



# St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church



## Welcome to our visitors!

- It is our hope and prayer that the message you hear today from God's Word will fill your heart with the peace that only God can offer and the joy we have in knowing that Jesus Christ is our Savior from sin.
- Large print service folders, assisted listening devices, children's service folders, and children's worship notes are available from the ushers.
- Parents may take small children into the entry area, mother's room (at the back of the church), or nursery (lower level of church) as needed and follow the worship service on the TV monitor. Changing tables are available in the mother's room and in the room adjacent to the nursery.
- Restrooms are located at the far end of the entry area.
- As the offering is received, members and guests are asked to sign the Friendship Register. Please pass the register to your neighbor and then return it to the center aisle. Visitors are also asked to fill out a guest card and give it to an usher.

# Confirmation

## April 28, 2018

Continue in the faith!

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### Prelude

#### Opening Hymn

*Please stand to sing the final stanza*

#### Our Lord and God, Oh, Bless This Day

*Christian Worship 599*

**M:** The grace of our Lord ☩ Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

**C:** **And also with you.**

### CONFESSION OF SINS

**M:** God invites us to come into his presence and worship him with humble and penitent hearts. Therefore, let us acknowledge our sinfulness and ask him to forgive us.

**C:** **Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful, and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.**

**M:** God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son ☩ and of the Holy Spirit.

**C:** **Amen.**

## PRAAYER AND PRAISE

**M:** For all that we need in life and for the wisdom to use all your gifts with gratitude and joy, hear our prayer, O Lord.



**M:** For the steadfast assurance that nothing can separate us from your love and for the courage to stand firm against the assaults of Satan and every evil, hear our prayer, O Christ.



**M:** For the well-being of your holy Church in all the world and for those who offer here their worship and praise, hear our prayer, O Lord.



**M:** Merciful God, maker and preserver of life, uphold us by your power and keep us in your tender care.



**M:** The works of the Lord are great and glorious; his name is worthy of praise.

C: O Lord, our Lord, how glo - rious is your name in

all the earth. Al - might - y God, mer - ci - ful Fa - ther,

you crown our life with your love. You take a - way our sin;

you com - fort our spir - it; you make us pure and

ho - ly in your sight. You did not spare your on - ly Son,

but gave him up for us all. O Lord, our Lord,

how glo - rious is your name in all the earth.

O Son of God, e - ter - nal Word of the Fa - ther,

you came to live with us; you made your Fa - ther known;

you washed us from our sins in your own blood. You are the  
 King of glo - ry; you are the Lord! O Lord, our Lord,  
 how glo - rious is your name in all the earth.

### Prayer of the Day

**M:** Let us pray.

Almighty God, you have committed to your church the task of making disciples of all nations. Enlighten with your wisdom those who teach and those who learn; that, rejoicing in the knowledge of your truth, they may worship and serve you from generation to generation, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: A - men.

*Be seated*

## THE WORD

**First Lesson**

**Joshua 1:1-9**

*God's Word helps us to continue in the faith.*

After the death of Moses the servant of the LORD, the LORD said to Joshua son of Nun, Moses' aide: "Moses my servant is dead. Now then, you and all these people, get ready to cross the Jordan River into the land I am about to give to them – to the Israelites. I will give you every place where you set your foot, as I promised Moses. Your territory will extend from the desert to Lebanon, and from the great river, the Euphrates – all the Hittite country – to the Great Sea on the west. No one will be able to stand

up against you all the days of your life. As I was with Moses, so I will be with you; I will never leave you nor forsake you.

“Be strong and courageous, because you will lead these people to inherit the land I swore to their forefathers to give them. Be strong and very courageous. Be careful to obey all the law my servant Moses gave you; do not turn from it to the right or to the left, that you may be successful wherever you go. Do not let this Book of the Law depart from your mouth; meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do everything written in it. Then you will be prosperous and successful. Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be terrified; do not be discouraged, for the LORD your God will be with you wherever you go.”

**Psalm of the Day**

**Psalm 23 (see pg. 13)**

*The Good Shepherd protects his children and helps the continue in the faith.*

**Second Lesson**

**Hebrews 10:19-25**

*We continue in the faith when we draw near to God.*

Therefore, brothers and sisters, since we have confidence to enter the Most Holy Place by the blood of Jesus, by a new and living way opened for us through the curtain, that is, his body, and since we have a great priest over the house of God, let us draw near to God with a sincere heart and with the full assurance that faith brings, having our hearts sprinkled to cleanse us from a guilty conscience and having our bodies washed with pure water. Let us hold unwaveringly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful. And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another – and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

**Verse of the Day**

**M:** Alleluia, alleluia. These commandments that I give you today are to be upon your hearts. Impress them on your children. Alleluia.

C: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

These words are writ - ten that we may be - lieve that

Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.  
Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

*Please stand*

**Gospel**

**John 10:11-15, 27-30**

*Jesus protects those who continue in the faith.*

“I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. The hired hand is not the shepherd who owns the sheep. So when he sees the wolf coming, he abandons the sheep and runs away. Then the wolf attacks the flock and scatters it. The man runs away because he is a hired hand and cares nothing for the sheep.

“I am the good shepherd; I know my sheep and my sheep know me – just as the Father knows me and I know the Father – and I lay down my life for the sheep.

“My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; no one can snatch them out of my hand. My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all; no one can snatch them out of my Father’s hand. I and the Father are one.”

C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

*Be seated*

**Anthem**

*Faculty Choir*

**Teach Me Your Way, O Lord**

*by Mark Sedio*

Teach me your way, O Lord, and I will walk in your paths.  
Knit my heart to you that I may fear your name, I will thank you, O God.  
Fill me, O Lord, with your wisdom, show me the light of your truth.  
Day by day my faith grows stronger in your Word; guide me in ev’rything I do.

**Hymn of the Day**

**How Firm a Foundation (see pg. 14)**  
*Christian Worship Supplement 768*

**Sermon**

**Hebrews 10:19-25**

Because of Jesus . . .

**Response to the Word**

**Gracious Savior, Gentle Shepherd**  
*Christian Worship 508*

**Offering**

*The members of St. John's have joined together to do the Lord's work in our community and around the world, and our offerings are a joyful response of our faith. If you are a visitor today, you are welcome but not obligated to give an offering.*

*Please stand*

**Prayer of the Church**

*The minister says the Prayer of the Church*

*Be seated. Confirmands will remain standing.*

## **RITE OF CONFIRMATION**

**M:** Brothers and sisters in Christ, our Lord Jesus said to his disciples, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. 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, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

In obedience to the Lord's command, you have been baptized in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. You have been taught the precious truths of the Christian faith as confessed by the Evangelical Lutheran Church. You know what God has given you by his grace and what he expects of you as his dear child. You now have the privilege of receiving the Lord's body and blood in the Sacrament of Holy Communion.

You are here to make a public profession of your Christian faith. The apostle Paul, writing to the Romans, said, "If you confess with your mouth, 'Jesus is Lord,' and believe in your heart

that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you confess and are saved. Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.”

Therefore, lift up your hearts to the God of all grace and joyfully answer these questions.

Do you this day, in the presence of God and of this congregation, acknowledge that in Baptism, God gave you forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation?

**R:** I do.

**M:** Do you reject the devil along with all his lies and empty promises?

**R:** I do.

**M:** Do you believe in God, the Father almighty? If so, then answer, “Yes, I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth.”

**R:** Yes, I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

**M:** Do you believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son? If so, then answer, “Yes, I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.”

**R:** Yes, I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

**M:** Do you believe in the Holy Spirit? If so, then answer, “Yes, I believe in the Holy Spirit.”

**R:** Yes, I believe in the Holy Spirit.

**M:** Do you believe all the books of the Bible to be the inspired Word of God?

**R:** I do.

**M:** Do you believe that the teaching of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, as you have learned to know it from Luther’s Small Catechism, is faithful and true to the Word of God?

**R:** I do.

**M:** Do you intend to continue steadfast in this teaching and to endure all things, even death, rather than fall away from it?

**R:** I do, and I ask God to help me.

**M:** Do you intend faithfully to conform all your life to the teachings of God's Word, to be faithful in the use of the Word and Sacrament, and in faith and action remain true to God – Father, Son, and Holy Spirit – as long as you live?

**R:** I do, and I ask God to help me.

**M:** Brothers and sisters in Christ, upon your confession, I now invite you to come forward to receive the blessing.

*Confirmands will, in turn, come forward to receive the blessing.*

**M:** Your church now invites you to receive the Sacrament of the Lord's body and blood. Accept this invitation with deep reverence and holy joy. Regard your communing at the Lord's table as a precious privilege given to you by God through his Church. Receive this Sacrament thankfully and often. The almighty and most merciful God – Father, Son, and Holy Spirit – bless and keep you.

Let us stand and pray for the newly confirmed.

Lord God, heavenly Father, we thank and praise you for your great goodness in bringing these sons and daughters of yours to the knowledge of your Son, Jesus Christ, and in giving them both hearts to believe and mouths to confess his saving name. Enable them to bring forth the fruits of faith and to continue steadfast and victorious until the day comes 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.

**C: Amen.**

#### **Lord's Prayer**

**C: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.**

**M:** 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.

*Be seated*

**Closing Hymn**

**God's Word Is Our Great Heritage**  
*Christian Worship 293*

**Announcements**

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## **Serving at Worship**

**Preacher**

Pastor Eric Schroeder

**Presiding Minister**

Pastor Kyle Bitter

**Lector**

Pastor Joel Leyrer

**Musician**

Mandy Treder, organ

**Head Usher**

Mark Meissner

## Psalm 23

### *Refrain*



The Lord is my shep - herd; there is noth - ing I shall want.

### *Psalm tone*



The LORD is my shepherd,  
I shall not be in want.

He makes me lie down in green pastures;  
he leads me beside quiet waters.

He restores my soul;  
he guides me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil,  
for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

### *Refrain*

You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies.  
You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.

Surely goodness and love will follow me all the days of my life,  
and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.

**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.**

### *Refrain*



1 How firm a foun - da - tion, O saints  
 2 "Fear not! I am with you. Oh, be  
 3 "The soul that on Je - sus has leaned  
 4 "When through fi - ery tri - als your path -  
 5 "Through - out all their life - time my peo -



of the Lord, Is laid for your  
 not dis - mayed; For I am your  
 for re - pose I will not, I  
 way shall lie, My grace all - suf -  
 ple shall prove My sov' - reign, e -



faith in his ex - cel - lent Word! What  
 God and will still give you aid; I'll  
 will not, de - sert to his foes. That  
 fi - cient shall be your sup - ply. The  
 ter - nal, un - change - a - ble love, And



more can he say than to you  
 strength - en you, help you, and cause  
 soul, though all hell should en - deav -  
 flames will not hurt you; I on -  
 then, when gray hair shall their tem -



he has said Who un - to the  
you to stand, Up - held by my  
or to shake, I'll nev - er, no  
ly de - sign, Your dross to con -  
ples a - dorn, Like lambs they shall



Sav - ior for ref - uge have fled?  
right - eous, om - ni - po - tent hand.  
nev - er, no nev - er for - sake!  
sume and your gold to re - fine.  
still on my shoul - ders be borne.”

*The beloved words of this hymn are wed to its traditional American melody.*

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