



God's love, Our service.

St. Mark's Lutheran Church

Sunday, May 7, 2023

Fifth Sunday of Easter

Confirmation Sunday

INTRODUCTION

As we continue to celebrate the fifty days of Easter, today's gospel includes Jesus' promise that he goes to prepare a place for his followers in his Father's house. Our baptism commissions us to share Jesus' mission in the world. As 1 Peter reminds us, we are a holy people, called to proclaim the one who called us out of darkness into light. In words and deeds we bear witness to the risen Christ—our way, our truth, our life.

EASTER PROCLAMATION

Christ is Risen! Christ is Risen Indeed!

Christ is Risen! Christ is Risen Indeed!

Christ is Risen! Christ is Risen Indeed! Alleluia!

WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS

The May Noisy Offering collection will be announced next week.



PROCESSIONAL HYMN ELW 380, vs. 1 & 2

Hallelujah! Jesus Lives!

- 1 Hallelujah! Jesus lives!
He is now the Living One;
from the gloomy halls of death
Christ, the conqueror, has gone,
bright forerunner to the skies
of his people, yet to rise.
- 2 Jesus lives! Why do you weep?
Why that sad and mournful sigh?
Christ who died our brother here
lives our brother still on high,
lives forever to bestow
blessings on his church below.

Text: Carl B. Garve, 1763-1841; tr. Jane L. Borthwick, 1813-1897, alt.

Greeting page 138

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

KYRIE Pg.138

HYMN OF PRAISE page 140

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty God,

your Son Jesus Christ is the way, the truth, and the life. Give us grace to love one another, to follow in the way of his commandments, and to share his risen life with all the world, for he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

CARILLON RINGERS "Hymn of Promise" arranged by Martha Lynn Thompson

First Reading: Acts 7:55-60

Stephen was one of the seven men chosen by the apostles to serve tables so that the apostles could be free to serve the word (Acts 6:1-6). Stephen does more than distribute food, however. For his preaching of God's word, he becomes the first martyr of the faith.

⁵⁵Filled with the Holy Spirit, [Stephen] gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. ⁵⁶"Look," he said, "I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!" ⁵⁷But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. ⁵⁸Then they dragged him out of the city and began to stone him; and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul. ⁵⁹While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." ⁶⁰Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them." When he had said this, he died.

The Word of The Lord.

Thanks Be to God.

Psalm: Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16

Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit. (Ps. 31:5)

¹In you, O LORD, have I taken refuge; let me never be put to shame;
deliver me in your righteousness.

²**Incline your ear to me;
make haste to deliver me.**

³Be my strong rock, a castle to keep me safe, for you are my crag and my
stronghold;
for the sake of your name, lead me and guide me.

⁴**Take me out of the net that they have secretly set for me,
for you are my tower of strength.**

⁵Into your hands I commend my spirit,
for you have redeemed me, O LORD, God of truth.

¹⁵**My times are in your hand;
rescue me from the hand of my enemies, and from those who persecute
me.**

¹⁶Let your face shine upon your servant;
save me in your steadfast love."

Second Reading: 1 Peter 2:2-10

Christ is the cornerstone of God's saving work and the foundation of our lives. We are God's chosen, holy people who continuously celebrate and declare the mercy of God we experience through Jesus Christ.

²Like newborn infants, long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation—³if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.

⁴Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God's sight, and ⁵like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. ⁶For it stands in scripture:

“See, I am laying in Zion a stone,
a cornerstone chosen and precious;
and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.”

⁷To you then who believe, he is precious; but for those who do not believe,
“The stone that the builders rejected
has become the very head of the corner,”

⁸and
“A stone that makes them stumble,
and a rock that makes them fall.”

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, God's own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts 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.

The Word of The Lord.

Thanks Be to God.



GOSPEL ACCLAMATION page 142

Holy Gospel, according to John, the 14th Chapter.

Glory to You, O Lord.

Gospel: John 14:1-14

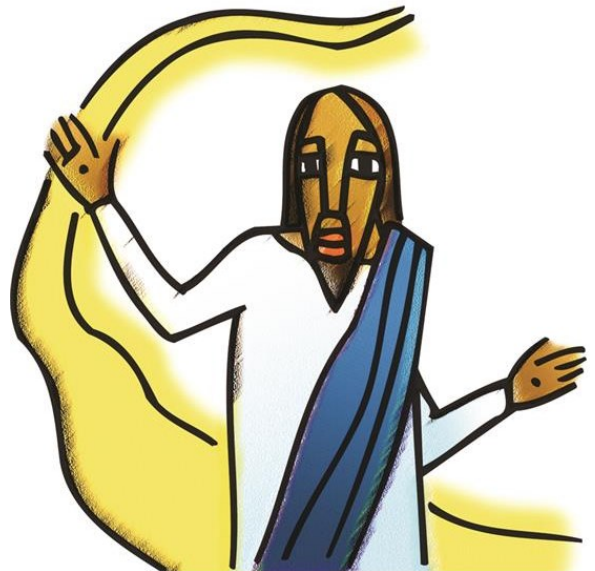
On the night that he is to be arrested, Jesus shares final words with his disciples. As the one through whom God is known, he promises to go before them and act on their behalf.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹“Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. ²In my Father’s house there are many dwelling places. 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, so that where I am, there you may be also. ⁴And you know the way to the place 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 know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.”

⁸Philip said to him, “Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied.” ⁹Jesus said to him, “Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? 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; but the Father who dwells in me does his works. ¹¹Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; but if you do not, then believe me because of the works themselves. ¹²Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. ¹³I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. ¹⁴If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.”



CHILDREN’S SERMON Pastor Kris Dietzen

CONFIRMATION FAITH STATEMENTS

2023 Confirmation Class

Hank Anderson

Son of Christina Anderson & Isaac Anderson

Date of birth: April 13, 2009

Baptized on June 6, 2009

Baptismal sponsors: Landon & Neysa Behrens

Confirmation Mentor: Larrie Nichols

Confirmation Bible Verse: John 3:16

¹⁶For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

Zayden Cobb

Son of Bob & Mary Cobb

Date of birth: April 27, 2009

Baptized on April 17, 2017

Baptismal sponsors: All of St. Mark's

Confirmation Mentor: Susan Fetsch

Confirmation Bible Verse: Matthew 21:22

²²Whatever you ask for in prayer with faith, you will receive."

Caitlin Marie Mensch

Daughter of Jason & Christie Mensch

Date of birth: December 1, 2009

Baptized on January 24, 2010

Baptismal sponsors: Kirk & Maureen Swenson

Confirmation Mentor: Donna Nichols

Confirmation Bible Verse: Psalm 18:2

²The LORD is my rock, my fortress, and my deliverer, my God, my rock in whom I take refuge, my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold.

Clarissa Anne Mensch

Daughter of Jason & Christie Mensch

Date of birth: October 29, 2008

Baptized on December 28, 2008

Baptismal sponsor: Karl Swenson

Confirmation Mentor: Mary Mindrup

Confirmation Bible Verse: Philippians 4:13

¹³I can do all things through him who strengthens me.

Christian Schott

Son of Todd & Vanessa Schott

Date of birth: October 22, 2008

Baptized on February 8, 2009

Baptismal sponsors: Amelia All & Brian Schott

Confirmation Mentor: Chris McMullin

Confirmation Bible Verse: Psalm 100: 1-3, 5

¹Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth.

²Worship the LORD with gladness; come into his presence with singing.

³Know that the LORD is God.

It is he that made us, and we are his; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.

⁵For the LORD is good; his steadfast love endures forever, and his faithfulness to all generations.

Olivia Rose Swanson

Daughter of Keith & Rosemary Swanson

Date of birth: December 29, 2008

Baptized on May 3, 2009

Baptismal sponsors: Stormy Weaver,

Jerry & Brad Swanson

Confirmation Mentor: Jennifer Wackerla

Confirmation Bible Verse: Galatians 6:9

⁹So let us not grow weary in doing what is right, for we will reap at harvest time, if we do not give up.



Affirmation of Baptism

Dear friends, we give thanks for the gift of baptism and for these people, one with us in the body of Christ, who are making public affirmation of their baptism.

I present Hank Anderson, Zayden Cobb, Caitlin Mensch, Clarissa Mensch, Christian Schott, and Olivia Swanson, who desire to make public affirmation of their baptism.

Let us pray.

Merciful God, we thank you for these brothers and sisters, whom you have made your own by water and the Word in baptism. You have called them to yourself, enlightened them with the gifts of your Spirit, and nourished them in the community of faith. Uphold your servants in the gifts and promises of baptism, and unite the hearts of all whom you have brought to new birth. We ask this in the name of Christ. **Amen.**

Profession of Faith

The presiding minister addresses those making public affirmation of baptism.

I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church.

Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God?

Response: I renounce them.

Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God?

Response: I renounce them.

Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from God?

Response: I renounce them.

The presiding minister addresses the assembly.

Do you believe in God the Father?

C We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

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

C We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation

he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

C We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, * who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

You have made public the profession of your faith. Do you intend to continue in the covenant God made with you in holy baptism:

to live among God's faithful people,

to hear the word of God

and share in the Lord's supper,

to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed,

to serve all people,

following the example of Jesus,

and to strive for justice and peace in all the Earth?

Response: I do, and I ask for God to help and guide me.

The minister addresses the assembly: People of God, do you promise to support these brothers and sisters and pray for them in their life in Christ?

We do, and ask God to help and guide us.

Let us pray. We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give us new birth, cleanse us from sin, and raise us to eternal life.

The blessing is repeated for each person. The minister lays both hands on the head of the person and says: Father in heaven, for Jesus' sake, stir up in (Hank, Zayden, Caitlin, Clarissa, Christian & Olivia) the gift of your Holy Spirit; confirm his/ her faith, guide his/ her life, empower him/ her in his/ her serving, give him/ her patience in suffering, and bring him/ her to everlasting life.

Amen.

Let us rejoice with these brothers and sisters in Christ!

We rejoice with you in the life of baptism.

Together we will give thanks and praise to God and proclaim the good news to all the world.

HYMN OF THE DAY ELW 389

Christ is Alive! Let Christians Sing

- 1 Christ is alive! Let Christians sing.
The cross stands empty to the sky.
Let streets and homes with praises ring.
Love, drowned in death, shall never die.
- 2 Christ is alive! No longer bound
to distant years in Palestine,
but saving, healing, here and now,
and touching ev'ry place and time.
- 3 In ev'ry insult, rift, and war,
where color, scorn, or wealth divide,
Christ suffers still, yet loves the more,
and lives, where even hope has died.
- 4 Women and men, in age and youth,
can feel the Spirit, hear the call,
and find the way, the life, the truth,
revealed in Jesus, freed for all.
- 5 Christ is alive, and comes to bring
good news to this and every age,
till earth and sky and ocean ring
with joy, with justice, love, and praise.

Text: Brian A. Wren, b. 1936

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Prayers of Intercession

United in the hope and joy of the resurrection, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence.

God of life, strengthen your church to proclaim your gospel even in times of trouble. As we remember Stephen, we give thanks for diaconal ministry. Bless all deacons and strengthen them for their bridge-building ministry between church and world. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Creating God, you show your steadfast love through mighty waters, towering mountains, verdant fields, and arid deserts. Protect the earth's diverse habitats from the forces of pollution, erosion, extinction, and global warming. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Mighty God, your Spirit guides us into all truth. Give wisdom to world and local leaders and organizations as they begin, build, or renew relationships. Strengthen leaders and aid organizations in areas needing to be rebuilt following conflict, unrest, or natural disaster (*especially*). Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Loving God, you make your home among us. Abide with refugees, those experi-

encing homelessness, those fleeing war and poverty, and all who question if there is a home in your heart. We pray for all who are sick (*especially*). Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Assuring God, you accompany your people amid uncertainty and change. Uphold people in this community who have recently moved, changed jobs or schools, retired, or are going through transitions of any kind. Lead us in your ways. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Renewing God, you gather the saints at your heavenly banquet. We give you thanks for the care shown us by those who have gone before us (*especially*). Grant confidence and comfort for all awaiting the place you have prepared. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Rejoicing in the victory of Christ's resurrection, we lift our prayers and praise to you, almighty and eternal God; through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord.

Amen.

PEACE

In Jesus Christ, God has made his peace with us.

The peace of the Lord be with you always,

And also with you

Let us share God's peace with one another.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,

And so, with all the choirs of angels,
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn.

Holy, Holy pg. 144

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

LORD'S PRAYER

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Come and know Christ,
broken and poured out for you.



COMMUNION

COMMUNION SONG pg. 146

COMMUNION HYMNS ELW 461

All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly

- 1 All who hunger gather gladly;
holy manna is our bread.
Come from wilderness and wand'ring.
Here in truth we will be fed.
You that yearn for days of fullness,
all around us is our food.
Taste and see the grace eternal.
Taste and see that God is good.
- 2 All who hunger, never strangers;
seeker, be a welcome guest.
Come from restlessness and roaming.
Here in joy we keep the feast.
We that once were lost and scattered
in communion's love have stood.
Taste and see the grace eternal.
Taste and see that God is good.

- 3 All who hunger, sing together,
Jesus Christ is living bread.
Come from loneliness and longing.
Here in peace we have been fed.
Blest are those who from this table
live their days in gratitude.
Taste and see the grace eternal.
Taste and see that God is good.

Text: Sylvia G. Dunstan, 1955-1993
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ELW 758

You Are the Way

- 1 You are the way; to you alone
from sin and death we flee;
all those who search for God, you find
and by your grace set free.
- 2 You are the truth; your word alone
true wisdom can impart;
you only can inform the mind
and purify the heart.
- 3 You are the life; the rending tomb
proclaims your conqu'ring arm;
and those who put their trust in you
not death nor hell shall harm.
- 4 You are the way, the truth, the life;
grant us that way to know,
that truth to keep, that life to win,
whose joys eternal flow.

Text: George W. Doane, 1799-1859, alt.

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and keep you in his grace.
Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Gracious God,
in you we live and move and have our being.
With your word and this meal of grace,
you have nourished our life together.
Strengthen us to show your love
and serve the world in Jesus' name.
Amen.

SENDING

Life-giving God,
In the mystery of Christ's resurrection, you send light to conquer darkness.
water to give life, and the bread of life to nourish your people.
Send us forth as witnesses to your Son's resurrection,
that we may show your glory to all the world,
through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord.

BLESSING

The God of all,
who raised ✝ Jesus from the dead,

bless you by the power of the Holy Spirit
to live in the new creation.

Amen.

RECESSIONAL HYMN ELW 654, vs. 1 & 5

The Church's One Foundation

1 The church's one foundation
is Jesus Christ, her Lord;
she is his new creation
by water and the word.
From heav'n he came and sought her
to be his holy bride;
with his own blood he bought her,
and for her life he died.

5 Yet she on earth has union
with God, the Three in One,
and mystic sweet communion
with those whose rest is won.
Oh, blessed heav'nly chorus!
Lord, save us by your grace,
that we, like saints before us,
may see you face to face.

Text: Samuel J. Stone, 1839-1900

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Risen One.

Thanks be to God.

Please join us in the Fellowship Hall for a reception in honor of our 2023 Confirmation Class.



PRAYER REQUESTS & CONDOLENCES

Contact Janet Anderson at 913.780.6408 to add names to the prayer chain or to join the prayer chain.

Please contact the church office to make changes to this list.

St. Mark's members:

Don Anderson,
Donna Fluck,
Sheila Mutschelknaus,
Paul Moore,
Barbara Strampe,
Ruth Ann Hackler,
Chuck Vandenberg,
Susan & Bill Roberts,
George McElroy,
Shane Paulson,
Janet Schmidt,
Phyllis Dettmer,
Madison Young

Family & friends:

Tim Sullivan, friend of the VanKempens,
Ross, uncle of Nancy Bryer,
Family of Donavon Benson, friends of Joyce & Louis Johnson,
Mariah, friend of the Bryer family,
Stan, friend of Pete Cagle,
Brian Czerw, friend of Barbara Strampe,
Family of Donna Fluck,
Dan & Ashly, brother & sister-in-law of Amanda Sibson,
Chris, brother of Pete Cagle,
Alyssa Lillich & her baby, Granddaughter-in-law of Jane Stresewski,
Joetta Eagle & family, friends of Linda Bayer,
Quinn, granddaughter of Mike and Jane Scherrer,
Kara Campbell, niece of Pete Cagle,
Michelle Ray, friend of Barbara Strampe's daughter,
Jane Fetters, Sister of Joni Benz,
Bill Benne, friend of Joyce and Louis Johnson,
Ron & Susan Laliberte, neighbors of Barbara Strampe,
Austin, Grandson of Jim & Mary Weeg,
Lynn, Dennis & Sharon Thee, relatives of Barbara Strampe,
Candy, sister of Tom Bryer,
Craig Aldag, Uncle of Ali Luin,
Manuel & family, friend of Jenny Wheeler's grandson,
Donna McCarthy, friend of Ginny Schwartzbeck,
Juliana Marie McClelland, friend of Susan Roberts,

Andrew, friend of the Scherrers,
Craig Downing, Father of Joni Benz,
Suzie, Aunt of Nancy Bryer,
Jenny Mack, Niece of Jenny Wheeler,
Chris, Brother of Pete Cagle,
Amber Smith, friend of Pete Cagle,
Family of Kathy, cousin of Barb Nail,
Leo Patton, Grandfather of Jason Howe,
Gary Stepenson, Uncle of Jason Howe,
Rowan Espey, family of Barbara Strampe,
Peggy Hinkle, Step-Mother of Kathy Hinkle,
Stephanie Herndon, friend of Kathy Hinkle,
Gibby, friend of the Bryers,
Tim Eiter, Father of Todd Eiter,
Rebeka Gillette, friend of Janet Nichols,
Jackie Warriner, Sister-in-law of Linda Goodheart,
Don Thun, Father of Matt Thun,
Katherine Gile, sister of Anne Gardner,
Matt Warriner, Great Nephew of Linda Goodheart,
Joanne, Amy Fisher's sister,
Neil Warriner, Linda Goodheart's brother,
Judy Wendt, Jeannine Matthew's
sister-in-law,
Donna Poppe, friend of St. Marks,
Rosemary Williams & her sons Wayne & Wade Beck,
Brooke Harris, friend of Gretchen Goodheart Stewart,
Bruce Dawson, friend of the Goodhearts,
Jackson Werth, friend of the Bott/Bollinger Families,
Kirk Wheeler, cousin of Verna McMullin,
All People affected by natural disasters

Those in the Military:

A.J. Simons, nephew of Stan and Karen Thompson,