



RITE OF CONFIRMATION May 3, 2026

Confirmation is a custom of the Christian Church that is preceded by a period of instruction (or, catechesis) to help baptized Christians more fully understand and identify with the life and mission of the Church. Today's Rite of Confirmation links the catechumen (one receiving instruction in the Christian faith) to their Baptism, provides an opportunity for them to make a personal public confession of their faith, and welcomes them to the Lord's Table.

The pastor addresses the catechumens:

P Beloved in the Lord, our Lord Jesus Christ said to His apostles: “All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. 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, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded You; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.” You have been baptized and catechized in the Christian faith according to our Lord’s bidding. Jesus said, “Whoever confesses Me before men, I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven. But whoever denies Me before men, I will also deny before My Father who is in heaven.”

Matthew 28:18b–20 NKJV; Matthew 10:32–33 NKJV alt.

At your Baptism, your parents, together with the congregation spoke the words of the Apostles’ Creed. On this, your Confirmation day, I ask you to join with your parents and this congregation in rejecting the devil and confessing your faith in those same words:

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

C Yes, I 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.**

The catechumens remain standing while the congregation is seated, and the pastor continues to address the catechumens:

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

R *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?

R *I do.*

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

R *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?

R *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?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P We rejoice with thankful hearts that you have been baptized and have received the teaching of the Lord. You have confessed the faith and been absolved of your sins. As you continue to hear the Lord's Word and receive His blessed Sacrament, He who has begun a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.

C **Amen.**

The catechumens receive the confirmation blessing. The pastor places his hands on the head of each catechumen and makes the sign of the cross on the forehead while saying:

P [Name], the almighty God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given you the new birth of water and of the Spirit and has forgiven you all your sins, strengthen you with His grace to life $\cdot\ddagger$ everlasting.

After all the catechumens have received the blessing and have returned to their seats, the following prayer is prayed:

P Lord God, heavenly Father, we thank and praise You for Your great goodness in bringing these Your sons and daughters 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, our Lord.

C Amen.

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The icon on the cover is designed using resources from Flaticon.com; used with permission. The symbol (called a *staurogram*) is made up of two Greek letters, tau (T) and rho (P), and represents Christ on the cross. It is included in some ancient manuscripts of the New Testament where the word “cross” or “crucify” appear. It is similar in appearance to the Chi-Rho symbol, an ancient Christian symbol made up of the first two letters (XP) in the Greek word for Christ.

Today we celebrate with our confirmands and their families:

Gracie Jane Brackman, daughter of Bradley & Nicole Brackman
Confirmation Verse: Joshua 1:9

Kahlan Nicole Haase, daughter of Jonathan & Becky Haase
Confirmation Verse: Acts 16:31

Cody John Hass, son of Chris & Katie Hass
Confirmation Verse: Matthew 19:26

Benjamin Paul Kuecker, son of Chris & Carista Kuecker
Confirmation Verse: John 15:5

Kiefer Max Lange, son of Jonathan & Amy Lange
Confirmation Verse: Ephesians 2:8-9

Tytus Drew Lark, son of Eric & Joely Lark
Confirmation Verse: Revelation 2:10

Lindsay Ruth McKeage, daughter of Patrick & Karla McKeage
Confirmation Verse: Psalm 119:105

Konner Joseph McKnight, son of Kory & Kerby McKnight
Confirmation Verse: Philippians 4:13

Jacob John Matisko, son of Whitney Matisko and Brian Matisko
Confirmation Verse: Psalm 27:1

Jemma Leigh Oetting, daughter of Clint & Veronica Oetting
Confirmation Verse: Joshua 1:9

Lily Louise Petty, daughter of Kent & Alyssa Petty
Confirmation Verse: Philippians 4:13

Evan Matthew Rankin, son of Matthew & Allison Rankin
Confirmation Verse: Psalm 55:22

Cooper Charles Steinkuhler, son of Troy & Stacey Steinkuhler
Confirmation Verse: John 14:6

Bryce Alexander Strobel, son of Eddie & Kristina Strobel
Confirmation Verse: John 8:12