

TRADITIONAL WORSHIP
CONFIRMATION SUNDAY

May 6, 2018

11:00 A.M.

Together in Christ, Reaching Beyond Our Doors.

GATHERING TO PRAISE

PRELUDE "Choral from Symphony No. 2" Louis Vierne

WELCOME, ANNOUNCEMENTS, GETTING ACQUAINTED

Please take a moment to fill out the Attendance Card as it is passed.

*PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

This is God's house – a place of peace where we befriend one another in the name of Christ. Greet those around you as a sign of God's peace and Christ's friendship.

*CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Fathers and mothers, sisters and brothers, partners and friends,

All: Families of all kinds and sizes,

One: Come and worship.

All: Loud singers and quiet hummers,

One: Quick learners and patient teachers,

All: Passionate pilgrims and curious seekers,

One: Come and worship.

All: We who feel younger than springtime or older than the hills,

One: Come and worship.

All: We who go faster than the speed of light or slower than molasses,

One Come and worship on this day of Confirmands joining and Communion sharing.

All: On this special holy day, let us worship the God of life.

*HYMN OF PRAISE "How Great Thou Art" No. 77

A TIME TO CELEBRATE OUR CHILDREN

"Spirit Song" (sung processional)

O let the Son of God enfold you with his Spirit and his love. Let him fill your heart and satisfy your soul. O let him have the things that hold you, and his Spirit like a dove will descend upon your life and make you whole.

(sung recessional)

Jesus, O Jesus, come and fill your lambs. Jesus, O Jesus, come and fill your lambs.

CONNECTING WITH GOD IN PRAYER

OUR CONFIRMANDS TAKE MEMBERSHIP VOWS

Congregation's response (in unison):

We give thanks for all that God has already given us.

As members of the body of Christ

And in this congregation of The United Methodist Church,

**We will faithfully participate in the ministries of the church,
alongside you,
By our prayers, our presence, our gifts, our service, and our witness,
That in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ.**

RECESSION OF CONFIRMANDS "How Great Thou Art" (sung recessional)

***Then sings my soul, my Savior God to thee; how great thou art, how great thou art!
Then sings my soul my Savior God to thee; how great thou art, how great thou art!***

PRAYER OF APPROACH (in unison)

(based on Psalm 98)

Together we slow down and breathe deeply (*all breathe*), Just so we can consider the goodness of our God. For You God have done marvelous things. So let the lakes and oceans roar, and all that fills them. Let the mighty waters clap their hands. Let the hills sing together for joy, and all living things, At the presence of the Lord, who is breaking into our lives, even now....

PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

No. 895

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. Amen.

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

CHORAL ANTHEM

"Bound for the Promised Land"

arr. Mack Wilberg

On Jordan's stormy banks I stand, and cast a wishful eye to Canaan's fair and happy land, where my possessions lie. There generous fruits that never fail, on trees immortal grow; where rocks and hills, and brooks and vales, with milk and honey flow. I am bound for the promised land, I am bound for the promised land; oh who will come and go with me? I am bound for the promised land. O the transporting, rapturous scene, that rises to my sight! Sweet fields arrayed in living green, and rivers of delight! When I shall reach that happy place, I'd be forever blest, for I shall see my Father's face, and in His bosom rest.

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Galatians 4: 1-7

(NT p. 189)

Leader: The Word of God. **All: For the People of God.** Leader: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

"Love Received"

Rev. Anita Hahn, guest preacher

A CREED OF BELIEF—INSPIRED BY 2018 CONFIRMANDS

(see insert)

CELEBRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION

*All are welcome at the Lord's Table. Come forward as directed, where you will be given a piece of bread and which you may dip in the cup (gluten-free bread is also available). Please let an usher know if you cannot come forward so the elements can be brought to you. **During this time you are invited to bring your offering forward to the plates available on the chancel.** Those in the balcony may remain seated, servers will come to you. Our Stephen Ministers are positioned in the back of the sanctuary to offer a blessing prayer. You may stop there before or after receiving communion.*

Invitation

Blessing of the Bread and Cup

Sharing the Bread and Cup

*Doxology

No. 94

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures here below. Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise God, the source of all our gifts! Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts! Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

*Prayer of Dedication

GOING FORTH IN JOY

*HYMN OF CELEBRATION

"Victory in Jesus"

No. 370 (vs. 1 & 2)

*BLESSING

*CHORAL BENEDICTION

"A Song of Parting"

David Angerman

*POSTLUDE

"The People Say 'Amen'"

Dan Locklair

*You are invited to remain seated for the postlude as part of your worship experience.
(If you choose to exit the sanctuary during the postlude, please do so quietly. Thank you.)*

**All who are comfortable standing are invited to stand.*

A CREED OF BELIEF

(inspired by 2018 Confirmands)

Confirmand Girls:

We have come to believe in Creator God,
Mysterious Maker of First Things:
Stars, galaxies, carbon, oxygen, us.
Creator God is a mix of a father's wise judgment
and a mother's loving gaze.

Confirmand Guys:

We have come to believe in Christ as part of God –
A Glorious King yet born into poverty.
He came to share our fortune, good or bad.
He died unfairly on a criminal's cross,
descended into hell to free all who are there.
He rose again to conquer death and open heaven for all souls.

Confirmand Group:

We have come to believe in Holy Spirit, also part of God –
A Growing Guide who will not let us stay where we are.
A Caring Comforter who will love us exactly where we are.

Church Family:

We have come to believe the Church is for God's People – my people,
world-wide family of people – some like me as well as not like me.

The Church is where imperfect people try to follow Jesus, fall down,
then get up to try and follow again.
The Church is the best place in the world to be, sometimes.
At other times, the Church doesn't get it right, or is slow to hear God's
voice. But all the time, even messed-up people can share
the Good News of God's Grace with other messed-up people.

Pastor:

We also believe this about God, that God -
...helps us heal from our sins,
 is right there with us every step of the way;
...is the light that is stronger than darkness;
...is creating a better world thru even us,
 by our acts of mercy and caring;
...is in the very air we breathe, and in all that is invisible as well as solid.

Confirmand Group:

There is not a place where God is not,
Even in these words that are imperfectly pointing to You, O God.
This we believe.

2018 Confirmands

Matthew Colombo

Parents Bill and Amy Colombo

Mackenzie Cronk

Jamie Cronk

Parents Jim and Julie Cronk

Michael Farkas

Parents Brian and Nancy Farkas

Patrick Guiney

Parents Brian and Marty Guiney

Madeline Henry

Parents Scott and Heidi Henry

Aidan Knipe

Parents Todd and Maureen Knipe

Rebecca Lane

Parents Joe and Marnie Lane

Daniel Rosa

Parents Mark and Katy Rosa

Kaci Sowers

Parents Dave Sowers and Karin Sowers Chrostek