



A WELCOMING FAITH COMMUNITY.
GROWING. CARING. SERVING.



AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM
RITE OF CONFIRMATION
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2024

Welcome

Do you intend to continue in the covenant God made with you in Holy Baptism: to live among God's faithful people, to hear his Word and share in his supper, to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed, to serve all people, following the example of our Lord Jesus, and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth?

PREACHING: Katie Weiland

PRESIDING: Pastor Connie Tiede, Pastor Mike Pancoast, Pastor Sue Wallager

MUSICIAN: Mary Jo Gothmann, organist/pianist

Growing Team Staff

Ann Campbell
Director of Children's Ministry

Lee Neitge
Director of Early Childhood Ministry

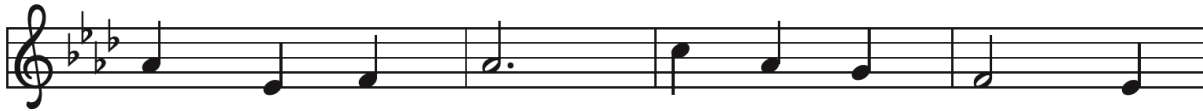
Katie Weiland
*Director of Middle School &
High School Youth Ministry*



PRELUDE:

WELCOME

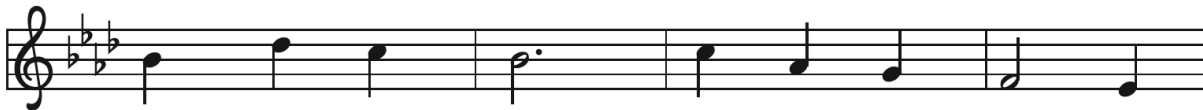
OPENING HYMN: God's Work, Our Hands (vs. 1 & 2) ACS 1000



1 God's work, our hands: work - ing to - geth - er,
2 God's work, our feet: trav - 'ling to - geth - er,
3 God's work, our voice: sing - ing to - geth - er,
4 God is at work in and a - round us:



build - ing a fu - ture, re - pair - ing the world,
fol - low - ing Je - sus to plac - es un - known,
prais - ing, pro - claim - ing to all who will hear,
seed - lings are sprout - ing and bread's on the rise!



rais - ing up homes, plant - ing new gar - dens,
walk - ing as friends, march - ing for free - dom,
pray - ing for peace, shout - ing for jus - tice,
Washed and set free, hum - bled and hon - ored,



feed - ing the hun - gry and shelt - 'ring the cold.
run - ning the race with God's fu - ture the goal.
claim - ing God's love for the lost and the least.
gift - ed by grace, we re - spond in God's love.



Bless, God, our hands as we work in your name,
Bless, God, our feet as we fol - low your way,
Bless, God, our voice as we speak in your name,
Bless, God, our lives as we an - swer your call,



shar - ing the good news of your gos - pel.
shar - ing the good news of your gos - pel.
shar - ing the good news of your gos - pel.
shar - ing the good news of your gos - pel.

Text: Wayne L. Wold, b. 1954
Music: EARTH AND ALL STARS, David N. Johnson, 1922-1987
Text © 2019 Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, admin. Augsburg Fortress
Music © 1968 Augsburg Publishing House, admin. Augsburg Fortress

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CELEBRATING BAPTISM

Welcome in the name of God who creates, saves, and calls us with love that lasts forever.

Amen.

Even before you were born and baptized, God delighted in you and called you Beloved. You were claimed by the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ whether you knew it or not, whether you liked it or not. And the Holy Spirit was equipping you with unique gifts and talents to share as a partner in God's creative work in the world.

Lest you grow up thinking that God loves you from an abstract or accidental distance, the baptismal promises were spoken to you, for you, and together with your name. Your family, sponsors, and congregation gathered around you in the midst of worship and community to declare God's love and salvation for you. This happened on a particular day in human history, marked by the calendar and the memories of the people who showed up. Seeds of faith were planted in your story. We give thanks for those who pray for you and nourish your spirit. They are signs of God's promises at work in your life.

HYMN: God's Work, Our Hands (vs 3 & 4 - See Previous Page) ACS 1000

You have invited us to gather as witnesses as you affirm your baptismal promises today. We celebrate your participation in Christian community, worship, service, prayer, and study for the sake of your sacred calling as human beings who are discovering good purpose and passion in this life.

Voice One: I believe that today is a new beginning, not an ending. I can affirm my faith as belief that is still becoming, with wonder, doubts, and more to learn. Thanks to the layers of promises in baptism, I get to explore who I am and what I believe in community with the body of Christ.

Voice Two: I believe that baptismal promises move and adapt with me throughout my life. Sometimes they are loud and clear. Sometimes they are quiet and patient. There is nothing I can do to break this love, and it doesn't expire.

Voice Three: I believe in the human tendency to earn personal success, to strive for one's own gain, and the temptation to conquer life alone. And so the promises of baptism are countercultural. I will be fooled by the forces that defy God, but my baptism will continue to tell God's truth about love, power, and value.

Voice Four: I believe the church makes mistakes and is far from perfect. And yet, God does not give up on the church, but continues to shape ordinary people for sacred healing and justice in the world. God is calling us back to who we actually are, and God can do good in the world through our lives.

PRAYER OF THE DAY:

Let us pray...

Merciful God, we thank you that you have made us your own by water and the Word in baptism. You have called us to yourself, enlightened us with gifts of your Spirit, and nourished us 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.

Congregation may be seated.

OFFERING/SPECIAL MUSIC

FIRST READING: Psalm 121

SECOND READING: Romans 12:3-8

THE SERMON: by Katie Weiland

MANY WAYS TO GIVE

TEXT: 763-710-2209

ONLINE www.zionanoka.org
click on "GIVE TODAY"

ELECTRONIC GIVING
<https://cutt.ly/ziongivetoday>

or



HYMN: Will You Let Me Be Your Servant 659

1 Will you let me be your ser - vant, let me be as
 2 We are pil - grims on a jour - ney, we are trav - 'lers
 3 I will hold the Christ - light for you in the night - time
 4 I will weep when you are weep - ing; when you laugh I'll
 5 Will you let me be your ser - vant, let me be as

Christ to you? Pray that I may have the grace to
 on the road; we are here to help each oth - er
 of your fear; I will hold my hand out to you,
 laugh with you. I will share your joy and sor - row
 Christ to you? Pray that I may have the grace to

let you be my ser - vant, too.
 walk the mile and bear the load.
 speak the peace you long to hear.
 till we've seen this jour - ney through.
 let you be my ser - vant, too.

Text: Richard Gillard, b. 1953
 Music: THE SERVANT SONG, Richard Gillard; arr. Betty Pulkington, b. 1928
 Text and music © 1977 Scripture in Song, c/o Integrity's Hosanna Music (ASCAP),
 c/o Integrity Media, Inc., 1000 Cody Road, Mobile, AL 36695.
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THE RITE OF AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM (CONFIRMATION)

PRESENTATION OF CANDIDATES

Confirmands stand when their name is read

Congregation please rise.

Together with your siblings in Christ, you wish to profess your faith in God and reject sin. We make these bold statements not because we are absolutely certain about these things, but because we are always becoming faithful to them and learning to wrestle with these claims about our relationship with God. We join our voices with yours to remind you that we are all in this together.

When you were baptized, we stood with you to speak God's truth about power, value and love. We promised to reject the voices that would challenge your first and forever identity as beloved children of God.

Now we invite you to stand with us in defiance of the forces of sin and evil, trusting that the same Spirit who had the power to raise Jesus Christ from the dead is alive in you.

People of God:

Do you reject the devil and all the forces that defy God, the powers of this world that rebel against God, and the ways of sin that pull us away from God? If so, say, "We do!"

Congregation: We do!

Do you promise to continue supporting these children of God, affirming them through all circumstances with their first and forever name: Beloved? Do you promise to hold healthy and safe space for them to keep growing in faith, so they learn to trust there is nothing they can do to make God love them any more or any less that they are already loved in Jesus? If so, say "We do!"

Congregation: We do!

Do you believe in God the Father?

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

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 to the dead. 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.

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

Congregation may be seated

Your baptism gathered a cloud of witnesses to speak promises on behalf of the whole Christian church. Your spiritual family grew to include sponsors, friends, and church members who have been keeping those promises and carrying your faith on your behalf. Today we ask you to make these same promises, claiming your call to active participation in the nurturing of your spirit and the work of the church on earth.

Will you join us in practicing your faith and keeping these responsibilities:

to live among God's faithful people,
to pray daily,
to hear the word of God and share the Supper,
to learn the prayers, creeds and commandments,
to open the holy Scriptures,
to be nurtured by the faith and prayers of others,
so that you learn to trust God,
proclaim Christ through word and deed,
care for others and the world God made,
and work for justice and peace?

Confirmands respond: I will, and I ask God to help me.

LAYING ON OF HANDS

Parents, sponsors or godparents, and confirmation mentors are asked to come forward when their child's name is read. All will lay their hands on each of the students as they are confirmed and receive the blessing.

Gracious God,

Thanks to the free gift of eternal life through Jesus, death's power is destroyed! And, since death isn't so scary anymore, we are freed for more courage and joy in our daily lives that can witness to your great love. Continue to bless _____ with dignity, belonging, and purpose that come from you. Pour out your Holy Spirit upon _____; 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.

Amen.

THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Each petition ends with, "Lord, in your mercy,"

Congregation responds, "**Hear our prayer.**"

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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

DISTRIBUTION HYMN: Be Thou My Vision 793



1 Be thou my vi - sion, O Lord of my heart;
2 Be thou my wis - dom, and thou my true word;
3 Rich - es I heed not, nor vain, emp - ty praise,
4 Light of my soul, af - ter vic - to - ry won,



naught be all else to me, save that thou art:
I ev - er with thee and thou with me, Lord.
thou mine in - her - i - tance, now and al - ways:
may I reach heav - en's joys, O heav - en's Sun!

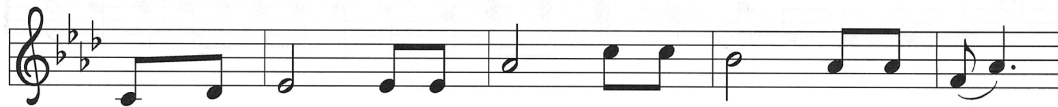


thou my best thought both by day and by night,
Thou my soul's shel - ter, and thou my high tow'r,
thou and thou on - ly, the first in my heart,
Heart of my own heart, what - ev - er be - fall,



wak - ing or sleep - ing, thy pres - ence my light.
raise thou me heav'n - ward, O Pow'r of my pow'r.
great God of heav - en, my trea - sure thou art.
still be my vi - sion, O Rul - er of all.

Text: Irish, 8th cent.; vers. Eleanor H. Hull, 1860–1935, alt.; tr. Mary E. Byrne, 1880–1931
Music: SLANE, Irish traditional



1 Pre - cious Lord, take my hand, lead me on, let me stand,
 2 When my way grows . . drear, pre-cious Lord, lin - ger near,
 3 When the dark - ness ap - pears and the night draws . . near,



I am tired, I am weak, I am worn.
 when my life is . . . al - most . . gone,
 and the day is . . . past and . . . gone,



Through the storm, through the night, lead me on to the light.
 hear my cry, hear my call, hold my hand lest I fall.
 at the riv - er I stand, guide my feet, hold my hand.



Take my hand, pre-cious Lord, lead me home.

Text: Thomas A. Dorsey, 1899–1993
 Music: George N. Allen, 1812–1877, adapt. Thomas A. Dorsey
 Text and music © 1938, 1966 Unichappell Music Inc., admin. Hal Leonard Corp.

PRECIOUS LORD
 Irregular

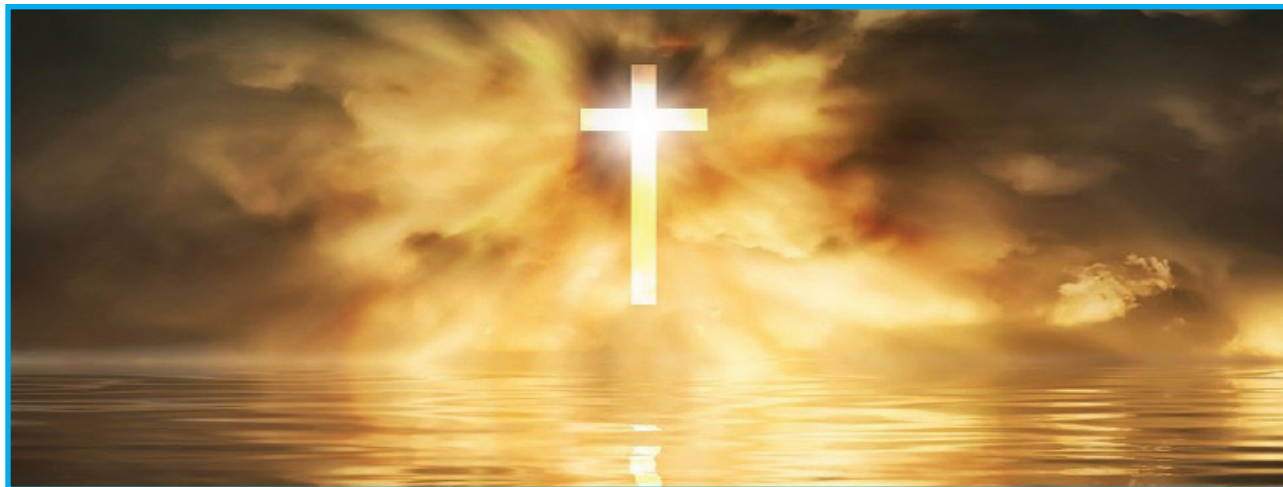
POST COMMUNION BLESSING AND PRAYER

THE BENEDICTION:

Remember we are a forgiven people, eternally loved, thoughtfully instructed, gratefully obedient. Go with God’s blessing to live each moment and to walk into God’s future. In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.





RECESSIONAL HYMN: *Go to the World!* ACS #991



 1 Go to the world! Go in - to all the earth.
 2 Go to the world! Go in - to ev - 'ry place.
 3 Go to the world! Go strug - gle, bless, and pray;
 4 "Go to the world! Go as the ones I send,



 Go preach the cross where Christ re - news life's worth,
 Go live the word of God's re - deem - ing grace.
 the nights of tears give way to joy - ous day.
 for I am with you till the age shall end,



 bap - tiz - ing as the sign of our re - birth.
 Go seek God's pres - ence in each time and space.
 As ser - vant church, you fol - low Christ's own way.
 when all the hosts of glo - ry cry, A - men!"



 Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

Text: Sylvia G. Dunstan, 1955–1993
 Music: SINE NOMINE, Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872–1958
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DISMISSAL:

Pastor: Go in peace to serve our Lord.

Congregation: **Thanks be to God!**

POSTLUDE:

2024 CONFIRMANDS' BIBLE VERSES

SIMON ANDERSON

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

Psalm 23:4

FAITH BECKIUS

"If God is for me, who can be against me?"

Romans 8:31

BRYNN DANIELSON

"And now these three remain: faith, hope, and love. But the greatest of these is love."

1 Corinthians 13:13

HAYDEN DARR

"I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me."

Philippians 4:13

DAVID DOWNS

"Be still and know that I am God"

Psalms 46:10

JACOB FANCHER

"I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me."

Philippians 4:13

TEAGAN GERLACH

"Give all your worries and cares to God for he cares about you."

1 Peter 5:7

LUKE KETCHUM

"So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

Isaiah 41:10

DEVIN KRAFTY

"Whatever you ask for in prayer with faith, you will receive."

Matthew 21:22

WILLIAM MILLER

"Whatever you ask in prayer with faith, you will receive."

Matthew 21:22

RACHEL MOORE

"A sweet friendship refreshes the soul."

Proverbs 27:9

AINSLEY PENDERGRASS

"God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble."

Psalm 46:1

EMMA QUARBERG

"Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful, it does not rejoice at wrongdoing, but rejoices with the truth. Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things."

1 Corinthians 13: 4-7

ANTHONY ROBINSON

"I hereby command you: Be strong and courageous: do not be frightened or dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go."

Joshua 1:9

JACK RYKKELI

"The Lord is my strength and my defense; He has become my salvation."

Exodus 15:2

AXEL SANTERS

"I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me."

Philippians 4:13

WILLIAM SCHMIDT

"For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life."

John 3:16

CHRISTOPHER SEVERANCE

"All hard work brings a profit, but mere talk leads only to poverty."

Proverbs 14:23

ADDISON SNYDER-NOHRE

"Everything is possible for one who believes."

Mark 9:23

MAEVE STACK

"So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

Isaiah 41:10

ATHENA YZAGUIRRE

"Above all else, guard your heart, for everything you do flows from it."

Proverbs 4:23

WE WELCOME YOU TO WORSHIP

Hearing Assistance Units Available

Hearing assistance units are available at the sound booth at the back of the Sanctuary.

Mobility Concerns

We have areas in the sanctuary where a wheelchair or walker will fit. Ushers can assist you.

Children Welcome

Activity bags are available outside the sanctuary. We have two "pray grounds" in the sanctuary with plenty of places just outside the sanctuary as well where children can sit and play.

LIVE STREAM

SUNDAY 9 & 11 AM

www.zionanoka.org

(click "Worship Online")

- OR -

[www.facebook.com/
ZionLutheranChurch
AnokaMn](https://www.facebook.com/ZionLutheranChurchAnokaMn)

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FRI: 9 AM - 12 NOON



ZION
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MENTOR GROUPS

*Glen Semanko
Simon Anderson
Hayden Darr
David Downs
Jacob Fancher
Luke Ketchum
Devin Krafty
William Miller
Anthony Robinson
Jack Rykkeli
Axel SanTERS
William Schmidt
Christopher Severance

* Tyken Beckius
* Natalia Yzaguirre
Faith Beckius
Brynn Danielson
Teagan Gerlach
Rachel Moore
Ainsley Pendergrass
Emma Quarberg
Addison Snyder-Nohre
Maeve Stack
Athena Yzaguirre

* Mentor Group Leaders

Thank you for joining these young adults on this special day. Please keep them in your prayers as they continue to grow in God's grace.

Thank you to the parents for your support and encouragement in the faith journey of your child over the past years. May God continue to lead you and guide you in this exciting life of faith and grace in Jesus Christ.

We ask that there be no flash photography during the worship service. At the end of the service we will take a group photo and then each student will be called forward to take a photo at the baptismal font. **We ask that all Confirmands return their robes to the Fellowship Hall before leaving the church today.**

A special thank you to the confirmation mentors for their love, commitment, and dedication to the confirmands in their faith journey. We appreciate their gift of time and their heart for young people in building significant, faith-filled relationships with each one of them. God bless!

The confirmation stoles around the students' necks were made during the confirmation year. Each white panel was created by them and represents a personal symbol that is meaningful to them or which has had significance to them during their confirmation journey. The yoke of Christ, symbolized by the stole, is a sign of servitude. As the stole is laid on their shoulders they accept a life of Christian service and the continuation of their High School ministry. It is a reminder of the partnership we have between home and congregation to nurture our youth in lifelong relationships with Jesus Christ and His Church.

Thank you to those who sewed and other volunteers who so willingly gave of their time and talents by assembling the confirmation stoles that our students created. A huge thank you to Jerene Anderson for coordinating the stoles and to all those who volunteered their time to sew them together. These stoles are such an important symbol for our confirmation youth!