

Confirmation Sunday

The Church - Studies God's Word



AS WE GATHER

The Church is made up of people who hear, study and apply God's Holy Word to their lives. Today we rejoice in the confession of faith from this year's confirmation class. We give thanks that the Holy Spirit has called them by the Gospel, enlightened them with His gifts, and sanctifies and keeps them in the true faith through His gifts of Word and Sacrament.

PROCESSIONAL HYMN - Thy Strong Word

LSB 578 v. 1-2,5-6

1 Thy strong word did cleave the dark - ness; At Thy
 2 Lo, on those who dwelt in dark - ness, Dark as
 5 Give us lips to sing Thy glo - ry, Tongues Thy
 Δ 6 God the Fa - ther, light - cre - a - tor, To Thee

speaking it was done. For created
 night and deep as death, Broke the light of
 mercy to proclaim, Throats that shout the
 laud and honor be. To Thee, Light of

light we thank Thee, While Thine ordered seasons run.
 Thy salvation, Breathed Thine own life-breath-ing breath.
 hope that fills us, Mouths to speak Thy ho - ly name.
 Light be - got - ten, Praise be sung e - ter - nal - ly.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Praise to
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Praise to
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! May the
 Ho - ly Spir - it, light - re - veal - er, Glo - ry,

Thee who light dost send! Al - le - lu - ia,
 Thee who light dost send! Al - le - lu - ia,
 light which Thou dost send Fill our songs with
 glo - ry be to Thee. Mor - tals, an - gels,

al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia with - out end!
 al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia with - out end!
 al - le - lu - ias, Al - le - lu - ias with - out end!
 now and ev - er Praise the ho - ly Trin - i - ty!

Text: Martin H. Franzmann, 1907-76 Tune: Thomas J. Williams, 1869-1944
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+ INVOCATION +

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

OPENING SCRIPTURES - THE WORD OF GOD

Pastor: Your Word is a lamp to my feet,

People: And a light to my path.

Psalm 119:105

Pastor: The grass withers, the flower fades,

People: But the Word of our God endures forever.

Isaiah 40:8

Pastor: Man shall not live by bread alone,

People: But by every Word that comes out of the mouth of God. *Matthew 4:4*

Pastor: All Scripture is inspired by God,

People: And is profitable for training in righteousness.

2nd Timothy 3:16

Pastor: Christ is risen!

People: He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

+ CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION +

Pastor: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

People: But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. *1st John 1:8-9*

(Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.)

Pastor: Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

People: Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

Pastor: Almighty God, in His mercy, has given His Son to die for you, and on the third day He was raised again to forgive all your sins and grant you eternal life. As a called and ordained servant of the risen Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

+ SERVICE OF THE WORD +

KYRIE

LSB 152

Pastor: In peace let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.


People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.


People: Amen.


HYMN OF PRAISE – This is the Feast

LSB 155

Refrain

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.


Al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.


1 — Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose
2 Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and strength, and
3 Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and
4 Bless - ing, hon - or, glo - ry, and might be to
5 For the Lamb who was slain has be -


blood set us free to be peo - ple of God. *Refrain*
hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are His. *Refrain*
join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: *Stanza 4*
God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men. *Refrain*
gun His reign. Al - le - lu - ia. *Final Refrain*

Final Refrain

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.


Al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Let us pray. O God, the giver of all that is good, by Your holy inspiration grant that we may think those things that are right and by Your merciful guiding accomplish them; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

THE OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 55:6-11

⁶“Seek the LORD while he may be found; call upon him while he is near; ⁷let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to the LORD, that he may have compassion on him, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

⁸For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the LORD. ⁹For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts. ¹⁰“For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven and do not return there but water the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, ¹¹so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

SPECIAL MUSIC - Here I Am, Lord

St. Matthew Choir

THE EPISTLE

2nd Timothy 3:13-17

¹²All who desire to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted, ¹³while evil people and impostors will go on from bad to worse, deceiving and being deceived.

¹⁴But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it ¹⁵and how from childhood you have been acquainted with the sacred writings, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. ¹⁶All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for

reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, ¹⁷that the man of God may be competent, equipped for every good work.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

ALLELUIA AND VERSE

LSB 156

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

THE HOLY GOSPEL

John 15:9-17

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 15th chapter.

People: Glory to You, O Lord.

⁹[Jesus said:] “As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Abide in my love. ¹⁰If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father’s commandments and abide in his love. ¹¹These things I have spoken to you, that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full.

¹²“This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you.

¹³Greater love has no one than this, that someone lays down his life for his friends.

¹⁴You are my friends if you do what I command you. ¹⁵No longer do I call you servants, for the servant does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends, for all that I have heard from my Father I have made known to you. ¹⁶You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit and that your fruit should abide, so that whatever you ask the Father in my name, he may give it to you. ¹⁷These things I command you, so that you will love one another.”

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to You, O Christ.

THE NICENE CREED

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 Christian 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.

MESSAGE FOR THE CONFIRMATION CLASS

Mr. Greg Mueller, DCE

SERMON HYMN - The Church's One Foundation *LSB 644, sts. 1-2, 4-5*



1 The Church's one foun-da-tion Is Je-sus Christ, her Lord;
2 E-lect from ev-'ry na-tion, Yet one o'er all the earth;
4 Through toil and trib-u-la-tion And tu-mult of her war
5 Yet she on earth has u-nion With God, the Three in One,



She is His new cre-a-tion By wa-ter and the Word.
Her char-ter of sal-va-tion: One Lord, one faith, one birth.
She waits the con-sum-ma-tion Of peace for-ev-er-more
And mys-tic sweet com-mu-nion With those whose rest is won.



From heav'n He came and sought her To be His ho-ly bride;
One ho-ly name she bless-es, Par-takes one ho-ly food,
Till with the vi-sion glo-rious Her long-ing eyes are blest,
O bless-ed heav'n-ly cho-rus! Lord, save us by Your grace



With His own blood He bought her, And for her life He died.
And to one hope she press-es With ev-'ry grace en-dued.
And the great Church vic-to-rious Shall be the Church at rest.
That we, like saints be-fore us, May see You face to face.

Text: Samuel J. Stone, 1839-1900, alt. Tune: Samuel S. Wesley, 1810-76 Text and tune: Public domain

THE SERMON

THE OFFERING (*Offering plates are located in the back of the church.*)

THE RITE OF CONFIRMATION

P Beloved in the Lord, our Lord Jesus Christ said to His apostles: "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age." You have been baptized and catechized in the Christian faith according to our Lord's bidding. Jesus said,

“Whoever confesses Me before men, I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven. But whoever denies Me before men, I will also deny before My Father who is in heaven.” Lift up your hearts, therefore, to the God of all grace and joyfully give answer to what I now ask you in the name of the Lord.

P Do you this day in the presence of God and of this congregation acknowledge the gifts that God gave you in your Baptism?

R *I do.*

P Do you renounce the devil, and all his works, and all his ways?

R *I do.*

P Do you believe in the Triune God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, as confessed by the creeds and confessions of this church?

R *I do.*

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 Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, drawn from the Scriptures, as you have learned to know it from the Small Catechism, to be faithful and true?

R *I do.*

P Do you intend to hear the Word of God and receive the Lord’s Supper faithfully?

R *I do.*

P Do you intend to live according to the Word of God, and in faith, word, and deed to remain true to God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, even to death?

R *I do.*

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

R *I do.*

P Upon this, your profession of faith, I announce publicly that you are now confirmed members of St. Matthew Lutheran Church and of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod. Receive the Lord’s Supper and participate with us in all the blessings of salvation that our Lord has given to His Church, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

The catechumens kneel to receive the confirmation blessing.

Lyraphina Marie Khedoo

Cast all your anxieties on Him, because He cares for you.

1st Peter 5:7

Eli Adam Schroeder

For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

Ephesians 2:10

Jordan Joshua Stroup

Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

Isaiah 41:10

Bostyn Ava Toler

Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and eat with him, and he with me.

Revelation 3:20

P Let us pray.

Lord God, heavenly Father, we thank and praise You for Your great goodness in bringing these Your sons and daughters to the knowledge of Your Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ, and enabling them both with the heart to believe and with the mouth to confess His saving name. Grant that, bringing forth the fruits of faith, they may continue steadfast and victorious to the day when all who have fought the good

fight of faith shall receive the crown of righteousness; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Pastor: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs. Lord Jesus, you have called your Church to be students of Your Word. Give us Your Holy Spirit, that we might study, learn and apply Your Word to our lives, Lord, in Your mercy,

People: Hear our prayer.

Pastor: We pray for own church, St. Matthew Lutheran Church, that God would grant us His love, His peace and His joy as we seek to share His Good News with our community and with the world. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: Hear our prayer.

Pastor: We pray for those who are hurting or hospitalized, especially... Lord, in Your mercy,

People: Hear our prayer.

Pastor: Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy for the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

People: Amen.

+ SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT +

PREFACE

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Pastor: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; And most especially are we bound to praise You on this day for the glorious resurrection of Your Son, Jesus Christ, the very Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us and bore the sins of the world. By His dying He has destroyed death, and by His rising again He has restored to us everlasting life. Therefore with Mary Magdalene, Peter and John, and with all the witnesses of the resurrection, with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

SANCTUS

LSB 161

A Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:
Heav-en and earth are full of Your glo-ry. Ho - san-na. Ho -
san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high - est.

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.

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

Pastor: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My + body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My + blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

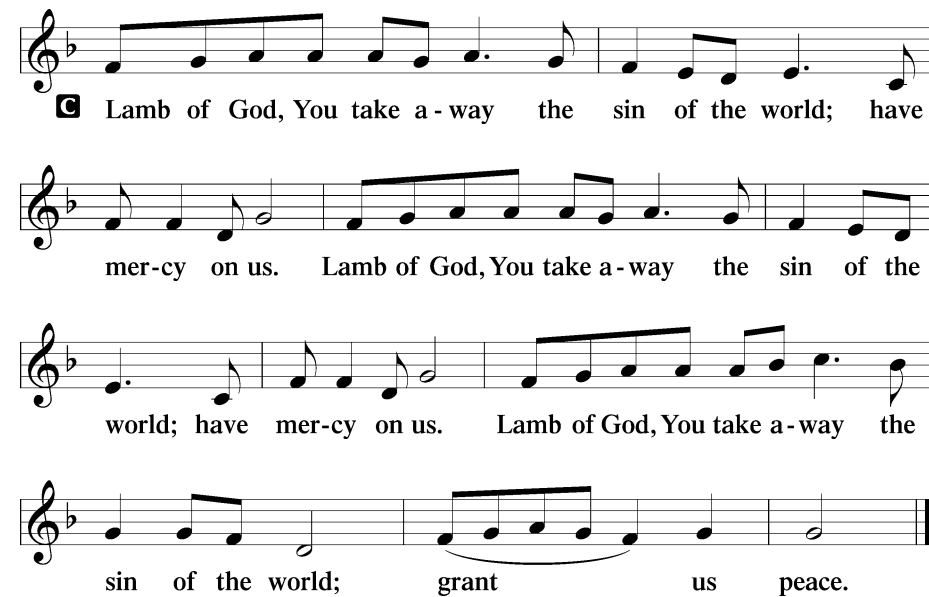
PAX DOMINI


Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People: Amen.

AGNUS DEI

LSB 163



 Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the world; have
 mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the
 world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the
 sin of the world; grant us peace.

THE DISTRIBUTION

DISTRIBUTION HYMN - Let Us Ever Walk With Jesus

LSB 685



1 Let us ev - er walk with Je - sus, Fol - low His ex -
 2 Let us suf - fer here with Je - sus And with pa - tience
 3 Let us glad - ly die with Je - sus. Since by death He
 4 Let us al - so live with Je - sus. He has ris - en
 am - ple pure, Through a world that would de-ceive us And to
 bear our cross. Joy will fol - low all our sad-ness; Where He
 con - quered death, He will free us from de-struc-tion, Give to
 from the dead That to life we may a - wak - en. Je - sus,
 sin our spir - its lure. On - ward in His foot-steps tread-ing,
 is, there is no loss. Though to - day we sow no laugh-ter,
 us im - mor-tal breath. Let us mor - ti - fy all pas - sion
 You are now our head. We are Your own liv - ing mem-bers;
 Pil - grims here, our home a - bove, Full of faith and
 We shall reap ce - les - tial joy; All dis - com - forts
 That would lead us in - to sin; And the grave that
 Where You live, there we shall be In Your pres - ence
 hope and love, Let us do the Fa - ther's bid-ding. Faith - ful
 that an - noy Shall give way to mirth here - af - ter. Je - sus,
 shuts us in Shall but prove the gate to heav-en. Je - sus,
 con - stant - ly, Liv - ing there with You for - ev - er. Je - sus,



Lord, with me a - bide; I shall fol - low where You guide.
 here I share Your woe; Help me there Your joy to know.
 here with You I die, There to live with You on high.
 let me faith - ful be, Life e - ter - nal grant to me.

Text: Sigismund von Birken, 1626-81; tr. Lutheran Book of Worship, 1978, alt.
 Tune: Georg G. Boltze, 18th cent.
 Text: © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110001353
 Tune: Public domain

DISTRIBUTION HYMN - Thine Forever God of Love *LSB 687*



1 Thine for - ev - er, God of love! Hear us from Thy throne a - bove;
 2 Thine for - ev - er! Oh, how blest They who find in Thee their rest!
 3 Thine for - ev - er, Lord of Life! Shield us through our earth - ly strife.
 4 Thine for - ev - er! Shep-herd, keep These Thy frail and trem-bling sheep;
 5 Thine for - ev - er! Thou our guide, All our wants by Thee sup - plied,



Thine for - ev - er may we be Here and in e - ter - ni - ty!
 Sav - ior, guard - ian, heav'n - ly friend, O de - fend us to the end!
 Thou, the life, the truth, the way, Guide us to the realms of day.
 Safe a - lone be - neath Thy care, Let us all Thy good-ness share.
 All our sins by Thee for-giv'n; Lead us, Lord, from earth to heav'n.

Text: Mary F. Maude, 1819-1913
 Tune: Justin H. Knecht, 1752-1817
 Text and tune: Public domain

DISTRIBUTION HYMN - Almighty God Your Word is Cast *LSB 577*



1 Al - might - y God, Your Word is cast Like
 2 Let not the sly sa - tan - ic foe This
 3 Let not the world's de - ceit - ful cares The
 4 So when the pre - cious seed is sown, Life -



seed in - to the ground; Now let the dew of
 ho - ly seed re - move, But give it root in
 ris - ing plant de - stroy, But let it yield a
 giv - ing grace be - stow That all whose souls the



heav'n de - scend And righ - teous fruits a - bound.
 ev - 'ry heart To bring forth fruits of love.
 hun - dred - fold The fruits of peace and joy.
 truth re - ceive Its sav - ing pow'r may know.

Text: John Cawood, 1775-1852, alt. Tune: The Whole Booke of Psalmes, 1562, London Text and tune: Public domain

POST COMMUNION CANTICLE – Thank the Lord *LSB 164*



☐ Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev-'ry-one what He has done.



Let all who seek the Lord re - joice and proud-ly bear His name.



He re-calls His prom-is - es and leads His peo-ple forth in joy



with shouts of thanks-giv-ing. Al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia.

POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

Pastor: Let us pray. We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

BENEDICTION

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you.

The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.

People: Amen.

CLOSING HYMN - A Mighty Fortress Is Our God *LSB 656*



1 A might - y for - tress is our God,
2 With might of ours can naught be done,
3 Though dev - ils all the world should fill,
4 The Word they still shall let re - main



A trust - y shield and weap - on;
Soon were our loss ef - lect - ed;
All ea - ger to de - vour us,
Nor an - y thanks have for it;



He helps us free from ev - 'ry need
But for us fights the val - iant One,
We trem - ble not, we fear no ill;
He's by our side up - on the plain



That hath us now o'er - tak - en.
Whom God Him - self e - lect - ed.
They shall not o - ver - pow'r us.
With His good gifts and Spir - it.



The old e - vil foe Now means
Ask ye, Who is this? Je - sus
This world's prince may still Scowl fierce
And take they our life, Goods, fame,



dead - ly woe; Deep guile and great might
Christ it is, Of Sab - a - oth Lord,
as he will, He can harm us none.
child, and wife, Though these all be gone,

Are his dread arms in fight; On earth
 And there's none other God; He holds
 He's judged; the deed is done; One lit -
 Our vic - t'ry has been won; The King -

is not his e - qual.
 the field for - ev - er.
 tle word can fell him.
 dom ours re - main - eth.

Text: tr. composite
 Text and tune: Martin Luther, 1483-1546
 Text and tune: Public domain

Song Leaders: Sat: Joel Chapman
 Sun: Linda Tobin

Organist: Paul Madsen

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SERMON SERIES
 FOR MAY

THE CHURCH

MAY 4-5	STUDIES GOD'S WORD CONFIRMATION SUNDAY
MAY 11-12	GOD'S FAMILY ASCENSION/MOTHER'S DAY
MAY 18-19	EMPOWERED BY THE SPIRIT PENTECOST
MAY 25-26	WORSHIPS THE TRINITY TRINITY SUNDAY