

THE SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

The Rite of Confirmation

May 22, 2022

PRAYER UPON ENTERING

Holy God, bless our confirmands this day and throughout their lives. Give them the courage to meet and conquer any and all problems, great or small. Give them devotion and commitment to You and Your great work. Bless them always with Your loving presence and protection. In Jesus' name. Amen.

WELCOME to all who worship with us this Sixth Sunday of Easter. May the Easter message of the risen Christ strengthen and encourage you this week. If you are without a church home, we invite you to prayerfully consider Hope. Worship with us again soon!

HOLY COMMUNION will be celebrated in our worship. We believe that in the Sacrament God offers His very body and blood in, with, and under the bread and wine for the forgiveness of sins and the strengthening of our faith. We welcome to the Lord's Table those who embrace this understanding of the nature of the Sacrament, repent of their sins, and seek to forgive and love as Christ forgives and loves us. We believe that such participation is a statement of agreement with our Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod. For those with special needs, grape juice is in the center of the tray. Gluten-free hosts are also available. Please inform Pastor of your need.

THE PRELUDE

WELCOME

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

718

"Jesus, Lead Thou On"

INVOCATION

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

C: Amen.

P: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and from the Lord Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn from the dead. To Him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by His blood, and made us a kingdom and priests to His God and Father:

C: To Him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

P: Let us humbly confess our sins to God our Father.

C: Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

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 Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the

name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C: Amen.

THE PSALM – from Psalm 146

P: Great is the LORD and most worthy of praise; His greatness no one can fathom.

C: One generation will commend Your works to another; they will tell of Your mighty acts.

P: They will speak of the glorious splendor of Your majesty, and I will meditate on Your wonderful works.

C: They will tell of the power of Your awesome works, and I will proclaim Your great deeds.

P: Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and Your dominion endures through all generations.

C: The LORD is faithful to all His promises and loving toward all that He has made.

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

C: in all your ways acknowledge Him and he will make your paths straight.

ALL: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY (All)

Almighty and everlasting God, who multiplies the Church and strengthens the hearts of those who believe, we ask You to extend the blessing of Your Holy Spirit upon these confirmands. Increase their faith and knowledge of You. Help them rejoice in their baptismal faith, that they may always bring forth the Christian fruits of love and service. Amen. (Be seated)

FIRST LESSON Ephesians 3:14-21
May Christ dwell in your hearts by faith

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE Colossians 1:9-14; 2:6-7
Live a life worthy of the Lord.

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

HOLY GOSPEL John 8:31-36
Remain faithful to the Word of God

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

C: Glory to You, O Lord.

After the Gospel reading . . .

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to You, O Christ.

HYMN “Let Me Be Thine Forever” # 689

SERMON “*Standing Firm in Your Faith*” I Cor. 16:13 & 14

THE RITE OF CONFIRMATION

(C: Confirmands P: Pastor)

HYMN “Thine Forever, God of Love” # 687

P: Dearly beloved: In Holy Baptism, our Lord Jesus Christ received you and made you members of His Church. In the fellowship of God’s people, you have learned from His Word God’s loving purpose for you and for all creation. You have been called to be

witnesses to the Gospel of Jesus Christ. We rejoice that you now desire to make public profession of your faith and assume greater responsibility in the life of Hope congregation and its mission to the world.

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.

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

C: YES, I DO.

P: Do you renounce the devil and all his works and all his ways?

C: YES, I DO RENOUNCE THEM.

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

C: YES, I BELIEVE IN GOD, THE FATHER ALMIGHTY, MAKER OF HEAVEN AND EARTH.

P: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord?

C: 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.

P: Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

C: 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.

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

C: I DO.

P: 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?

C: I DO.

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

C: I DO, BY THE GRACE OF GOD.

P: 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?

C: I DO, BY THE GRACE OF GOD.

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

C: YES, IT IS MY INTENTION WITH GOD'S HELP, TO REMAIN TRUE TO THE CONFESSION OF MY FAITH IN JESUS CHRIST. WITH THE HELP OF GOD THE HOLY SPIRIT, I ALSO INTEND TO CONTINUE TO STUDY GOD'S WORD, TO FREQUENTLY RECEIVE THE LORD'S SUPPER, TO FAITHFULLY WORSHIP GOD IN CHURCH, AND TO LIVE A CHRIST-LIKE LIFE OF LOVE AND SERVICE.

P: Do you desire to become a communicant member of Hope Evangelical Lutheran Church?

C: *I DO SO DESIRE.*

THE SOLEMN VOW OF THE PARENTS

P: This promise which you have heard from the lips of your children needs your whole-hearted guidance and support. Therefore, I ask you, will you guide and direct, support and encourage your child in word, deed, and in example by your continual study of God's Word, your frequent attendance at the Lord's Table, your faithful participation in worship with your children, and your example of a Christ-like life?

Parents: *YES, WITH THE HELP OF GOD.*

THE SOLEMN VOW OF THE CONGREGATION

P: The promises made by these confirmands and their parents are difficult to fulfill. They need God's help and our prayers and encouragement. Since the best encouragement is a good example, we pray:

ALL: Give us strength, O Lord, to set a godly example for these confirmands by using God's Word daily in our homes, worshiping regularly in church, and receiving the Lord's Supper frequently. Give us the power to live a more Christ-like life in our words and deeds. Amen.

THE BLESSING OF THE CONFIRMANDS

P: Give now your hand at the Lord's altar, as a pledge of your promise, and kneeling, receive His blessing.

+ **Jacob David Beer**
+ **Madeleine Meriem Mezhoudi**

THE WELCOME

P: Upon this your profession and promise I invite and welcome you, as members of the Evangelical Lutheran Church and of Hope congregation, to share with us in all the gifts our Lord has for His Church and to live them out continually in His worship and service.

PRAYER FOR THE CONFIRMANDS

P: Lord God, heavenly Father, we thank and praise You for Your great goodness in bringing these Your children to the knowledge of Your Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ, and enabling them both with the heart to believe and with the mouth to confess His saving name. Grant that, bringing forth the fruits of faith, they may continue steadfast and victorious to the day when all who have fought the good fight of faith shall receive the crown of righteousness; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

THE PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

THE GATHERING OF OUR GIFTS AND OFFERINGS

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

THE COMMUNION PRAYER OF BLESSING

THE LORD'S PRAYER (All)

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

DISTRIBUTION

Hymns - "Draw Near and Take the Body of the Lord" # 637
"What Is This Bread" # 629

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING (All)

Grant, O Lord, that what we have received with our lips we may keep with pure hearts, and that through the gift imparted to us in this present life we may hereafter receive life everlasting; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord. Amen.

TABLE PRAYER (All)

Come Lord Jesus, be our holy Guest, our morning joy and evening rest. And with our daily bread impart, Your love and peace to every heart. Amen.

BENEDICTION

HYMN "Go My Children, with My Blessing" # 922

THE POSTLUDE

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The Rite of Confirmation is maintained within the Church to encourage the development of Christian knowledge, faith and life. When we think of Confirmation for children, we might define it as a pastoral and educational ministry of the Church that is designed to help baptized young people identify with the life and mission of the Christian church, and that is celebrated in a public rite.

Serving in God's House Today

Our Pastor: Rev. Gary Albert
Elder on Duty: Jim Holbrook
Altar Guild: Cheryl Chapman
Bulletin Sponsors: Paul & Kathi Schultz
Pianist: Nancy Vogt

Rite of Fellowship Cards – will be collected right after the **Welcome** at the beginning of the service. We ask our members and visitors to please complete a card and then pass them toward the center aisle. Thank you!

Join Us for Fellowship this morning immediately following our worship service. Fellowship is a potluck every Sunday. Everyone is welcome!

Tuesday Evening Summer Bible Study continues each Tuesday evening, in the Fellowship Hall, beginning at 5:30 PM. Join us in our study of the Gospel according to St. John. Mrs. Jane Reilley is our Bible study leader. Everyone is welcome to participate! Please check with Jane to get a copy of the study guide.

Greeter Ministry – We are in need of couples or individuals to serve as greeters for our worship services over the summer months. If you are interested, please speak with Pastor. Your help would be greatly appreciated!

Choir Rehearsals to Resume – In preparation for our organ dedication service, choir rehearsals will begin on **Sunday, June 12**, immediately following Fellowship. Members and also our summer worshipers are most welcome to join. If interested, please let Jolene or Pastor know so that we have adequate copies of music available. We will also be rehearsing on **Sunday, June 26**. The date for dedication has yet to be determined.

A Big Thank You to those who participated in the roadside clean-up on May 11th. We had 12 volunteers this year and collected 20 bags of trash!

June Newsletter Deadline – Please have all information for the June newsletter to Pastor by Tuesday of this week. Thank you.

A New Sound System has been ordered for Hope to correct the problems we've been having. Unfortunately, some of the components are backordered. We ask for your continued patience while we wait for the new system. – Bob Vogt, Chairman of Trustees

Birthday wishes go out this week to Florence Ninko (Thursday, May 26). **Anniversary wishes go out to** Carl & Jane Knoll (Saturday, May 28). May God bless you all in the coming year!

Prayer List – Please keep the following in your prayers: For those dealing with health issues: Leslie Baer, Sallee Gehrt, Bethany Goers, Laurie Johnson, Darcey Mc Cormick, Marsha Rosenberg, Carol Stano, Jean Trispel, Ruth Wigand, Tom Behling, Ken Close, Dan Dicka, Tom Francis, Mike Hotz, Rick Lapp, Paul Rosenberg, Pastor Duwayne Schneider, & Dave Steffen. Our homebound members & friends: Maxine Dominkowski, Fern Frederick, Florence Ninko, Augusta Santy Specht & Audrey Steffen. For our mission partners: the Bakers in Mongolia, the Cortrights on furlough in the U.S.; the Olivers in Taiwan, & the Lehmanns in Puerto Rico. For our seminarian Daniel Beuckman. For all who govern at the federal, state and local levels that God would grant them godly wisdom, sound judgment, and divine guidance. For our persecuted brothers and sisters in Christ and the people of Ukraine. For peace in our world and nation.

A Measure of Our Love

Attendance at May 15th Worship Service: 60
Offering Envelopes: \$990.00
Loose Plate: \$217.00 Organ Fund: \$50.00

In case of emergency or hospitalization, please contact Pastor Albert at home in Marshfield at 715-384-2855, or on his cell phone at 715-323-8874. You may also e-mail him at gmalbert@charter.net. Please inform us if you are going to be homebound for a period of time.