



# 2025 Confirmands

**Eddie Kothrade**

*“Lord, to whom shall we go?*

*You have the words of eternal life.*

*We have come to believe and to know that you are the Holy One of God.”*

**John 6:68b-69**

**Camille Kuntz**

*Now may the God of peace, who through the blood of the eternal covenant brought back from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great Shepherd of the sheep, equip you with everything good for doing his will, and may he work in us what is pleasing to him, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen.*

**Hebrews 13:20-21**

**Elijah Neel**

*Trust in the LORD with all your heart*

*and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.*

**Proverbs 3:5-6**

**Ryan Weinhold**

*The LORD will save me,  
and we will sing with stringed instruments  
all the days of our lives  
in the temple of the LORD.*

**Isaiah 38:20**

**Zack Weinhold**

*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**

*Please join us in the fellowship hall after worship to celebrate our confirmands. A light breakfast will be served. During Bible study, we will explore each of their confirmation verses and have a time of prayer and blessing.*



## Welcome to worship at Spirit of Christ!

We are a member congregation of the Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod. We gather here as the living body of Jesus Christ to be nourished and empowered by the Holy Spirit in what we call the “Means of Grace” — God’s gifts of Word and Sacrament. Through these Means of Grace, we receive the promise of the Gospel: that in the Spirit of Christ God forgives us, remakes us, and reigns in us. May the Lord bless your worship today!

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May 18, 2025

Fifth Sunday of Easter

*This is an exciting Sunday for our congregation! Five young members of this church will affirm their Baptismal faith. They declare their trust in the promises God has made and will continue to make to them through Word and Sacrament.*

### Welcome

***Alleluia, Alleluia, Give Thanks***

WOV 671

***Ref Alleluia, alleluia, give thanks to the risen Lord;  
Alleluia, alleluia, give praise to his name.***

- 1 Jesus is Lord of all the earth;  
He is the king of creation. *Refrain***
- 2 Spread the good news o’er all the earth;  
Jesus has died and has risen. *Refrain***
- 3 We have been crucified with Christ;  
Now we shall live forever. *Refrain***
- 4 God has proclaimed the just reward:  
Life for all people, alleluia. *Refrain***
- 5 Come, let us praise the living God,  
Joyfully sing to our Savior. *Refrain***

*The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.*

## Invocation

- P** We begin our worship in the name of the Father, ✠ Son, and Holy Spirit.

## Confession & Absolution

- P** Our lives are marked in innumerable ways by the effects of sin.
- C** **We rebel against God and hurt others. We feel guilty, ashamed, anxious, and afraid. We are aimless and lost. We grieve and mourn. We hurt and suffer. Our bodies decay, our minds are tangled, and our hearts are broken.**
- P** But we are Easter people who live in the promise of a new creation.
- C** **“And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, ‘Now the dwelling place of God is with mankind, and he will live with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God. He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away.’”** (*Rev. 21:3-4*)
- P** Forgive and heal us, Father. Breathe the life of Jesus into us again and recreate us in his image.
- C** **Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Work in me your new creation.**

*We take time in silence to confess our personal and communal sin before God, confident that we will receive forgiveness.*

- P** “He who was seated on the throne said, ‘I am making everything new!’” (*Rev. 21:5*) This is not only what he does in the future. It is what he does now through his promise in word and sacrament. He puts sin to death in you and raises you to newness of life. In the stead and by the command of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit. Alleluia! Christ is risen, and he is risen in you!
- C** **He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

## Sharing of the Peace

- P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.
- C** **And also with you.**
- P** We share Christ's peace with one another.

*The people greet one another in the name of the Lord as a sign of reconciliation and of the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace (Matt. 5:22-24; Eph. 4:1-3).*

## Prayer of the Day

- P** The Lord be with you.
- C** **And also with you.**
- P** O Lord God, you teach us that without love, our actions gain nothing. Pour into our hearts your most excellent gift of love, that, made alive by your Spirit, we may know goodness and peace, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** **Amen**

*Sit*

## Children's Message

### First Reading

*Acts 11:1-18*

The apostles and the believers throughout Judea heard that the Gentiles also had received the word of God. <sup>2</sup> So when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcised believers criticized him <sup>3</sup> and said, "You went into the house of uncircumcised men and ate with them."

<sup>4</sup> Starting from the beginning, Peter told them the whole story: <sup>5</sup> "I was in the city of Joppa praying, and in a trance I saw a vision. I saw something like a large sheet being let down from heaven by its four corners, and it came down to where I was. <sup>6</sup> I looked into it and saw four-footed animals of the earth, wild beasts, reptiles and birds. <sup>7</sup> Then I heard a voice telling me, 'Get up, Peter. Kill and eat.'

<sup>8</sup> "I replied, 'Surely not, Lord! Nothing impure or unclean has ever entered my mouth.'

<sup>9</sup>“The voice spoke from heaven a second time, ‘Do not call anything impure that God has made clean.’ <sup>10</sup> This happened three times, and then it was all pulled up to heaven again.

<sup>11</sup>“Right then three men who had been sent to me from Caesarea stopped at the house where I was staying. <sup>12</sup> The Spirit told me to have no hesitation about going with them. These six brothers also went with me, and we entered the man’s house. <sup>13</sup> He told us how he had seen an angel appear in his house and say, ‘Send to Joppa for Simon who is called Peter. <sup>14</sup> He will bring you a message through which you and all your household will be saved.’

<sup>15</sup>“As I began to speak, the Holy Spirit came on them as he had come on us at the beginning. <sup>16</sup> Then I remembered what the Lord had said: ‘John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.’ <sup>17</sup> So if God gave them the same gift he gave us who believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I to think that I could stand in God’s way?”

<sup>18</sup> When they heard this, they had no further objections and praised God, saying, “So then, even to Gentiles God has granted repentance that leads to life.”

**L** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Second Reading

*Revelation 21:1-6*

Then I saw “a new heaven and a new earth,” for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and there was no longer any sea.<sup>2</sup> I saw the Holy City, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride beautifully dressed for her husband. <sup>3</sup> And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, “Look! God’s dwelling place is now among the people, and he will dwell with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God. <sup>4</sup> ‘He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death’ or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away.”

<sup>5</sup> He who was seated on the throne said, “I am making everything new!” Then he said, “Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true.”

<sup>6</sup> He said to me: “It is done. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. To the thirsty I will give water without cost from the spring of the water of life.

**L** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Alleluia & Verse

*Praise Band*

**C** Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

These things are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ the Son of God.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

## Holy Gospel

*John 13:31-35*

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. John the thirteenth chapter.

**C** Glory to you, O Lord.

<sup>31</sup> When he was gone, Jesus said, “Now the Son of Man is glorified and God is glorified in him. <sup>32</sup> If God is glorified in him, God will glorify the Son in himself, and will glorify him at once.

<sup>33</sup> “My children, I will be with you only a little longer. You will look for me, and just as I told the Jews, so I tell you now: Where I am going, you cannot come.

<sup>34</sup> “A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. <sup>35</sup> By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.”

**P** This is the Gospel of our Lord.

**C** Praise to you, O Christ.

*Sit*

## *Love Divine, All Loves Excelling*

*LSB 700*

**1** Love divine, all loves excelling,  
Joy of heav’n, to earth come down!  
Fix in us thy humble dwelling,  
All thy faithful mercies crown.  
Jesus, thou art all compassion,  
Pure, unbounded love thou art;  
Visit us with thy salvation,

Enter ev'ry trembling heart.

- 2 Breathe, O breathe thy loving Spirit  
Into ev'ry troubled breast;  
Let us all in thee inherit;  
Let us find thy promised rest.  
Take away the love of sinning;  
Alpha and Omega be;  
End of faith, as its beginning,  
Set our hearts at liberty.
- 3 Come, Almighty, to deliver;  
Let us all thy life receive;  
Suddenly return, and never,  
Nevermore thy temples leave.  
Thee we would be always blessing,  
Serve thee as thy hosts above,  
Pray and praise thee without ceasing,  
Glory in thy perfect love.
- 4 Finish then thy new creation,  
Pure and spotless let us be;  
Let us see thy great salvation  
Perfectly restored in thee,  
Changed from glory into glory,  
Till in heav'n we take our place,  
Till we cast our crowns before thee,  
Lost in wonder, love, and praise!

## Homily

*Stand*

## Nicene Creed

- C** I believe in one God,  
the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth  
and of all things visible and invisible.  
And in one Lord Jesus Christ,  
the only-begotten Son of God,

**begotten of his Father before all worlds,  
God of God, Light of Light,  
very God of very God,  
begotten, not made,  
being of one substance with the Father,  
by whom all things were made;  
who for us men and for our salvation came down from  
heaven  
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary  
and was made man;  
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.  
He suffered and was buried.  
And the third day he rose again according to the  
Scriptures  
and ascended into heaven  
and sits at the right hand of the Father.  
And he will come again with glory to judge both the  
living and the dead,  
whose kingdom will have no end.  
And I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the Lord and giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped  
and glorified,  
who spoke by the prophets.  
And I believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church,  
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,  
and I look for the resurrection of the dead  
and the life ✠ of the world to come. Amen.**

*Sit*

*The confirmands approach the altar.*

## **Rite of Confirmation**

- P** Let us pray. Merciful God, we thank you for these brothers and sisters, whom you have made your own by water and the Word in baptism. You have called them to yourself, enlightened them with the gifts of your Spirit, and nourished

them 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.

**C** Amen.

## Profession of Faith

**P** 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?

**R** *I renounce them.*

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

**R** *I renounce them.*

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

**R** *I renounce them.*

**P** Do you believe in God the Father, in Jesus Christ the Son, and in God the Holy Spirit?

**R** *I do believe in the triune God.*

**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.*

## Affirmation of Faith

**P** 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,  
and to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed, loving and serving all people?

**R** *I do, and I ask God to help and guide me.*

**P** Do you intend to continue steadfast in this confession and Church to suffer all, even death, rather than fall away from

it?

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

**P** People of God, do you promise to support these brothers and sisters and pray for them in their life in Christ?

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

**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  $\dagger$  everlasting.

**R** *Amen.*

## Prayer

**P** Let us pray. We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give us new birth, cleanse us from sin, and raise us to eternal life.

Stir up in these saints the gift of your Holy Spirit: 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, both now and forever.

**C** **Amen.**

**P** Let us rejoice with these brothers in Christ.

**C** **We rejoice with you in the life of baptism. Together we will give thanks to praise to God and proclaim the good news to all the world.**

## Presentation of the Offering

*Stand*

### Preface

*LSB 208*

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** **And also with you.**

**P** Lift up your hearts.

**C** **We lift them to the Lord.**

**P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C** **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

### *Sanctus*

*Praise Band*

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,**

**God of power and might.  
Heaven and earth are filled with your glory  
Holy is the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord  
Hosanna, Hosanna, Holy is the Lord.**

## **The Words of Our Lord**

### **Lord's Prayer**

#### ***Agnus Dei***

*Praise Band*

**☩ Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of all the world,  
Hear us, Jesus.  
Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of all the world,  
Have mercy on us.  
Have mercy on us  
And give us your peace.**

*Sit*

### **Distribution**

*We believe that as we partake of the bread and wine in Holy Communion, Jesus the Messiah is feeding us with his own true body and blood. In eating his body and drinking his blood we receive the promise that our sins are forgiven, and that we will therefore live eternally with God. We also believe that this eating and drinking is a confession of our faith. If you have been baptized into the Christian faith and if you share our understanding of Christ's Real Presence in this meal, you are welcome to receive Christ's body and blood for your benefit. If you do not confess the understanding of the Christian Faith as expressed by the Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod, you may still come to the altar to receive a blessing. Please fold your hands to indicate that you will not be receiving the sacrament.*

***Amazing Love***

*Choir*

*Children of the Heavenly Father*

LSB 725

- 1 Children of the heav'nly Father  
Safely in his bosom gather;  
Nestling bird nor star in heaven  
Such a refuge e'er was given.
- 2 God his own doth tend and nourish;  
In his holy courts they flourish.  
From all evil things he spares them;  
In his mighty arms he bears them.
- 3 Neither life nor death shall ever  
From the Lord his children sever;  
Unto them his grace he showeth,  
And their sorrows all he knoweth.
- 4 Though he giveth or he taketh,  
God his children ne'er forsaketh;  
His the loving purpose solely  
To preserve them pure and holy.

*Blest Be the Tie That Binds*

LSB 975

- 1 Blest be the tie that binds  
Our hearts in Christian love;  
The fellowship of kindred minds  
Is like to that above.
- 2 Before our Father's throne  
We pour our ardent prayers;  
Our fears, our hopes, our aims are one,  
Our comforts and our cares.
- 3 We share our mutual woes,  
Our mutual burdens bear,  
And often for each other flows  
The sympathizing tear.
- 4 When here our pathways part,  
We suffer bitter pain;  
Yet, one in Christ and one in heart,  
We hope to meet again.

5 From sorrow, toil, and pain,  
And sin we shall be free  
And perfect love and friendship reign  
Through all eternity.

*Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers*

*LSB 515*

- 1 Rejoice, rejoice, believers,  
And let your lights appear;  
The evening is advancing,  
And darker night is near.  
The Bridegroom is arising  
And soon is drawing nigh.  
Up, pray and watch and wrestle;  
At midnight comes the cry.
- 2 The watchers on the mountain  
Proclaim the Bridegroom near;  
Go forth as he approaches  
With alleluias clear.  
The marriage feast is waiting;  
The gates wide open stand.  
Arise, O heirs of glory;  
The Bridegroom is at hand.
- 3 The saints, who here in patience  
Their cross and sufferings bore,  
Shall live and reign forever  
When sorrow is no more.  
Around the throne of glory  
The Lamb they shall behold;  
In triumph cast before him  
Their diadems of gold.
- 4 Our hope and expectation,  
O Jesus, now appear;  
Arise, O Sun so longed for,  
O'er this benighted sphere.  
With hearts and hands uplifted,  
We plead, O Lord, to see

**The day of earth's redemption  
That sets your people free!**

***Sing with All the Saints in Glory***

*LSB 671 (tune 686)*

- 1 Sing with all the saints in glory,  
Sing the resurrection song!  
Death and sorrow, earth's dark story,  
To the former days belong.  
All around the clouds are breaking;  
Soon the storms of time shall cease;  
In God's likeness we awaken,  
Knowing everlasting peace.**
- 2 Oh, what glory, far exceeding  
All that eye has yet perceived!  
Holiest hearts for ages pleading  
Never that full joy conceived.  
God has promised, Christ prepares it;  
There on high our welcome waits.  
Ev'ry humble spirit shares it,  
Christ has passed the eternal gates.**
- 3 Life eternal! Heav'n rejoices:  
Jesus lives who once was dead.  
Shout with joy, O deathless voices!  
Child of God, lift up your head!  
Life eternal! Oh, what wonders  
Crowd on faith; what joy unknown,  
When, amid earth's closing thunders,  
Saints shall stand before the throne!**

*Stand*

**Dismissal**

**Benediction**

- P** The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.  
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

**G** Amen

*In Thee is Gladness*

LSB 818

1 In thee is gladness  
Amid all sadness,  
Jesus, sunshine of my heart.  
By thee are given  
The gifts of heaven,  
Thou the true Redeemer art.  
Our souls thou wakest,  
Our bonds thou breakest;  
Who trusts thee surely  
Has built securely;  
He stands forever: Alleluia!  
Our hearts are pining  
To see thy shining,  
Dying or living  
To thee are cleaving;  
Naught can us sever: Alleluia!

2 Since he is ours,  
We fear no powers,  
Not of earth nor sin nor death.  
He sees and blesses  
In worst distresses;  
He can change them with a breath.  
Wherefore the story  
Tell of his glory  
With hearts and voices;  
All heav'n rejoices  
In him forever: Alleluia!  
We shout for gladness,  
Triumph o'er sadness,  
Love him and praise him  
And still shall raise him  
Glad hymns forever: Alleluia!

**Announcements**

**Sending**

# Serving in Worship

May 18, 2025

## Pastor

Jason Neel

## Acolyte

Eden Miller

## Usher

Jan Fuerst

## Elders

Chuck Johnson

Eric Skogerboe

## Reader

Karine Platt

## In our prayers

**Celebrating Birthdays:** Raelene Burmeister, Kelli Elhardt 5/22,  
and Marlyn Coleman 5/23

**Celebrating Baptism:** Mike Voegele 5/20, Suzanne Geren 5/20 and  
Rick Danger 5/23

**Celebrating Anniversaries:** Wes and Lois Spadgenske 5/19

## This Week at a Glance

Today	8:00 a.m.	Bible Study
	9:00 a.m.	Worship
	10:30 a.m.	Education Hour
Monday	6:30 p.m.	<u>Screwtape Letter</u> book study
Tuesday	7:00 p.m.	Council Meeting
Wednesday	10:30 a.m.	<u>Screwtape Letter</u> book study
	6:00 p.m.	Youth Group
Thursday	7:00 a.m.	Men's Bible Study
	7:00 p.m.	Choir
Sunday	8:00 a.m.	Bible Study
	9:00 a.m.	Worship
	10:30 a.m.	Education Hour ( No Sunday School)

## Notes of Information

**Vacation Bible School:** VBS will be held July 27 through July 31<sup>st</sup> from 6pm to 8 pm. Registration is open on line via the website, please spread the word and register early.

**No Sunday School:** There will **NOT** be Sunday School next Sunday.

**Armchair Fund:** The Board of Trustees is going to purchase more armchairs for the sanctuary. If you would like to contribute towards the cost of these chairs, please place your donation in the offering plate marked “Chair.”

**The Screwtape Letters Book Study:** Pastor will be facilitating another book study in the month of May. We will be digging into C.S. Lewis’ *The Screwtape Letters*, which explores the psychology of temptation in letters from a senior devil to his nephew. You can attend the book study on either Monday evening from 6:30 pm to 8 pm on May 19<sup>th</sup>, or on Wednesday mornings from 10:30 am to 12 pm May 21<sup>st</sup>. Books will be available for purchase through the church office on Sunday May 4<sup>th</sup>, the cost is \$5.00 per book. The book is also available on Kindle. For the second meeting, please read from chapter 15 (XV) through to the end of the book.

**Prayer Opportunity:** An Elder will be available weekly at the end of service at the Communion Rail for personal prayer support. If privacy is requested that it will be accommodated.

**Book Club:** Spirit of Christ Book Club will meet in the fellowship hall at 7 p.m. Dates and books are:

- May 27 (Tuesday) – *The Last Letter* by Rebecca Yarros. This is in place of the April cancelled date.
- June 23 – *Bluebird* by Sharon Cameron.

If you have any questions, please contact Joan Mager

**NACE:** North Anoka County Emergency Food Shelf is currently in need canned fruit, canned tuna, peanut butter and beans of all types. Thank you for your donations. For more information, reach out to Toni Peterson.

Average Weekly Offering	\$7350
<i>Average offering needed per week to fulfill work plan</i>	\$7271

**Next Week's Readings**

**Acts 16:9-15 Revelation 21:10-22:15 John 14:23-29**



**SPIRIT of CHRIST**  
Lutheran Church

2749 NE Bunker Lake Blvd  
Ham Lake, MN 55304  
[www.Spiritofchristhamlake.org](http://www.Spiritofchristhamlake.org)

**Our Mission:** To live in love for God and one another, reaching out to all people,  
proclaiming and sharing the love of Christ.

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Ministers:	All Members
Music Director John Peterson:	<a href="mailto:carsinger@aol.com">carsinger@aol.com</a>
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