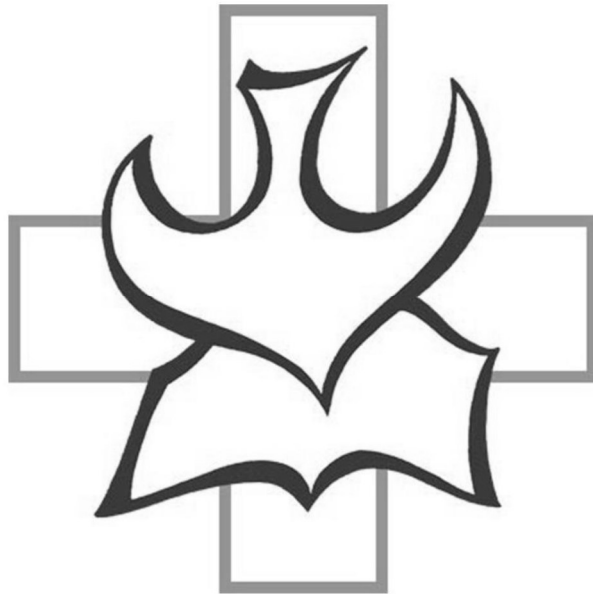




FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
CONFIRMATION SUNDAY



JUNE 28, 2020

St. Matthew's Danube, St. John's Renville, and St. Matthew Flora Twp. MN (WELS)

Prayer Before Worship: O God, protector of all the faithful, you alone make strong; you alone make holy. Show us your mercy and forgive our sins day by day. Guide us through our earthly lives that we do not lose the things you have prepared for us in heaven; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

WELCOME! - This morning we celebrate the Rite of Confirmation. This rite marks the completion of a course of study on the basic teachings of Scripture. In a Confirmation service the students proclaim their agreement with the teachings of Scripture as taught by their church body and also present themselves as candidates for the Lord's Supper. They promise their faithfulness to God and also promise to continue to grow in their relationship with their Savior. As the students make these promises and commitment in their lives, it allows all of us to examine our commitment to God and His Word.

The Six Chief Parts of The Catechism

When we confess that we are Lutheran, we are really only saying that we are Christian. We confess that we cling to the cross of Christ and are cleansed from all of our sins through his blood. Our service today will serve as a review of chief teachings of our faith. Our confirmands at St. John's, having studied God's Word will make a public statement of that faith. As we review these truths today, may we all be strengthened in the faith and empowered to live a Christian life. These chief parts of the Christian faith as recorded by Martin Luther in his Small Catechism are:

Baptism
The Ministry of the Keys and Confession
The Ten Commandments
The Creed
The Lord's Prayer
The Lord's Supper

Martin Luther often showed a deep concern for the Christian training of young people. Luther's chief purpose in writing the catechism was to assist fathers to teach their children to know and believe that the only way of salvation is by faith in Jesus. He wanted the catechism to be simple yet include all the main teachings of the Bible. For 500 years the catechism has served well in giving young and old alike a basic foundation upon which the Lord can continue to build and strengthen the faith of his people as he comes to us through the means of grace, the gospel in word and sacrament. May the Lord bless us today as we recall and revisit the basic teachings of our faith and as we rejoice with these confirmands as they celebrate this milestone in their life of faith.

¹⁴But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have become convinced of, because you know those from whom you learned it, ¹⁵and how from infancy you have known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. ¹⁶All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, ¹⁷so that the servant of God ^a may be thoroughly equipped for every good work. – 1 Timothy 3:14-17

Opening Hymn: "Praise to the Lord the Almighty" - CW # 234

Praise to the Lord the Almighty

Arranged and Performed by: Nathan and Christy Nockels (and Band), Hymns Ancient and Modern,
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BNq0WtMSmIY&feature=emb_title

[1] Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!

**O my soul, praise him, for he is your health and salvation!
Let all who hear Now to his temple draw near,
Joining in glad adoration!**

[2] Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things is wondrously reigning

**And, as on wings of an eagle, uplifting, sustaining.
Have you not seen All that is needful has been
Sent by his gracious ordaining?**

[3] Praise to the Lord, who has fearfully, wondrously, made you,

**Health has bestowed and, when heedlessly falling, has stayed you.
What need or grief Ever has failed of relief?
Wings of his mercy did shade you.**

[4] Praise to the Lord, who will prosper your work and defend you;

**Surely his goodness and mercy shall daily attend you.
Ponder anew What the Almighty can do
As with his love he befriends you.**

[5] Praise to the Lord! Oh, let all that is in me adore him!

**All that has life and breath, come now with praises before him!
Let the Amen Sound from his people again;
Gladly forever adore him!**

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Tune: Ander Theil Des Erneuertem Gesang-Buchs, Stralsund, 1665, alt.

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I. BAPTISM

The name of the Triune God is invoked recalling our baptisms which give us the right as his children to approach him and call on him for every need. We gather as a part of the family of the Triune God to do what all families do: speak and eat. (Matthew 18:20, Romans 8:15).

INVOCATION

M: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

M: We worship in the name of the Father

C: **Who gave us our lives through His almighty power.**

M: And in the name of the Son

C: **Who redeemed our lives with His precious blood.**

M: And in the name of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Who gave us eternal life through faith in Christ Jesus.**

M: Amen

II. THE MINISTRY OF THE KEYS AND CONFESSION

Confession has two parts. The one is that we confess our sins; the other, that we receive absolution or forgiveness from the pastor as from God himself, not doubting, but firmly believing that our sins are forgiven by God in heaven. In his Word God gives us the use of the keys as the special power and right to forgive the penitent sinner and to not forgive the impenitent sinner. Please join me as we use the keys and confession for the assurance of the forgiveness of our sins.

M: God's Word tells us "If we claim to be without sin we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. When we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness." (I John 1:8,9) Now, let us confess our sins to him and ask for his forgiveness.

C: Dear Lord God, I confess with the psalmist David that I am, "Sinful from birth, sinful from the time that my mother conceived me." With the prophet Isaiah I confess, "My offenses are many in your sight, and my sins testify against me." In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But trusting in Christ's forgiveness I pray: Have mercy on me. Wash away my sins and take away my guilt.

M: By living the perfect life in your place, dying on the cross to pay for sins, and rising from the dead, Christ has taken away all of your sins. "As far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed our sins from us." (Psalm 103:12) You are forgiven. May God give you strength to live according to his will.

C: **Amen**

Prayer of the DAY

O God, protector of all the faithful, you alone make strong; you alone make holy. Show us your mercy and forgive our sins day by day. Guide us through our earthly lives that we do not lose the things you have prepared for us in heaven; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **C: Amen.**

*Song of Praise: All People that one Earth Do Dwell
Based on Psalm 100*

EMU Music: Arrangement: © 2018 Alanna Glover Music: Genevan Psalter Words: William Kethe
(additional words by © 2018 Alanna Glover)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pOINBeP5UcM>

Verse 1:

**All people that on earth do dwell,
Sing to the Lord with cheerful voice.
Serve him with joy, his praises tell,
Come now before him and rejoice!**

Verse 2:

**Know that the Lord is God indeed;
He formed us all without our aid.
We are the flock he comes to feed,
The sheep who by his hand were made.**

Refrain: O let the earth rejoice, lift up your voice And magnify his holy name

Verse 3:

**O enter then his gates with joy,
Within his courts his praise proclaim.
Let thankful songs your tongues employ,
O bless and magnify his name.**

**Verse 4: Because the Lord our God is good,
His mercy is forever sure.
His faithfulness at all times stood
And shall from age to age endure.**

**Verse 5: Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him, all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.**

III. THE TEN COMMANDMENTS

Before giving the Law to his people, the Lord stated his name and reminded the people of his loving faithfulness. I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of Egypt... In his Word the Lord gives us both the Law, which shows us our sins, and the Gospel, which reveals our gracious saving God. Thankful for a gracious God that does not condemn us as our sins deserve but sent his Son to fulfill the law for us. As God's redeemed children we, therefore, delight in God's law that serves as a curb to keep sin in check and as a mirror to show us our sins and need for a Savior. For believers, the Law also serves a lamp for our feet and a light for our path as we thankfully live our lives in service to God. Praise be to God for the gift of his Word!

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Old Testament Lesson - *Exodus 19:2-8a*

² After they set out from Rephidim, they entered the Desert of Sinai, and Israel camped there in the desert in front of the mountain. ³ Then Moses went up to God, and the LORD called to him from the mountain and said, “This is what you are to say to the house of Jacob and what you are to tell the people of Israel: ⁴ ‘You yourselves have seen what I did to Egypt, and how I carried you on eagles’ wings and brought you to myself. ⁵ Now if you obey me fully and keep my covenant, then out of all nations you will be my treasured possession. Although the whole earth is mine, ⁶ you will be for me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.’ These are the words you are to speak to the Israelites.” ⁷ So Moses went back and summoned the elders of the people and set before them all the words the LORD had commanded him to speak. ⁸ The people all responded together, “We will do everything the LORD has said.”

Epistle Lesson - *2 Thessalonians 2:16-3:5*

¹⁶ May our Lord Jesus Christ himself and God our Father, who loved us and by his grace gave us eternal encouragement and good hope, ¹⁷ encourage your hearts and strengthen you in every good deed and word. Finally, brothers, pray for us that the message of the Lord may spread rapidly and be honored, just as it was with you. ² And pray that we may be delivered from wicked and evil men, for not everyone has faith. ³ But the Lord is faithful, and he will strengthen and protect you from the evil one. ⁴ We have confidence in the Lord that you are doing and will continue to do the things we command. ⁵ May the Lord direct your hearts into God’s love and Christ’s perseverance.

VERSE OF THE DAY (spoken by all)

Alleluia. May your priests be clothed with righteousness; may your saints sing for joy. Alleluia.
(*Psalm 132:9*)

Gospel Lesson - *Matthew 9:35-10:8*

³⁵ Jesus went through all the towns and villages, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the good news of the kingdom and healing every disease and sickness. ³⁶ When he saw the crowds, he had compassion on them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. ³⁷ Then he said to his disciples, “The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. ³⁸ Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field.” He called his twelve disciples to him and gave them authority to drive out evil spirits and to heal every disease and sickness. ² These are the names of the twelve apostles: first, Simon (who is called Peter) and his brother Andrew; James son of Zebedee, and his brother John; ³ Philip and Bartholomew; Thomas and Matthew the tax collector; James son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus; ⁴ Simon the Zealot and Judas Iscariot, who betrayed him. ⁵ These twelve Jesus sent out with the following instructions: “Do not go among the Gentiles or enter any town of the Samaritans. ⁶ Go rather to the lost sheep of Israel. ⁷ As you go, preach this message: ‘The kingdom of heaven is near.’ ⁸ Heal the sick, raise the dead, cleanse those who have leprosy, drive out demons. Freely you have received, freely give.

M: This is the Gospel of our Lord.

C: Praise be to You, O Christ!

The Holy Bible : New International Version. 1996, c1984 . Zondervan: Grand Rapids

1] You who dwell in the shelter of the Lord,
Who abide in his shadow for life,
Say to the Lord: "My refuge, My rock in whom I trust!"

Refrain:
And he will raise you up on eagles' wings,
bear you on the breath of dawn,
make you to shine like the sun,
and hold you in the palm of his hand.

2] The snare of the fowler will never capture you,
And famine will bring you no fear;
Under his wings your refuge,
His faithfulness your shield.

Refrain: And he will raise you up on eagles' wings,
bear you on the breath of dawn,
make you to shine like the sun,
and hold you in the palm of his hand.

3] You need not fear the terror of the night
Nor the arrow that flies by day
Though thousands fall about you
Near you it shall not come.

Refrain: And he will raise you up on eagles' wings,
bear you on the breath of dawn,
make you to shine like the sun,
and hold you in the palm of his hand.

SERMON: Exodus 19:2-8a

Remember the Promises

IV. THE APOSTLES' CREED

A creed is a statement of what a person or a group of people believes and teaches. The creed that we will be confessing is the Apostles' Creed. Although it was not written by Christ's apostles, we call it the Apostles' Creed because it is a summary of the gospel truths that were taught by them. The gospel is summarized by the Apostles' Creed in three parts because the true God is three persons: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

*M: Please join me now as we confess the Christian faith that we share in the words of the
Apostles' Creed:*

APOSTLES' CREED

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

**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 is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty.

From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

**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. Amen.**

V. THE LORD'S PRAYER

One day Jesus was praying in a certain place. When he finished, one of his disciples said to him, "Lord, teach us to pray, just as John taught his disciples." (Luke 11:1) Jesus answered with the prayer we know as the Lord's Prayer. It is not the only prayer we pray. It is not an all-inclusive prayer. It is a model prayer that reminds the Christian of the basics for Christian life that our loving Father provides. Remember that your God invites you to pray to him as boldly and confidently as dear children asking their dear father.

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.

THE RITE OF CONFIRMATION

Confirmation is a public profession of the Christian faith, following a period of instruction, by one who has been baptized in the name of the Holy Trinity. It is a rite by which a person is recognized as one who is properly prepared to receive Holy Communion.

Confirmands (St. John's Renville)

Autumn Harder

Spencer Schroeder

Isaiah Schroeder

VI. THE LORD'S SUPPER

The Lord's Supper is the true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ together with the bread and wine, instituted by Christ for us Christians to eat and drink. Today we praise the Lord that these confirmands have declared their fellowship with us and we anticipate that beautiful expression of communion that we share with him and each other in the Lord's Supper. ¹⁶Is not the cup of thanksgiving for which we give thanks a participation in the blood of Christ? And is not the bread that we break a participation in the body of Christ? ¹⁷Because there is one loaf, we, who are many, are one body, for we all share the one loaf. - 1 Corinthians 10:16-17.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

The Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

O Lord God, our Joy and our Redeemer, in your Son Jesus Christ you have provided forgiveness for all sin and the strength to overcome evil and win the victory over temptation. Grant that we may confess our sins, repent of them and forsake them. Pardon our iniquity. Turn your anger away and comfort us by your compassion.

Give the riches of grace to your Church, O God, to the end that she may seek the lost, raise the fallen, comfort the broken-hearted and heal the afflicted. Enable her pastors and missionaries to proclaim with courage and understanding all the words of life which her Lord has given and to declare your mighty deeds and mercy.

Be the heavenly Guest in all our homes, and move the hearts of all who dwell there to trust wholly in you and to have a perfect love toward one another, until the day when you will call us from our earthly homes to live together in heaven.

Bless all who are in any need of body or soul, and grant that they may humble themselves under your mighty hand, so that you exalt them in due time. Lead them to cast all their burdens on you and assure them of your infinite and understanding care.

Special prayers of thanksgiving or intercession may be spoken here

O God of grace, who has called us to eternal glory by the mercies of Christ, strengthen and perfect us. Hear our prayer in the name of Jesus, to whom be glory and dominion now and forever. Amen.

Hymn: “Let Me Be Yours Forever” CW # 596

[1] **Let me be yours forever,
My faithful God and Lord;
Let me forsake you never
Nor wander from your Word.
Lord, do not let me waver
But give me steadfastness,
And for such grace and favor
Your holy name I'll bless.**

[2] **Lord Jesus, my salvation,
My light, my life divine,
My only consolation,
To you I all resign,
For you have dearly bought me
With blood and bitter pain.
Let me, since you have sought me,
Eternal life obtain.**

[3] **O gracious Holy Spirit,
My comforter and guide,
Grant that in Jesus' merit
I always may confide,
Him to the end confessing
Whom I have known by faith.
Give me your constant blessing
And grant a Christian death.**

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Tune: Musika Deutsch, Nurnberg, 1532, alt. Public Domain

THE BLESSING

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**

Announcements - *View our website and like us on Facebook for updated announcements.*

Confirmation of Autumn Harder, Isaiah Schroeder, & Spencer Schroeder

Spencer Schroeder, Isaiah Schroeder and Autumn Harder will be confirmed during worship today on June 28, 2020 at St. John's Lutheran Church of Renville. We pray that God would continue to strengthen their faith through continued connection to the means of grace. Our service will be a reminder of our confirmation studies as we walk through the six chief parts of the catechism during our worship service. May God bless Isaiah, Spencer, and Autumn and may they be a blessing to this congregation.

Congratulations: Levi Rader and Corbin Wohlman

Congratulations to Levi Rader and Corbin Wohlman as they have graduated high school.

Levi Rader (St. Matthew Flora Twp) graduated from Redwood Valley and is entering the workforce.

Corbin Wohlman has graduated from Renville County West and plans on attending ATP Flight School either in Phoenix, AZ or Eden Prairie, MN to begin his career as a commercial airline pilot. May God be with and bless these young men. *The Lord will watch over your coming and going both now and forevermore. - Psalm 121:8*

Stay Connected Wherever You Are:

We realize that not everyone will be ready to return to worship as we reopen. We would like to encourage all those who are unable to come to worship or unsure if they ought to come to continue to make use of local radio, television, and online ministries. Below is a listing of different ministries available on different forms of media. **Television:** Watch *Time of Grace* at 10:30am on Kare 11 on Sunday mornings -

Radio: St. John's of Redwood Falls on 97.7 KLGR FM @ 8:00am Sunday mornings

Lutheran Chapel Services on KNUJ 97.3 FM or 860 AM @ 7:45 am Sundays

Online: Join us for worship online in one of several ways: visit www.stmatthewsdanube.org or Search for St. Matthews Danube on YouTube for recorded services and livestreaming or follow us on Facebook.

Other Online Resources: *Visit the following websites to enrich your daily devotional life with a variety of online resources.* wels.net timeofgrace.org nph.net forwardinchrist.net

Miss Louisa Kahrs to arrive on June 28

Miss Louisa Kahrs has accepted the Call to serve Little Lambs Learning Center as our next preschool teacher. She will be arriving on Sunday, June 28 as she moves from Tucson, AZ. We are excited to meet her and to welcome her to the Little Lambs staff. May God bless her ministry among us and may we be a blessing to her. Little Lambs board members please consider moving Louisa in as she arrives. Please consider sending her a card welcoming her to the area. Her contact information is as follows:

Miss Louisa Kahrs 430 Bryant Ave. NW # 202 Renville, MN 56284

Pantry Drive For Miss Louisa

Please consider dropping off non-perishable food items or paper products at your church in the designated boxes as we welcome Miss Louisa Kahrs to the neighborhood. Look for the box labeled welcome Louisa!

Renville County COVID-19 Newsletter:

Follow the link - <https://www.renvillecountymn.com/newslist.php>

Tri-Parish Ministry: Sunday Worship Schedule

St. Matthew Flora Twp - 8:00 am

St. Matthew's Danube - 9:30 am

St. John's Renville - 11:00am

Thank you for your continued support

We thank you for your continued support of our efforts to share the good news of Jesus with our community and the world. Thank you for your mailing your offerings into the church the office.

*St. Matthew's Danube
PO Box 67
Danube, MN 56230*

*St. John's Renville
209 Bryant Ave NE
PO Box 416
Renville, MN 56284*

*St. Matthew Flora Twp.
36313 Kenwood Ave
Redwood Falls, MN 56283
(temporary mailing address)*

Please contact or write to us with any questions, concerns, words of encouragement or prayer requests. God be with you.