

May God the Father,
God the Son,
& God the Spirit,
three in One,



Preserve you
blameless till in grace
You stand before His holy face.

Peace Evangelical Lutheran Church

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The confirmation of a young adult is a great opportunity for everyone to examine their own faith and knowledge of God's Word.

As young people are confirmed in the Christian faith, we are encouraged by them. May young and old always remain faithful to their confirmation vow in which they promise, with the Lord's help, to stand firm in the Christian faith. My prayer is that God would help all of us to faithfully and regularly use His Word and Sacraments for the strengthening of our faith until death, at which time we receive the goal of our faith, eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Welcome



Confirmation

A student of the Bible's public confession of faith.

Pastor: We worship the God who created faith in our hearts through His Word and the Sacraments, and enables us to be faithful all our lives; the only true God; Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.

Responsive Reading from Psalms 25 & 143

P: O Lord, remember Your great mercy and love, for they are from of old, from ancient times.

C: **Do not remember the sins of my youth and my rebellious ways; according to Your love remember me, for You are good, O Lord.**

P: Show me Your way, O Lord, teach me Your path;

C: Guide me in Your truth and teach me, for You are God my Savior, and my hope is in You all day long.

P: Teach me to do Your will, for You are my God,

C: May Your good Spirit lead me on level ground.



The Sacrament of Holy Baptism

The Sacrament of Entry into the Christian Church

P: First, what is Baptism?

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

P: Christ our Lord says in the last chapter of Matthew: "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." (*Matt. 28:19*)

P: Second, what benefits does Baptism give?

C: It works forgiveness of sins, rescues from death and the devil, and gives eternal salvation to all who believe this, as the words and promises of God declare.

P: Christ our Lord says in the last chapter of Mark: "Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned." (*Mark 16:16*)

P: Third, how can water do such great things?

C: Certainly not just water, but the word of God in and with the water does these things, along with the faith which trusts this word of God in the water.

P: For without God's word the water is plain water and no Baptism. But with the word of God it is a Baptism, that is, a life-giving water, rich in grace, and a washing of the new birth in the Holy Spirit,

as St. Paul says in Titus, chapter three: "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. This is a trustworthy saying." (*Titus 3:5-8*)

P: Fourth, what does such baptizing with water indicate?

C: It indicates that 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.

P: St. Paul writes in Romans chapter six: "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." (*Rom. 6:4*)



Use of the Keys & Confession

Confessing our Sins and Receiving Forgiveness

P: First: What is the use of the Keys?

C: The use of the Keys is that special power and right which Christ gave to His Church on earth, to forgive the sins of penitent sinners, but to refuse forgiveness to the impenitent as long as they do not repent.

P: Second: How does a Christian congregation use the Keys?

C: A Christian congregation with its called pastor uses the Keys in accordance with Christ's command by forgiving those who repent of their sins and are willing to amend, and by excluding from the congregation those who are plainly impenitent that they may repent. We believe that, when this is done, it is as valid and certain in heaven also, as if Christ, our dear Lord, dealt with us Himself.

P: God tells us to do this in John 20:22-23 and Matthew 18:18.
What is confession?

C: Confession has two parts. The one is that we confess our sins; the other that we receive absolution or forgiveness from the pastor as from God Himself, not doubting but firmly believing that our sins are thus forgiven before God in heaven.

P: Confession- Second: What sins should we confess?

C: Before God, we should plead guilty of all sins, even those we are not aware of, as we do in the Lord's Prayer. But before the pastor we should only confess those sins which we know and feel in our hearts.

P: Confession- Third: How can we recognize these sins?

C: Consider my place in life according to the Ten Commandments. Am I a father, mother, son, daughter, employer or employee? Have I been disobedient, unfaithful or lazy? Have I hurt anyone by word or deed? Have I been dishonest, careless, wasteful or done other wrong?



The Ten Commandments

A Mirror, Curb, and Guide for our Lives

P: The First Commandment: You shall have no other gods.

C: What does this mean? We should fear, love, and trust in God above all things.

P: The Second Commandment: You shall not misuse the name of the LORD your God.

C: What does this mean? We should fear and love God so that we do not curse, swear, use satanic arts, lie, or deceive by His name, but call upon it in every trouble, pray, praise, and give thanks.

P: The Third Commandment: Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy.

C: What does this mean? We should fear and love God so that we do not despise preaching and His Word, but hold it sacred and gladly hear and learn it.

P: The Fourth Commandment: Honor your father and your mother.

C: What does this mean? We should fear and love God so that we do not despise or anger our parents and other authorities, but honor them, serve and obey them, love and cherish them.

P: The Fifth Commandment: You shall not murder.

C: What does this mean? We should fear and love God so that we do not hurt or harm our neighbor in his body, but help and support him in every physical need.

P: The Sixth Commandment: You shall not commit adultery.

C: What does this mean? We should fear and love God so that we lead a sexually pure and decent life in what we say and do, and husband and wife love and honor each other.

P: The Seventh Commandment: You shall not steal.

C: What does this mean? We should fear and love God so that we do not take our neighbor's money or possessions, or get them in any dishonest way, but help him to improve and protect his possessions and income.

P: The Eighth Commandment: You shall not give false testimony against your neighbor.

C: What does this mean? We should fear and love God so that we do not tell lies about our neighbor, betray him, slander him, or hurt his reputation, but defend him, speak well of him, and explain everything in the kindest way.

P: The Ninth Commandment: You shall not covet your neighbor's house.

C: What does this mean? We should fear and love God so that we do not scheme to get our neighbor's inheritance or house, or get it in a way which only appears right, but help and be of service to him in keeping it.

P: The Tenth Commandment: You shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or his manservant or maidservant, his ox or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.

C: What does this mean? We should fear and love God so that we do not entice or force away our neighbor's wife, workers, or animals, or turn them against him, but urge them to stay and do their duty.

P: What does God say about all these commandments?

C: He says, "I, the LORD your God, am a jealous God, punishing the children for the sin of the fathers to the third and fourth generation of those who hate Me, but showing love to a thousand generations of those who love Me and keep My commandments." (Ex. 20: 5-6)

P: What does this mean? God threatens to punish all who break these commandments. Therefore, we should fear His wrath and not do anything against them. But He promises grace and every blessing to all who keep these commandments. Therefore, we should also love and trust in Him and gladly do what He commands.

C: Confession- Fourth: How will the pastor assure a penitent sinner of his forgiveness?

P: *He will say, as I declare to you now: According to the command of our Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.*





The Apostles' Creed

Confessing what we believe about the Triune God

I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

**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 is seated at the right hand
of God the Father almighty.**

From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

**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. Amen.**

Rite of Confirmation and Exhortation to Parents



Holy Communion

The Sacrament of the Altar

P: What is the Sacrament of the Altar?

C: It is the true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ under the bread and wine, instituted by Christ Himself for us Christians to eat and to drink.

P: The holy Evangelists Matthew, Mark, Luke, and St. Paul write: 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."

P: What is the benefit of this eating and drinking?

C: These words, "Given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins," show us that in the Sacrament forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation are given us through these words. For where there is forgiveness of sins, there is also life and salvation.

P: How can bodily eating and drinking do such great things?

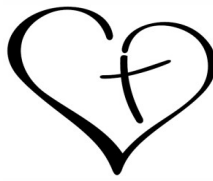
C: Certainly not just eating and drinking do these things, but the words written here: "Given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins." These words, along with the bodily eating and drinking, are the main thing in the Sacrament. Whoever believes these words has exactly what they say: "forgiveness of sins."

P: Who receives this sacrament worthily?

C: Fasting and bodily preparation are certainly fine outward training. But that person is truly worthy and well prepared who has faith in these words: "Given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins." But anyone who does not believe these words or doubts them is unworthy and unprepared, for the words "for you" require all hearts to believe.

Distribution of the Sacrament





The Lord's Prayer

The Prayer of all Prayers - A Model for all our Prayer Requests

P: Let us pray that prayer which Jesus taught us.

C: Our Father in heaven.

P: With these words, dear God, You tenderly invite us to believe that You are our true Father and that we are Your true children, so that we may pray to You as boldly and confidently as dear children ask their dear father.

C: Hallowed be Your name.

P: O Lord, Your name is certainly holy by itself, but we pray in this petition that we too may keep it holy. We do this when Your Word is taught in its truth and purity, and we as children of God lead holy lives according to it. Help us to do this, dear Father in heaven! But whoever teaches and lives contrary to God's Word dishonors God's name among us. Keep us from doing this, dear Father in heaven!

C: Your kingdom come.

P: Gracious Lord, Your kingdom certainly comes by itself even without our prayer, but we pray in this petition that it may come to us and to many others. Therefore, heavenly Father, please give us Your Holy Spirit, so that by His grace we believe Your holy Word and lead a godly life now on earth and forever in heaven.

C: Your will be done on earth as in heaven.

P: Lord God, Your good and gracious will certainly is done without our prayer, but we pray in this petition that it may be done among us also. Please do this by breaking and defeating every evil plan and purpose of the devil, the world and our sinful flesh, which try to prevent us from keeping Your name holy and letting Your kingdom come. Please also do this by strengthening and keeping us firm in Your Word, and in the faith as long as we live.

C: Give us today our daily bread.

P: Generous Father, You surely give us daily bread without our asking, even to all the wicked, but we pray in this petition that You would lead us to realize this, and to receive with thanksgiving our daily bread; including such things as food and drink, clothing and shoes, house and home, fields and flocks, money and goods, a godly family, good workers, good government, honest leaders, good citizens, good weather, peace and order, health, a good name, loyal friends and good neighbors.

C: Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us.

P: Merciful God, we pray in this petition that You would not look upon our sins or because of them deny our prayers; for we are worthy of none of the things for which we ask, neither have we deserved them, but we ask that You would give them all to us by grace; for we daily sin much and surely deserve nothing but punishment. In the same way, help us forgive from the heart and gladly do good to those who sin against us.

C: Lead us not into temptation.

P: Loving Savior, You surely tempt no one to sin, but we pray in this petition that You would guard and keep us, so that the devil, the world and our flesh may not deceive us or lead us into false belief, despair and other great and shameful sins; and though we are tempted by them, we pray that we may overcome and win the victory.

C: But deliver us from evil.

P: Almighty King, we pray in this petition that You would deliver us from every evil that threatens body and soul, property and reputation, and finally when our last hour comes, grant us a blessed end and graciously take us from this world of sorrow to Yourself in heaven.

C: For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are Yours now and forever.

P: Dear Father in heaven, we can be sure that these petitions are acceptable to You and are heard by You, for You Yourself have commanded us so to pray, and have promised to hear us.

C: Therefore we say, "Amen - Yes, it shall be so!"

Prayer

Blessing

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look on you with favor and (+) give you peace.

C: Amen



THE CONFIRMAND

Benjamin Edward Sigourney

My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me.

I give them eternal life, and they will never perish.

No one will snatch them out of my hand.

John 10:27-28



Ben has made public confession of his faith in the Lord Jesus Christ today. He has expressed the joy he has as a forgiven child of God with the sure hope of eternal life, not by his own doing, but because of God's great love for him. Upon completion of 3 years of study from the Bible and Luther's Catechism, this young adult has been welcomed as communicant member of Peace Evangelical Lutheran Church, and the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS). He has taken a solemn oath before God, his family, and the members of this congregation to remain faithful to the Lord and to treasure the truths of the Bible for as long as he lives.

Ben: the Lord's richest blessings to you. May you continue to grow in faith as you study God's Word every day and regularly worship in His house.