

WELCOME TO ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

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ROOTED IN FAITH * GROWING IN SPIRIT * REACHING OUT TO THOSE IN NEED

Confirmation Sunday 8:30 AM May 13, 2018

Confirmation is a day of promises fulfilled. The promised Spirit of God is poured out. The baptized have become "children of God" and "joint heirs with Christ." By the power of the Spirit we have seen the face of the Father in his only begotten Son and been saved by him. Bless the Lord, O my soul.

**PRELUDE "Children of the Heavenly Father" Lois McClusky
"Lord, Take My Hand and Lead Me" John A. Behnke**

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING

OPENING HYMN "Joy to the World" ELW #267

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Stand
In the name of the Father,
and of the + Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism,
we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness.
Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

We give you thanks, O God,
for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters
and by your Word you created the world,
calling forth life in which you took delight.
Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family.
Through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom.
At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit.
By water and your Word you claim us as daughters and sons,
making us heirs of your promise and servants of all.
We praise you for the gift of water that sustains life,
and above all we praise you for the gift of new life in Jesus Christ.
Shower us with your Spirit, and renew our lives with your forgiveness,
grace, and love.
To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

HYMN OF PRAISE "Amazing Grace" ELW #779

PRAYER OF THE DAY Emily Bretsch
Gracious and glorious God, you have chosen us as your own, and by the powerful name of Christ you protect us from evil. By your Spirit transform us and your beloved world, that we may find our joy in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
Amen.

SPECIAL MUSIC "You Are Mine" ELW #581

Zion Adult Choir/Congregation
Verses sung by choir ~ Refrain sung by congregation

THE WORD

**FIRST READING Ephesians 1:15-23 Pew Bible NT p. 204
Sam Schauer**

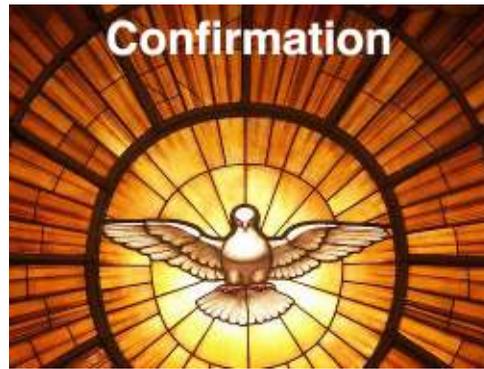
The risen and exalted Christ reigns over the entire universe. The author of Ephesians prays that we would be given the wisdom to comprehend this and display it through love toward others.

Word of God, word of life.
Thanks be to God.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

We give you thanks, O God,
that you make your home with us,
bringing heaven to earth in this holy meal.
Fill us with your Spirit as we go from here,
that we may wipe away tears,
tend to those in mourning and pain,
seek the healing of the nations,
and bring to earth the presence of your Son,
Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.



SENDING

BLESSING

Through baptism, God has given us a new birth into a living hope
through the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Almighty God, the Father, the + Son, and the Holy Spirit,
bless you and raise you to life, both now and forever.

Amen.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord. Share the good news.

Thanks be to God!

CLOSING SONG

“How Great Thou Art”

ELW #856

POSTLUDE

“Crucifer”

Sydney H. Nicholson

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Our first reading is from Paul's letter to the Ephesians, the first chapter.

Ephesians 1:15-23

¹⁵I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason ¹⁶I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. ¹⁷I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, ¹⁸so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, ¹⁹and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. ²⁰God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, ²¹far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. ²²And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, ²³which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.