

Confirmation Sunday
The Tomorrow River Lutheran Parish
October 20, 2024

We welcome visitors into our community! May you be blessed as you join us in Worship!

GATHERING

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

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

All: Amen.

Pastor: Let us confess our sin and come to God for healing.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Pastor: Gracious God,

All: have mercy on us.

**We confess that we have honored you with our lips,
but have harmed our neighbors with our tongues.**

**The cravings at war within us
cause conflicts and disputes.**

In our desire to be first

we make distinctions among ourselves.

We place the needs of the poor and the suffering last.

In your great mercy, forgive us our sins.

**Draw near to us with grace in time of need,
and turn us to follow in the way of Jesus Christ,
our Savior and Lord.**

Amen.

Pastor: God promises to forgive our iniquity
and to remember our sin no more.

By grace you have been saved.

In the name of † Jesus Christ,
the source of eternal healing,
your sins are forgiven.

All: Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

All: *Sovereign God, you turn your greatness into goodness for all the peoples on earth. Shape us into willing servants of your kingdom, and make us desire always and only your will, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.*

(Confirmands come forward.)

AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM

Pastor: Let us pray. Merciful God, we thank you for this *sister/brother*, whom you have made your own by water and the Word in baptism. You have called *her/him* to yourself, enlightened *her/him* with the gifts of your Spirit, and nourished *her/him* in the community of faith. Uphold your servant 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.

Congregation: Amen

Pastor: (to confirmand) 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?

Confirmand: *I renounce them.*

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

Confirmand: *I renounce them.*

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

Confirmand: *I renounce them.*

P: (to all) Do you believe in God the Father?

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

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

All: **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.**

P: Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

All: **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.**

P (to confirmand): 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?

Confirmand: *I do and I ask God to help and guide me.*

P: People of God, do you promise to support this *sister/brother* and pray for *her/him* in *her/his* life in Christ?

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

P: Gracious Lord, through water and the spirit you have made this *woman/man* your own. You forgave *her/him* all *her/his* sins and brought *her/him* to newness of life. Continue to strengthen *her/him* with the Holy Spirit, and daily increase in *her/him* your gifts of grace: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord.

C: Amen

Oakley Franson affirms her Baptism (8:30 am only)

(parents, sponsors and other loved ones
are invited to come forward for the laying on of hands.)

Oakley's Faith Statement is read:

I believe God has a plan for the world and for me. I believe that God accepted me into his family at baptism and forgives my sins in communion. I believe God listens to my prayers and acts based on what is best for me and the people around me. I know that God will never abandon me in life or death.

I believe that the bible is meant to guide and teach us. I believe that the commandments are meant to keep us on the right path. I know that God's word continues to be present in the world around me.

I believe that church is meant to maintain my relationship with God. I believe that the expectations of the church are important. I believe that it is important to keep coming to church services. I know that work for the church is important to God.

I believe that the mental health of others is important to me. I believe that I was put on this Earth to help people who are struggling. I believe that the challenges God has put in my life are to let me help others. I know that I can help people.

PRAYER AND LAYING ON OF HANDS

P: Father in heaven, for Jesus' sake, stir up in Oakley the gift of your Holy Spirit; confirm her faith, guide her life, empower her in her serving, give her patience in suffering, and bring her to everlasting life.

C: Amen

Korbin Williams affirms his Baptism (8:30 am only)

(parents, sponsors and other loved ones
are invited to come forward for the laying on of hands.)

Korbin's Faith Statement is read:

I believe.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the communion of saints and life everlasting. I believe that God sent us his only Son, Jesus Christ, and I also believe that Jesus died on the cross for us. I believe that Jesus forgives us of all of our sins. I believe that Jesus has a plan for everything that has happened and everything that will happen. I believe that everything that has happened, happened for a reason. I believe that Jesus will be there even at our lowest points in life and at our highest. I believe that God has put me, and every person in this room, in this world for a reason. I Believe that God has a plan for me even when I don't have a plan for myself. I also believe that God believes in me even when I don't believe in myself. I believe that every person in this room has committed a sin. But that doesnt matter. Jesus forgives you.

I believe in God the creator of heaven and earth

But what I mostly believe in is that Jesus died on the cross for us.

Every person has sinned,

Let alone Jesus doesn't frown at us for our sins.

I believe that he forgives us for each and every sin that we have made.

Even if you are baptized or not.

Violent sin or a sin as simple as greed.

Even if you don't believe, he will forgive you.

I know this puts me in a very small minority of Christians, but this is what I believe.

PRAYER AND LAYING ON OF HANDS

P: Father in heaven, for Jesus' sake, stir up in Korbin the gift of your Holy Spirit; confirm his faith, guide his life, empower him in his serving, give him patience in suffering, and bring him to everlasting life.

C: Amen

Rohen Reichenbach affirms his Baptism (9:30 am only)

(parents, sponsors and other loved ones
are invited to come forward for the laying on of hands.)

Rohen's Faith Statement is read:

I believe in Jesus and that he died for our sins. I believe that he rose again. I believe at my baptism I got accepted into God's family. In order to stay connected to my church, I will donate my time, money and talents. I

believe there is only one God and I should honor my Mother and Father. I know that in my life I will be tempted to commit sin, but my church community will help me with support and guidance. I am happy to confirm my faith as a Lutheran.

PRAYER AND LAYING ON OF HANDS

P: Father in heaven, for Jesus' sake, stir up in Rohen the gift of your Holy Spirit; confirm his faith, guide his life, empower him in his serving, give him patience in suffering, and bring him to everlasting life.

C: Amen

Alexis Wierzba affirms her Baptism (9:30 am only)

(parents, sponsors and other loved ones are invited to come forward for the laying on of hands.)

Alexis' Faith Statement is read:

I would like to start with a passage from Romans (chapter 10, verse 10) "It is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you confess and you are saved." These words helped to guide me as I sat down to write my faith statement. I believe in the Father Almighty, who created everything and everyone.

I believe in Jesus, our protector, our savior, and our guide through this tough world. I believe he died for our sins, that Jesus is present in the bread and the wine we drink. I believe coming to church every Sunday helps me connect to a higher power. If I ask for forgiveness or for wisdom, I believe God will listen to me and lead me down the right path.

I believe that attending church with my family has helped to guide me to finding peace within myself and with my neighbors. I enjoy being a member of this congregation, its warmth and comfortness has always made me feel safe and at home and I believe that this is made possible by God working through each and every one of us. I believe God has called me to show and spread the words of the gospel to others who need his guidance on the right path for their lives. I promise to always believe in him and his judgment, even if something doesn't go my way the first time. I trust in God, that he is showing me the path that he has chosen for my life.

PRAYER AND LAYING ON OF HANDS

P: Father in heaven, for Jesus' sake, stir up in Alexis the gift of your Holy Spirit; confirm her faith, guide her life, empower her in her serving, give her patience in suffering, and bring her to everlasting life.

C: Amen

Gracey Prescher affirms her Baptism (10:15 am only)

(parents, sponsors and other loved ones are invited to come forward for the laying on of hands.)

Gracey's Faith Statement is read:

I believe in the one and only God, the strength who will always guide me and will always be there for me to rely on. God is everywhere I go. He's looking after me as well as my family.

When going through troubles, I turn to him. I have faith that God is guiding me to be the best version of myself. I got baptized and God has loved me and protected me since. I put my trust in Jesus Christ, the Son of God, and my savior. His death on the cross and his resurrection help me understand redemption. I believe through him I can find peace and forgiveness within myself and others. I want to follow Jesus' teachings throughout my life and pass it down through generations. I want to follow him by showing his greatness to others and putting his teachings into my actions everyday from when I wake at dawn to when I go to sleep at night.

PRAYER AND LAYING ON OF HANDS

P: Father in heaven, for Jesus' sake, stir up in Gracey the gift of your Holy Spirit; confirm her faith, guide her life, empower her in her serving, give her patience in suffering, and bring her to everlasting life.

C: Amen

WORD

***GOSPEL**

Mark 10:35-45

³⁵James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came forward to him and said to him, "Teacher, we want you to do for us whatever we ask of you." ³⁶And he said to them, "What is it you want me to do for you?" ³⁷And they said to him, "Grant us to sit, one at your right hand and one at your left, in your glory." ³⁸But Jesus said to them, "You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I drink, or be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with?" ³⁹They replied, "We are able." Then Jesus said to them, "The cup that I drink you will drink; and with the baptism with which I am baptized, you will be baptized; ⁴⁰but to sit at my right hand or at my left is not mine to grant, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared."

⁴¹When the ten heard this, they began to be angry with James and John. ⁴²So Jesus called them and said to them, "You know that among the Gentiles those whom they recognize as their rulers lord it over them, and their great ones are tyrants over them. ⁴³But it is not so among you; but whoever wishes to become great among you must be your servant, ⁴⁴and whoever wishes to be first among you must be slave of all. ⁴⁵For the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life a ransom for many."

SERMON

Pastor Dwight Anderson

HYMN OF THE DAY: *If You But Trust in God to Guide You* #769
(See back page for hymn.)

*PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Pastor: ...Merciful God ...
Congregation: Receive our prayer.

MEAL

* WORDS OF INSTITUTION

* THE LORD'S PRAYER

All: 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

(The distribution will be processional and the ushers will guide you. All who believe there is forgiveness of sin available in this meal that is offered by Christ Himself are welcome to come forward. Communion will be served by intinction. The pastor and assistant give the bread and wine, with these words: "The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you." Touch the wafer to the wine or juice.)

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

Beautiful Savior #838

Children of the Heavenly Father #781

OFFERING

(As a spiritual discipline, ask the Holy Spirit to nudge you in offering yourself and a portion of God's many blessings God has given you for God's use in the church and world. A collection box is available at the back of the sanctuary for indoor services, or next to the side door at Nelsonville for the outdoor service. To support the ministries and as a response to God's love for you, consider using electronic giving at www.trchurch.org/electronic-giving.)

* BLESSING

If You But Trust in God to Guide You



1 If you but trust in God to guide you with gen - tle
 2 What gain is there in anx - ious weep - ing, in help - less
 3 The Lord our rest - less hearts is hold - ing, in peace and
 4 Sing, pray, and keep God's ways un - swerv - ing, of - fer your



hand through all your ways, you'll find that God is there be -
 an - ger and dis - tress? If you are in your Sav - ior's
 qui - et - ness con - tent. We rest in God's good will un -
 ser - vice faith - ful - ly. Trust heav - en's word; though un - de -



side you when cross - es come, in try - ing days. Trust then in
 keep - ing, in sor - row will he love you less? For Christ who
 fold - ing, what wis - dom from on high has sent. God, who has
 serv - ing, you'll find God's prom - ise true to be. This is our



God's un - chang - ing love; build on the rock that will not move.
 took for you a cross will bring you safe through ev - 'ry loss.
 cho - sen us by grace, knows ver - y well the fears we face.
 con - fi - dence in - deed: God nev - er fails in time of need.

Text: Georg Neumark, 1621–1681; tr. composite

Music: WER NUR DEN LIEBEN GOTT, Georg Neumark

Text © 1978, 2006 Augsburg Fortress

Reprinted/Podcast/Streamed with permission under One License #A-725608. All Rights Reserved.