

Introduction

Today we celebrate and give thanks to God for three Confirmation students here at Living Water. The conclusion of a two-and-a-half-year Confirmation program is marked by the service of Affirmation of Baptism. It is at this service that the students publicly proclaim their faith. This is the point and time in their lives that they claim they will now take on and accept the promises made on their behalf by their parents and godparents.

Prelude... "Today Is The Day"

Announcements

Preparation for Worship – Silent Prayer

Gathering Hymn.... "Shout to the Lord" my Sav-ior, Lord, there is none My Je - sus, like you. All of my days the won-ders of your might-y I want to praise love. My com - fort, my shel-ter, tow-er of ref - uge and strength; let ev-'ry breath, all that I am nev-er cease to wor-ship Shout to the Lord, all the earth; let us sing pow-er and maj - es-ty, praise to the King. Moun-tains bow down and the seas will roar at the of your I sing for joy at the work of your hands; sound name. for - ev - er I'll love er I'll you, for - ev stand. Noth - ing com - pares to the prom - ise I have in you.

Text: Darlene Zschech, b. 1965

Music: SHOUT TO THE LORD, Darlene Zschech

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Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

Amen.

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Most merciful God, we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. 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. 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.

Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Prayer of the Day

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

O God, our eternal redeemer, by the presence of your Spirit you renew and direct our hearts. Keep always in our mind the end of all things and the day of judgment. Inspire us for a holy life here, and bring us to the joy of the resurrection, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Psalm 17 Lord, When Your Glory Appears

Refrain



- 1 Hear, O LORD, a just suit; attend to my outcry; hearken to my prayer from lips without deceit. *Refrain*.
- 5-6 My steps have been steadfast in your paths, my feet have not faltered. I call upon you, for you will answer me, O God; incline your ear to me; hear my word. *Refrain*.
- 8 Keep me as the apple of your eye, hide me in the shadow of your wings. But I in justice shall behold your face; on waking I shall be content in your presence. *Refrain*.

First Reading: Job 19:23-27a

Job suffers the loss of children, wealth, and health. Accused by his companions of wrongdoing, he knows himself to be innocent. Here, in the midst of his suffering, Job clings to the radical hope that his vindicator, his redeemer, lives; and that one day he himself will see God.

"O that my words were written down! O that they were inscribed in a book! O that with an iron pen and with lead they were engraved on a rock forever! For I know that my vindicator lives and that in the end he will stand upon the earth; and after my skin has been destroyed, then in my flesh I shall see God, whom I shall see on my side, and my eyes shall behold, and not another."

HERE ENDS THE READING.

Second Reading: 2 Thessalonians 2:1-5, 13-17

This portion of the letter provides encouragement for the church at Thessalonica during a time of confusion and opposition, as some allowed their concern over Jesus' imminent return to divert them from the central teachings of the gospel.

As to the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and our being gathered together to him, we beg you, brothers and sisters, not to be quickly shaken in mind or alarmed, either by spirit or by word or by letter, as though from us, to the effect that the day of the Lord is already here. Let no one deceive you in any way, for that day will not come unless the rebellion comes first and the lawless one is revealed, the one destined for destruction. He opposes and exalts himself above every so-called god or object of worship, so that he takes his seat in the temple of God, declaring himself to be God. Do you not remember that I told you these things when I was still with you? But we must always give thanks to God for you, brothers and sisters beloved by the Lord, because God chose you as the first fruits for salvation through sanctification by the Spirit and through belief in the truth. For this purpose he called you through our gospel, so that you may obtain the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ. So then, brothers and sisters, stand firm and hold fast to the traditions that you were taught by us, either by word of mouth or by our letter. Now may our Lord Jesus Christ himself and God our Father, who loved us and through grace gave us eternal comfort and good hope, comfort your hearts and strengthen them in every good work and word.

HERE ENDS THE READING.

Gospel: Luke 20:27-38

The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke

Glory to you, O Lord.

Some Sadducees, who do not believe in the resurrection of the dead, try to trap Jesus. They formulate the convoluted case of a serial widow who marries a succession of seven brothers. Jesus responds by teaching about God to whom all are alive and in whom all relationships are fulfilled.

Some Sadducees, those who say there is no resurrection, came to [Jesus] and asked him a question: "Teacher, Moses wrote for us that if a man's brother dies leaving a wife but no children, the man shall marry the widow and raise up children for his brother. Now there were seven brothers; the first married a woman and died childless; then the second and the third married her, and so in the same way all seven died childless. Finally the woman also died. In the resurrection, therefore, whose wife will the woman be? For the seven had married her."

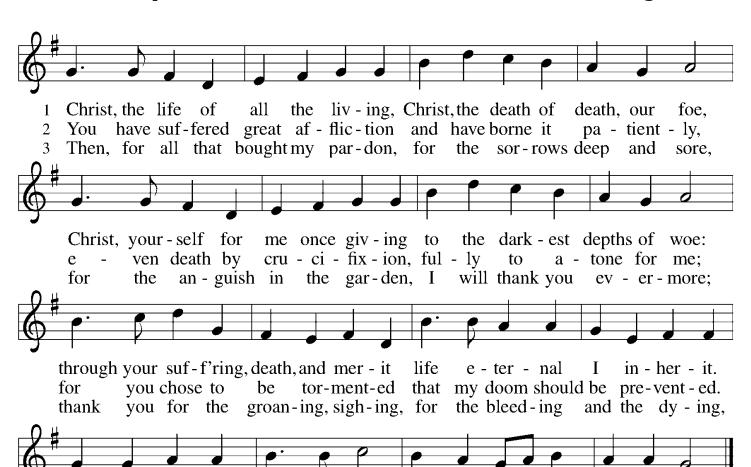
Jesus said to them, "Those who belong to this age marry and are given in marriage, but those who are considered worthy of a place in that age and in the resurrection from the dead neither marry nor are given in marriage. Indeed, they cannot die anymore, because they are like angels and are children of God, being children of the resurrection. And the fact that the dead are raised Moses himself showed, in the story about the bush, where he speaks of the Lord as the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob. Now he is God not of the dead but of the living, for to him all of them are alive."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Sermon Hymn..... "Christ The Life Of All The Living"



Thou-sand, thou-sand thanks are due, dear - est Je - sus, un - to you. Thou-sand, thou-sand thanks are due, dear - est Je - sus, un - to you. for that last tri - um - phant cry, praise you ev - er - more on high.

Text: Ernst Christoph Homburg, 1605–1681; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt. Music: JESU, MEINES LEBENS LEBEN, *Das grosse Cantional*, Darmstadt, 1687

Affirmation of Baptism

Pastor: Dear friends, we give thanks for the gift of baptism and for Jacksen, Stella and Kaden, one with us in the body of Christ, who are making public affirmation of their baptism.

Pastor: Let us pray. Merciful God, we thank you for these young people, 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.

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

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

Confirmands: I renounce them.

Pastor: Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel

against God?

Confirmands: I renounce them.

Pastor: Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from

God?

Confirmands: I renounce them.

Pastor: Do you believe in God the Father?

Congregation: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

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

Congregation: I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

Pastor: Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?
Congregation: I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Pastor: Jacksen, Stella and Kaden; you have made public 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? Confirmands: I do, and I ask God to help and guide me.

Pastor: People of God, do you promise to support these young people and pray for them in their life in Christ? If so, please answer with....

Congregation: We do, and we ask God to help and guide us.

Pastor: 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.

Students will walk forward with their family when their name and Bible verse are read for a prayer.

Pastor: Let us congratulate and rejoice with these sisters and brothers in Christ with an applause.

Prayers of Intercession

Gathered with one voice, we offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

A brief silence.

God our Redeemer, bless your church universal and its leaders. Set all hearts on you from generation to generation in anticipation of Christ's return.

Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

God of life, we give thanks for the fruits and grains of harvest, for rivers and streams, for all that is made of rock and iron. Renew the earth's natural resources and the lands from which they come. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

God of justice, we give thanks for the service of our veterans and pray for those needing support for wounds of any kind. Strengthen those charged with the governance and protection of vulnerable populations. Bring an end to war throughout the world. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

God who leads us to belief and truth, we give thanks that you are always and already here. Nurture and support those who are unsteady in mind, unsafe in spirit, or unwell in body (*We pray especially for Amanda, Jeff, Eric, Barbara, Lizzy, Christi, Debbie, Adrian, Katie, Angelika, Danica, Jenna, Dave, Joy, Frank, Kyle, Tyler, John, Tom, Robert, Pat, Cherrie, Gene, Shirley, Jana, Kathie, Del, Georgia, Regan, Geri, Kristen, Janet, Bob, Michael, Peter, Kelly, Brian and the People of Jamaica)*. Comfort those who suffer from trauma and exposure to traumatic events. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

God who gathers us together, we give thanks for our pastors, teachers and musicians, administrators, and building caretakers. May they find joy in leadership as we grow in faith together. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

God of the saints, we give thanks for all who have died in faith. Uplift us as we honor their memory and await your coming in glory.

Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

We offer these and all our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your grace and unyielding love; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

Sharing of the Peace

The peace of the Lord be with you all.

And also with you.

Offering

Offering Song..... "Let The River Flow"

Offering Prayer

God of healing and hope, you bless those who are hungry, promising to fill them with good things. Fulfill that promise through us and these your gifts. Nourish us with the abundance of your feast and unite us into the blessed body of Jesus Christ our Savior, now and forever.

Amen.

Thanksgiving at the Table

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,

shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever.

Amen.

Distribution

We will be using the intinction method for distribution. You will be handed bread and asked to dip the bread in the chalice. Gluten-free bread and grape juice are available. Please make your way forward by the center aisle, returning down the side. If mobility is a problem for you, please notify an usher and you will be served at your seat.

Invitation to Communion

There is a place for you at the table of God. Come, receive the food that does not perish, a taste of life eternal.

Communion Song..... "Goodness of God"

Post Communion Prayer

God of field and flower, wheat and grape, you have nourished us with the bread of heaven that gives life to the world. Strengthened by the body and blood of your Son, send us out to gather your good gifts for all who hunger and thirst, and embolden us to love and serve in Christ's name.

Amen.

Blessing

The love of God the Sovereign strengthen you, God the Son save you, and God the Holy Spirit anoint you for the work ahead. The holy Trinity bless you + and grant you a faithful and courageous heart now and forever.

Amen.

Sending Hymn.... "Blessed Assurance"



- Bless-ed as-sur-ance, Je-sus is mine! Oh, what a fore-taste of glo-ry di-vine!
- 2 Per-fect sub-mis-sion, per-fect de-light, vi-sions of rap-ture now burst on my sight;
- 3 Per-fect sub-mis-sion, all is at rest; I in my Sav-ior am hap-py and blest,



Heir of sal-va-tion, pur-chase of God, born of his Spir-it, washed in his blood. an - gels de-scend-ing bring from a-bove ech-oes of mer-cy, whis-pers of love. watch-ing and wait-ing, look-ing a-bove, filled with his good-ness, lost in his love.



This is my sto - ry, this is my song, prais-ing my Sav - ior all the day long:



this is my sto - ry, this is my song, prais-ing my Sav-ior all the day long.

Text: Fanny J. Crosby, 1820–1915

Music: ASSURANCE, Phoebe P. Knapp, 1830-1908

Dismissal

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.