

Grace Lutheran Church Big Grove Crow River Grace Parish

P.O. Box 10, Belgrade, MN 56312

320-254-3249

bgcrgparishmn@gmail.com

May 19, 2024 - Confirmation Sunday

Welcome in Jesus' name.

We extend a special welcome to guests and visitors.



Lead Pastor Lisa Meshke, pastorlisaanne@gmail.com
Deacon Brenda Handel-Johnson, bhandeljohnson@gmail.com
Parish Secretary – Sue Wiener

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

May 19, 2024

Confirmation Sunday

Prelude/Procession/Bells

Welcome and Announcements

***Call to Worship:** **Aiden Mueller**

L: We gather in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

L: I cannot by my own understanding or effort believe in Jesus Christ my Lord or come to him.

C: But the Holy Spirit has called me through the Gospel.

L: He has enlightened me with his gifts;

C: He has sanctified and kept me in the one true faith.

L: Therefore I surely ought to thank and praise Him;

C: Surely I ought to serve and obey Him.

***Hymn:** "Shine, Jesus, Shine" ELW# 671

Shine, Jesus, shine,
Fill this land with the Father's glory;
Blaze, Spirit, blaze,
Set our hearts on fire.
Flow, river, flow,
Flood the nations with grace and mercy;
Send forth your word,
Lord, and let there be light!

1 Lord, the light of your love is shining,
In the midst of the darkness, shining;
Jesus, Light of the world, shine upon us,
Set us free by the truth you now bring us.
Shine on me, shine on me: **Refrain**

2 As we gaze on your kingly brightness,
So our faces display your likeness,
Ever changing from glory to glory,
Mirrored here may our lives tell your story.
Shine on me, shine on me: **Refrain**

"Shine, Jesus, Shine" Music by: Graham Kendrick Copyright 1987 Make Way Music
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***Litany:**

Jennah Koenig

L: Jesus Christ has freed me from sin, death, and the power of the devil;

C: Not with silver or gold, but with his holy and precious blood and his innocent suffering and death.

L: All this he has done that I may be his own,

C: That I may live in his kingdom,

L: That I may serve him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness,

C: Just as He is risen from the dead and lives and rules eternally.

L: This is most certainly true.

***Hymn of Praise:** “Lord, I Lift Your Name on High” x2 ELW# 857

Lord, I lift your name on high;

Lord, I love to sing your praises.

I'm so glad you're in my life,

I'm so glad you came to save us.

You came from heaven to earth to show the way,

from the earth to the cross, my debt to pay,

from the cross to the grave, from the grave to the sky;

Lord, I lift your name on high.

“Lord, I Lift Your Name on High” by Rick Founds Copyright 1989 Maranatha Praise, Inc.
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Scripture Reading:

Jeremiah 31:31-34

Kamie Fischer

The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ³²It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the LORD. ³³But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. ³⁴No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, “Know the LORD,” for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the LORD; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

L: Word of God, Word of Life.

C: Thanks be to God.

Responsive Psalm Reading: Psalm 46 **Jennah Koenig**

L: God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

C: Therefore we will not fear, though the earth should change, though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea;

L: though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble with its tumult.

C: There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy habitation of the Most High.

L: God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be moved; God will help it when the morning dawns.

C: The nations are in an uproar, the kingdoms totter; he utters his voice, the earth melts.

L: The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge.

C: Come, behold the works of the LORD; see what desolations he has brought on the earth.

L: He makes wars cease to the end of the earth; he breaks the bow, and shatters the spear; he burns the shields with fire.

C: “Be still, and know that I am God! I am exalted among the nations, I am exalted in the earth.”

L: The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge.

Scripture Reading: Colossians 3:12-17 **Jackson Kirckof**

As God’s chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other. Just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God. And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

L: Word of God, Word of Life **C: Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Acclamation: “Thy Word” x2

Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.

Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.

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***Holy Gospel:**

Matthew 22: 34-40

Reid Dickhoff

L: The Holy Gospel according to the Book of Matthew.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

³⁴ When the Pharisees heard that he had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together, ³⁵ and one of them, an expert in the law, asked him a question to test him. ³⁶ “Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?” ³⁷ He said to him, “ ‘You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.’ ³⁸ This is the greatest and first commandment. ³⁹ And a second is like it: ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ ⁴⁰ On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.”

L: The Gospel of our Lord. **C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon

Pastor Lisa Meshke

Hymn:

“Ten Thousand Reasons”

(“Bless the Lord, O My Soul”)

Refrain:

Bless the Lord, O my soul, O my soul;
worship his holy name. Sing like never before,
O my soul; I'll worship your holy name.

1 The sun comes up, it's a new day dawning;
it's time to sing your song again.
What ever may pass, and whatever lies before me,
let me be singing when the evening comes.

2 You're rich in love, and you're slow to anger,
your name is great, and your heart is kind.
For all your goodness, I will keep on singing—
ten thousand reasons for my heart to find.

3 And on that day when my strength is failing,
the end draws near, and my time has come;
still, my soul will sing your praise unending—
ten thousand years and then forever more!

Text: Matt Redman, b. 1974, and Jonas Myrin, b. 1982

Music: Matt Redman and Jonas Myrin CCLI #2275507 Public Domain

Affirmation of Baptism

Presentation of the Confirmands

ELW page 234

Confirmands come forward as their names are read by the president of Grace Lutheran Church.

Council President: The young people before you, having been instructed in the Christian faith, now desire to affirm their faith.

Pastor: Let us pray.

Merciful God, we thank you for these sisters and brothers, 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. **Amen.**

Pastor: 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 forces that defy God?

I renounce them.

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

I renounce them.

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

I renounce them.

Do you believe in God the Father?

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

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Confirmands recite their Bible verse

Pastor: You have made public confession 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;
to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed; to serve all people, following the example of Jesus,
and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth?

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

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

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

(Confirmands please be seated except for Reid and Kamie)

Laying on of Hands

(As each confirmand comes forward, parents, siblings, sponsors, confirmation mentor, and other significant individuals are invited to come forward with him/her for the laying on of hands.)

*Reid and Kamie's families come forward first.
Jackson and Jennah's families will come next.
Aiden's family will then come forward.*

Parents: I present _____, who desires to make public affirmation of their baptism.

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.

Confirmation Prayer

P: Father in heaven, for Jesus' sake, stir up in _____ the gift of your Holy Spirit; confirm his/her faith, guide his/her life, empower him/her in his/her serving, give him/her patience in suffering, and bring him/her to everlasting life. **Amen.**

Each Confirmand, with their families repeat this order.

When Confirmands have returned to their seats, we will invite them to stand. The congregation offers this acclamation.

Acclamation:

P: Let us rejoice with these sisters and brothers in Christ.

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

P: May the peace of Christ be with you all.

C: And also with you.

Offering (children may bring offering forward)

Offertory Hymn: "We Are an Offering" ELW #692

We lift our voices, we lift our hands,
we lift our lives up to you: we are an offering.
Lord, use our voices, Lord, use our hands,
Lord, use our lives, they are yours: we are an offering.
All that we have, all that we are, all that we hope to be,
we give to you, we give to you.
We lift our voices, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to you:
We are an offering, we are an offering.

Music by: Dwight Liles CCLI #2275507
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Offertory Prayer: **Aiden Mueller**

C: God of abundance, you cause streams to break forth in the desert and manna to rain from the heavens. Accept the gifts you have first given us. Unite them with the offering of our lives to nourish the world you love so dearly; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

***Prayers of the People**

***Great Thanksgiving:**

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 our thanks and praise.

***Preface**

***Holy, Holy, Holy**

Setting 4, page 153, ELW

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, Lord God of Pow'r and might,
Heav'n and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest

Augsburg Fortress. #SB109327

***Words of Institution**

***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.

Distribution of Holy Communion to Confirmands

Hymn: "Here I Am, Lord"

ELW #574

1 "I, the Lord of sea and sky,
I have heard my people cry.
All who dwell in dark and sin
my hand will save.
I, who made the stars of night,
I will make their darkness bright.
Who will bear my light to them?
Whom shall I send?"

Refrain:

Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord?
I have heard you calling in the night.
I will go, Lord, if you lead me.
I will hold your people in my heart.

2 "I, the Lord of snow and rain,
I have borne my people's pain.
I have wept for love of them.
They turn away.
I will break their hearts of stone,
give them hearts for love alone.
I will speak my word to them.
Whom shall I send?" ***Refrain:***

3 "I, the Lord of wind and flame,
I will tend the poor and lame.
I will set a feast for them.
My hand will save.
Finest bread I will provide
till their hearts be satisfied.
I will give my life to them.
Whom shall I send?" *Refrain*

Text: Daniel L. Schutte, b. 1946 One License #A-736797
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Distribution of Holy Communion

Communion Hymns:

"Jesus Loves Me"

ELW #595

1 Jesus loves me! this I know,
for the Bible tells me so;
little ones to him belong,
they are weak, but he is strong.

Refrain:

Yes, Jesus loves me,
yes, Jesus loves me,
yes, Jesus loves me,
the Bible tells me so.

2 Jesus loves me! he who died
heaven's gates to open wide;
he will wash away my sin,
let his little child come in. ***Refrain:***

3 Jesus loves me! he will stay
close beside me all the way;
when at last I come to die,
he will take me home on high. ***Refrain:***

Text: Anna B. Warner, 1820-1915, alt.
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"You are my All in All"

1 You are my strength when I am weak.
You are my treasure that I seek. You are my all in all.
Seeking You as a precious jewel.
Lord to give up I'd be a fool. You are my all in all.

Jesus, Lamb of God - worthy is Your name.
Jesus, Lamb of God - worthy is Your name.

2 Taking my sin my cross my shame.
Rising again I bless your name. You are my all in all.
When I fall down you pick me up.
When I am dry Your fill my cup. You are my all in all.

Words and Music by Dennis Jernigan CCLI #2275507

“This Little Light of Mine” ELW #677

1 This little light of mine, I'm goin'-a let it shine;
this little light of mine, I'm goin'-a let it shine;
this little light of mine, I'm goin'-a let it shine,
let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

2 Ev'rywhere I go, I'm goin'-a let it shine;
ev'rywhere I go, I'm goin'-a let it shine;
ev'rywhere I go, I'm goin'-a let it shine,
let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

3 Jesus gave it to me, I'm goin'-a let it shine;
Jesus gave it to me, I'm goin'-a let it shine;
Jesus gave it to me, I'm goin'-a let it shine,
let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Text: African American spiritual One Licence #A-736797

“I Love to Tell the Story”

ELW #661

1 I love to tell the story of unseen things above,
of Jesus and his glory, of Jesus and his love.
I love to tell the story, because I know it's true;
it satisfies my longings as nothing else would do.

Refrain

I love to tell the story; 'twill be my theme in glory
to tell the old, old story of Jesus and his love.

2 I love to tell the story: how pleasant to repeat
what seems, each time I tell it, more wonderfully sweet!
I love to tell the story, for some have never heard
the message of salvation from God's own holy word. *Refrain*

3 I love to tell the story, for those who know it best
seem hungering and thirsting to hear it like the rest.
And when, in scenes of glory, I sing the new, new song,
I'll sing the old, old story that I have loved so long. *Refrain*

CCLI Song # 29413 Arabella Katherine Hankey | William Gustavus Fischer CCLI License # 2275507
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*Communion Blessing

*Post Communion Prayer

Lord of life, in the gift of your body and blood you turn the crumbs of our faith into a feast of salvation. Send us forth into the world with shouts of joy, bearing witness to the abundance of your love in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

*Benediction:

Kamie Fischer

P: People of God, you are Christ's body, bringing new life to a suffering world. The holy Trinity, + one God, bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

*Hymn:

"Amazing Grace"

ELW #779

1 Amazing grace!– how sweet the sound–
that saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found;
was blind, but now I see.

2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
and grace my fears relieved;
how precious did that grace appear
the hour I first believed!

3 Through many dangers, toils, and snares
I have already come;
'tis grace has brought me safe thus far,
and grace will lead me home.

4 The Lord has promised good to me;
his word my hope secures;
he will my shield and portion be
as long as life endures.

5 When we've been there ten thousand years,
bright shining as the sun,
we've no less days to sing God's praise
than when we'd first begun.

"Amazing Grace" Music by: John Newton Public Domain All Rights Reserved CCLI # 2275507

*Dismissal:

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Grace Confirmation Students:

Reid Dickhoff, son of Joe and Kayla Dickhoff

Kamie Fischer, daughter of Boyce and Stephanie Fischer

Jackson Kirckof, son of Adam and Tracey Kirckof

Jennah Koenig, daughter of Mike and Jackie Koenig

Aiden Mueller, son of Steve and Jenny Mueller

Worship Leaders:

Pastor and Presider: Pastor Lisa Meshke

Ushers: Reid Dickhoff and Jackson Kirckof

Acolyte: Jennah Koenig

Organist: Marla Adrian

Thank you to Darlene Barchenger for all of her work with confirmation this past year. We are so thankful for your help, knowledge, and experience.

Thank you to our Confirmation Mentors:

Andy Johnson

Bruce Wing

Megan Klaphake

Lois Evenson

Les Thompson

Shelly Ziemer

Kyle Quenemoen

Travis Szczesniak