

Sit –

Recessional Hym: Go My Children with My Blessing LSB 922

Officiant: Rev. Wayne Schwanke

Organist: Chris Cutts

Elder: Bob Boelter

Processional Cross: Esther Mundschau



Congratulations to our Christ Lutheran Confirmation Students! God's blessings to upon their journey with Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior that was started on the day of their baptisms and has continued to their Confirmation TODAY! Congratulations to them as they have confirmed their Christian faith that God gave to them in their baptism!

Why Is It Necessary for Jesus to Be True God and True Man?

By Alyson Baehnman

Jesus being True God and True Man is one of the most important truths to learn when you are learning about God. God is the most important Being on this planet and in all the universe. His son Jesus Christ is just as important as God Himself because of the Holy Trinity. Jesus is the Son of God which makes Him True God. But Jesus also needs to be a true man, so in this paper I will explain how He needs to be both True God and True Man.

On the sixth day God created man. Genesis 1:27 says, "So God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created them, male and female He created them." In this Bible verse it tells us that God created man in His own image. God created us holy, like Himself, without sin, and we were never supposed to sin. Adam and Eve ate the Forbidden Fruit that God told them not to eat, which destroyed the image of God in them and for all of us. Ever since that day, everyone in the world has sinned.

Jesus, the Son of God, was then born from Mary. Matthew 2:1-2 says. "Now when Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the King, behold there came wise men from the east to Jerusalem. Saying, Where is he that is born King of the Jews? For we have seen his star in the east and come to worship him." Jesus came into the world as a human to help people in so many ways. Despite all the temptations He went through He still believed in God the Father and cherished every moment on earth. Jesus had to be a true man because He had to go through the pain and suffering that people go through. He had to live, feel, and be tempted as we are and then to die to take away our sins.

The reason why Jesus needs to be True God is because He needs to bear the weight of God's anger on his shoulders and to restore our righteousness and life. The weight of the sin that Jesus bears on His shoulders is unbelievably heavy. All the weight of sins we have done that we know of and that we don't know of, all add up. Only True God could carry the weight and punishment of all those sins. Being a True Man made it possible for Him to die on a cross, that is the main reason why Jesus came into this world. In the end Jesus died for our sins so we all can be saved. The love that God has for us in Jesus is magnificent, which is one of the reasons why we should stick with our faith all throughout our life.

What is the Difference Between Law and Gospel?

By Mariah Baehnman

What is the difference between the Law and the Gospel? The difference between Law and Gospel is that the Law describes what God requires from us. The Gospel describes what God provides for us so that we may live.

What does God teach and do in the Law? In the Law, God commands good works of thoughts, words, and actions, and condemns and punishes sin. Mark 12:30-31 says "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength... You shall love your neighbor as yourself". This Bible verse tells us the key parts of what the Law is and how we meet the requirements God has given us.

What does God teach and do in the Gospel? The Gospel is the good news of our salvation. In Jesus Christ God gives forgiveness, faith, life, and the power to please Him with good works. John 3:16 says, "God so loved the world that he gave His only son, That whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life." This Bible verse tells us exactly what the Gospel means and what God has done for us.

There are so many examples and things that can tell you about the difference between the Law and the Gospel. The Law is the Ten Commandments. It has all the things that God wants us to do and not to do. If we don't break the Commandments, we would be perfect. But nobody is perfect and that is why we sin, that is why Jesus Christ died on the cross for us. Also, God has those Laws for a good reason. The Gospel on the other hand tells us what God has done for us. For example,

God has sent His only Son, Our Lord, to die on the cross. He did that so we would be forgiven for our sins.

Two of my favorite Bible passages for Gospel are Matthew 9:2 (“Some people brought a paralytic to Him, lying on a bed. And when Jesus saw their faith, He said to the paralytic, ‘Take heart, my son; your sins are forgiven’”) and Isaiah 44:22 (“I have blotted out your transgressions like a cloud and your sins like mist; return to Me, for I have redeemed you”). They both talk about God’s love for us and what our Savior did to save us from sin. Two of my favorite Bible passages for Law are Revelation 3:19 (“Those whom I love, I reprove and discipline, so be zealous and repent”) and Romans 3:20 (“For by works of the law no human being will be justified in His sight, since through the law comes knowledge of sin”). These tell us and show us our sin and our need for a Savior. These are just some of the Bible passages that there are about Law and Gospel.

There are also examples of written Gospel. The Gospel of John, the Gospel of Matthew and the Gospel of Mark. You also can’t forget about the examples of the Law like, “You shall have not other Gods before Me; You shall not steal; You shall not murder.” These are just some of the different examples of Law and Gospel. Law and Gospel have two different purposes to them, however both are equally important for us.

My question was, “What is the difference between Law and Gospel?” The difference again is that the Law is what God requires from us and the Gospel is what He did for us. But, just because they are different doesn’t mean that they are not equally important.

Are Idols Still A Problem Today?

By Rylan Konen

Idols have always been around and even today, they still exist. An idol is not just bowing down to statues or praying to trinkets like most people think they are. An idol is when something or someone becomes more important to us than God. Deuteronomy 27:15 says, “Cursed be the man who makes a carved or cast metal image, an abomination to the Lord, a thing made by the hands of a craftsman, and sets it up in secret.” An idol does not have to be a physical object. Some examples of modern-day idols are our identity, entertainment, or material things.

Our identity could possibly be one of the biggest idols worshiped today. Whether it be our skills, jobs, achievements, goals, or anything else that can be used as an identity, many have their identity in the wrong thing. Some people have abandoned Christ and placed their identity in these things, many have their identity in the wrong thing, so they forget about Christ. When we place our identity in God, we can live in freedom. Our identity might not be the physical object that we usually connect to idolatry, but it still can be an idol. Many have placed more value in who they are than in God.

Another example of a modern idol is material things. Material things can be represented by money. You do not need to have a lot of money for it to be an idol. Money by itself would not be an idol, but money can become an idol when we use it improperly and how we view it. Money is a tool. Like any other tool, when used wrongly it can cause damage. Using money improperly would be when people trust it to provide for them, care for them, and protect them. But God already does all of this for us.

Idols have been around for a very long time and even today, they still exist. Modern day idols can be different from idols of ancient times but still they are a problem. Modern day idols can be things like our identity or material things. Deuteronomy 7:25 says, “The carved images of their gods you shall burn with fire. You shall not covet the silver or the gold that is on them or take it for yourselves. Lest you be ensnared by it, for it is an abomination to the Lord your God.” Because we think of idols as an ancient way of worshiping gods, we tend to miss modern day idols like our identity.

Define Faith as a Relationship

By Sophia McCoy

Faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see. By Faith we understand that the universe was formed at God’s command, so that what is seen was not made out of what was visible. For example, By Faith Noah, when warned about things not seen yet, in holy fear built an ark to save his family. He became the heir of righteousness that is in keeping with faith. Doing so, he used his faith and was able to save his family relationship.

In Mark 11:22-24 it reads, And Jesus answered them, “Have faith in God. Truly, I say to you, whoever says to this mountain, ‘Be taken up

and thrown into the sea' and does not doubt in his heart, but believes that what he says will come to pass, it will be done for him. Therefore, I tell you, whatever you ask in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours." If you have faith and trust in God, there will be great outcomes. Faith is not always seen but can be heard. In 2 Corinthians 5:7 we are reminded that "we walk by faith, not by sight." God will guide our path for us.

Having faith in God is a very important aspect of life. As your faith grows so does your relationship with God. You need to be able to put your faith and trust into God so He can show you the correct path of life. If you don't have faith in God your relationship is not there. God also gives you the relationship of your parents, through them they help guide you on your journey. Your parents are the ones who first introduced you to faith so that way you could have the opportunity to build your relationship with God. To be able to put trust into God is very important part of your relationship.

I put my faith and trust in God to guide and lead me on the correct path, to be able to build up our relationship with not only our parents, friends, other family but also with Him. Your relationship is created by faith, if you don't have faith, you won't have a relationship. I have faith in God to wash away my sins and all of my wrongdoings so I can continue to learn and grow. I put my trust in God to help me make the correct decisions. I have faith that God will continue to take care of me, heal me when I am sick and show me the true meaning of our relationship. There are many ways you could define faith as a relationship, but Faith is the confidence in what we hope for and the assurance about what we do not see. (Hebrews 11:1)

Why Is Attending Worship So Important to My Faith?

By Olivia Schneider

As a Christian, attending worship is very important to your faith. The first reason is that in order to have a relationship with God you need to talk to Him, simply to be closer to Him, and to learn all that our beloved Triune God has done for us. These are just some of the reasons why attending worship is so important to a Christian's faith.

A big part of confirmation class this year was about our relationship with God, it helped me realize how important it is to form that relationship and also how to strengthen it. In Luke 10:27 it states,

“And he answered, ‘You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your souls and all your strength and with all your mind, and your neighbor as yourself.’” This means that we should have a strong relationship with God, that we should love Him more than anything and love Him with all that we have. Another reason worship is so important to attend is to simply be closer to God.

In order to be closer to someone, you need to communicate with them, spend time with them, and understand them, which is exactly what is done during church service. In James 4:8, it boldly states, “Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded.” As close as we get to God, He is always as close to us as we are to Him. One last reason that worship services are so important is to learn and know all things God has done for us.

God has truly made all that we have, including ourselves, and even gave us Jesus, who died for our sins. In John 3:16, John the Apostle says, “For God so loved the world, that He gave His only Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.” This explains that even after God gave us everything we have, He continued to give and gave His only Son that would die for everyone else’s sins. Another example is in Psalm 50:15, it says, “Call on Me in the day of trouble; I will deliver you, and you will honor Me.” This simply means that in any time of trouble we can call on God, and He will help us, and in return, we only have to honor Him.

Attending worship services is a key part of a Christian’s faith. First of all, a relationship needs to be built with God, just to be close to Him, and to learn all of the amazing things He has done for this world.

How Will People Know I Am A Christian?

By Alivia Zastrow

The question that I have been given is “How will people know I am a Christian?” The Bible gives us many examples of how to be a Christian. In Acts we hear about the first time the disciples were called Christians. “...So for a whole year Barnabas and Saul met with the church and taught great numbers of people. The disciples were called Christians first at Antioch.” Acts 11:26. To be a Christian is to teach about Jesus, believe in Jesus and commit your life to Christ.

So how will people know that I am a Christian? One way that people will know that I am a Christian is that I bring my friends to church to share the news about Jesus. A few weeks ago, I brought a couple friends to church, and one had never been to a church service before. When my family went to Communion, one of my friends leaned over to me and said, “Alivia, do you think you can bring me to church every Sunday? It makes me forget about my troubles and everything.” To me, sharing the good news about Jesus with friends and family is one way people will know I am a Christian.

Another Bible verse that shares with us how to be a Christian is found in the gospel of John. John 3:16 states, “For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.” As a Christian, I do believe in God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. To believe in Him and follow in His ways will show others that I am a Christian.

Two more ways that people will know I am a Christian is to lead a life like Jesus did. 1 Thessalonians 5:11 says, “Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing.” Each day, I can build up my friends and family, care for them and be like Jesus. Colossians 3:23 states, “Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for me.” To be a Christian is to do everything for the glory of the Lord, not to try to make others happy. I can show others I am Christian by choosing to do things that honor God and not follow others when poor choices are being made.

The way that people will know I am a Christian is that I will share the good news about Jesus with others, believe in Jesus and follow in His ways.

