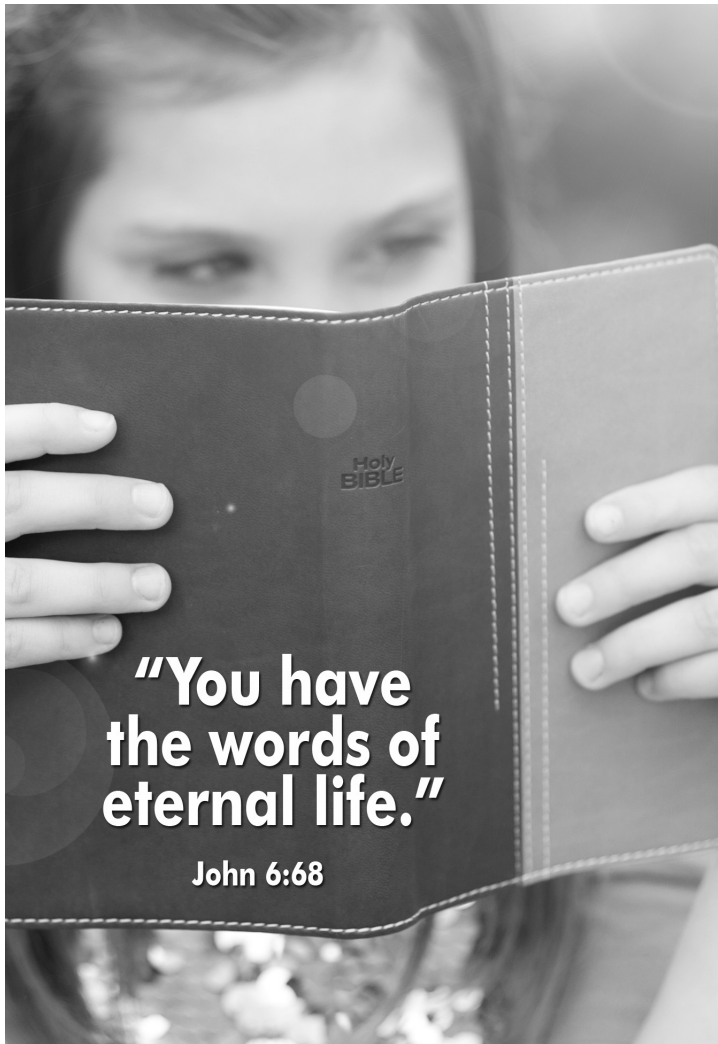


WELCOME TO WORSHIP!



**"You have
the words of
eternal life."**

John 6:68

AS YOU BEGIN,
REMEMBER WHAT YOU'VE BEEN TAUGHT

The Fifth Sunday of Easter

ST. PAUL'S EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH | *Wisconsin Rapids, WI*

May 19, 2019



WELCOME TO WORSHIP

If you are a visitor to our church, we extend you a warm welcome. It's encouraging to see parents bring their families to worship the Lord. If your child is restless, you can use the Family Room to calm your child. Restrooms are located in the hallways along either side of the Worship Center. For those with special needs, large print copies of the service and listening devices are available from the ushers. One of our ushers or greeters can give you directions or answer your other questions.

SERVICE NOTES FOR THIS SUNDAY

A joyous ceremony; gifts and parties; robes and flowers; confirmation can look a lot like a graduation, can't it? It seems like all the hard work is done. But confirmation is just the beginning. As we celebrate God's gift of faith and thank him for the ability to confess his name to others, we ask that God would move us to remember what his promises mean for us and for all his children. God bless your worship today!

The liturgical color¹ this Sunday is red as we ask the Holy Spirit to kindle in the hearts of our confirmands, along with all the hearts of God's children, the fire of His love.

Today's service includes a celebration of the Sacrament of Holy Communion. For personal preparation, consider using page 156 in the front of the hymnal.

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¹ The liturgical color is found on the pastor's stole and the piece of cloth hanging from the pulpit.

SERVICE OF WORD AND SACRAMENT

The service of word and sacrament proclaims the gospel through God's Word and the Lord's Supper.

WELCOME

OPENING HYMN

May the Mind of Christ My Savior | CW 467

Please stand.

INVOCATION

The invocation affirms that our worship begins in the name of and is directed toward the one, true, Triune God of the Bible.

Minister (M): The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ
and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

Congregation (C): And also with you.

CONFESSION OF SINS

M: God invites us to come into his presence and worship him with humble and penitent hearts. Therefore, let us acknowledge our sinfulness and ask him to forgive us.

C: Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.

M: God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son † and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

RESPONSE TO FORGIVENESS

M: The works of the Lord are great and glorious; his name is worthy of praise.

C: **♪ O Lord, our Lord, how glorious is your name in all the earth.** *CW p.28*
**Almighty God, merciful Father, you crown our life with your love,
You take away our sin; you comfort our spirit;
You make us pure and holy in your sight.
You did not spare your only Son, but gave him up for us all.
O Lord, our Lord, how glorious is your name in all the earth.
O Son of God, eternal Word of the Father,
You came to live with us; you made your Father known;
You washed us from our sins in your own blood.
You are the King of glory; you are the Lord!
O Lord, our Lord, how glorious is your name in all the earth. ♪**

This prayer draws themes from all the readings as it asks God for mercy, blessing, and aid in living a Christian life.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: Let us pray.

Gracious Father, you have chosen us as your own. We rejoice in the gifts you have given us all through faith: forgiveness of sins, new life, and eternal salvation. Help us to constantly rely on your Word and Sacraments as our source of strength all the days of our lives, so that we are always reminded of your love for us through your Son, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Please be seated.

The Word

FIRST LESSON

Joshua 1:7-9

As you begin, remember that the Lord is always with you.

After the reading, the announcement is made:

M: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God!**

PSALM OF THE DAY

Psalm 119a | CW p.109

SECOND LESSON

1 Peter 3:8-18a

As you begin, remember to always be prepared.

After the reading, the announcement is made:

M: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God!**



VERSE OF THE DAY

M: Alleluia. Alleluia. Christ is risen!

C: **He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

M: Jesus answered, "I am the way, the truth, and the life,

C: **No one comes to the Father except through me." Alleluia.**

Please stand.

GOSPEL LESSON

John 6:60-69

As you begin, always remember the Holy One of God.

After the reading, the announcement is made:

M: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise be to you, O Christ!**

Be seated.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

The children are invited to come forward for an object lesson.

This hymn was chosen as the Hymn of the Day due to its message about the place Jesus deserves to be in all our daily happenings.

HYMN OF THE DAY

With the Lord Begin Your Task | CW 478

SERMON - Keep It Simple

THE THANK OFFERING

Moved by God's love in Christ, we offer him our first and best gifts, purely out of thanks to him. Guests, please don't feel obligated to take part in the offering. We're just happy you're here as our guest to hear and take to heart the message of Jesus. Please fill out the friendship register as it is passed. If the gospel message has moved you to give and you would like an electronic option, you can scan this QR code with your mobile phone. It will connect you with our website's giving page.



MUSICAL OFFERING

Christ is Always with You

The Rite of Confirmation



Confirmation is a public profession of the Christian Faith, following a period of instruction. It is a rite by which a person is recognized as one who is properly prepared to receive Holy Communion. Everyone is encouraged to join our teen confirmands in speaking these words of recommitment as appropriate.

P: Brothers and sisters in Christ, our Lord Jesus said to his disciples, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. 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, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I will be with you always, to the very end of the age."

In obedience to the Lord's command, you have been baptized in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. You have been taught the precious truths of the Christian faith as confessed by the Evangelical Lutheran Church. You know what God has given you by his grace and what he expects of you as his dear child. You now have the privilege of receiving the Lord's body and blood in the Sacrament of Holy Communion.

You are here to make a public confession of your Christian faith. The apostle Paul, writing to the Romans, said: "If you confess with your mouth, 'Jesus is Lord' and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you confess and are saved. Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved."

Therefore, please stand as you lift up your hearts to the God of all grace and joyfully answer these questions.

P: Do you this day, in the presence of God and of this congregation, acknowledge that in Baptism, God gave you forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation?

C: I do.

P: Do you reject the devil along with all his lies and empty promises?

C: I do.

P: Do you believe in God the Father?

C: Yes, I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

P: Do you believe in God the Son?

C: Yes, I believe in Jesus Christ, his 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 into hell, the third day, he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty, from there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

P: Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

C: Yes, I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.

P: Do you believe all the books of the Bible to be the inspired Word of God?

C: I do.

P: Do you believe that the teaching of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, as you have learned to know it from Luther's Small Catechism, is faithful and true to the Word of God?

C: I do.

P: Do you intend to continue steadfast in this teaching and to endure all things, even death, rather than fall away from it?

C: I do, and I ask God to help me.

P: Do you intend faithfully to conform all your life to the teachings of God's Word, to be faithful in the use of the Word and sacrament, and in faith and action remain true to God—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—as long as you live?

C: I do and I ask God to help me.

Be seated.

PRAYER

M: Lord God, heavenly Father, we thank and praise you for your great goodness in bringing these sons and daughters of yours to the knowledge of your Son, Jesus Christ, and in giving them both hearts to believe and mouths to confess his saving name. Enable them to bring forth fruits of faith and to continue steadfast and victorious until the day comes 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.

C: **Amen.**

Special prayers and intercession

The beauty of the Lord's Prayer is how it succinctly prays for God's blessing and help in every aspect of life.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread; forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us; lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

At 8:00 & 6:30, the service continues with The Sacrament.

BLESSINGS AND RECEPTION OF CONFIRMANDS

Our confirmands and their confirmation verses:

Ian John Antoniewicz - The Lord will rescue me from every evil attack and will bring me safely to his heavenly kingdom. To him be glory for ever and ever.
Amen. – 2 Timothy 4:18

Lilly Hoa Higdon - For you have been my hope, O Sovereign LORD, my confidence since my youth. – Psalm 71:5

Bree Arlene Kaehn - "For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." – Jeremiah 29:11

Benjamin David Klingforth - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.
– Romans 8:28

Brianna Elizabeth Obsuszt - 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

Brandon Michael Van Stedum - Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good. – Romans 12:21

The Sacrament

Please stand.

THE PREFACE

CW p. 33

M: The Lord be with you.

C: ♪ **And also with you.**

M: Lift up your hearts.

C: ♪ **We lift them up to the Lord.**

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

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



M: Praise to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In love he has blessed us with every spiritual blessing. He raised Christ from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms and placed all things under his feet for the benefit of the Church. Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Christ. To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and thanks and honor and glory for ever and ever.

C: ♪ **Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts.
The whole earth is full of your glory.
You are my God, and I will exalt you.
I will give you thanks,
for you have become my salvation.
Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts.
The whole earth is full of your glory.**

CW p. 34

Dating perhaps to the 2nd century, this canticle has been widely sung since the 14th century. This song is based on words from Isaiah 6:1-8.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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

C: **♪ Amen.**

C: **♪ O Christ, Lamb of God,**
you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
O Christ, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
O Christ, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world; grant us your peace. Amen. ♪

CW p.35

Please be seated and await the direction of the ushers.

The communicant members of our congregation will be invited to receive the Lord's Supper. Because the Bible has convinced us that Jesus' body and blood are present in the sacrament, and that receiving the sacrament together is a public statement of oneness in our beliefs and commitment, we ask our guests to speak with the pastor prior to communing. We don't want to be presumptuous and put you in the position of stating your agreement with our convictions before we've had an opportunity to explain and prove them from Scripture. The pastor would be happy to explore our convictions with you, on the basis of God's Word, so that you might commune with us in the future!

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

If you are in need of gluten free wafers or grape juice, please ask for directions from an usher.

COMMUNION HYMNS

Lord Jesus Christ, You Have Prepared | CW 312

O God, My Faithful God | CW 459

Please stand.

THANKSGIVING - CW p.36

C: **♪ Thank the Lord and sing his praise.**
Tell ev'ryone what he has done.
Let all who seek the Lord
rejoice and proudly bear his name.
He renews his promises
and leads his people forth in joy
with shouts of thanksgiving.
Alleluia! Alleluia! ♪

Having received spiritual nourishment from God's means of grace, we return thanks through song and prayer. Notice how both the song and prayer also ask for God's continued blessing as we go out into the world.

M: Let us pray together.

C: **Hear the prayer of your people, O Lord, that the lips which have praised you here may glorify you in the world, that the eyes which have seen the coming of your Son may long for his coming again, and that all who have received in his true body and blood the pledge of your forgiveness may be restored to live a new and holy life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

M: Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness. The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine upon you and be gracious to you. The Lord look on you with favor and give you peace.

C: ♪ Amen. Amen. Amen. ♪

CLOSING HYMN

Our Lord and God, Oh, Bless This Day! CW 599



TAKE HOME QUESTIONS

1. Looking at each of the readings, which verse(s) from each reading would make good Confirmation verses? What makes them good verses for taking the next step into living an active Christian lifestyle?
2. In John 6:68, Peter asks a very good question that has an obvious answer to us as Christians—Lord, to whom shall we go? Answer: There is nowhere else to go to receive eternal life.—Yet, in our lives, what specific temptations and thoughts try to convince us otherwise?
3. Take another look at what I like to call Christian Life 101 in 1 Peter 3:8-17. We admit that none of us are perfect in achieving all of these perfectly. Which attitude or lifestyle is the most difficult for you to put into practice? Are there any that you feel are easier to come by than the others? Why do you think some are more difficult or more easily attainable than others?
4. Pray for each of the confirmands at least three times this week. Think of ways to encourage them in their faith in the coming weeks, months, and years.

NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS



THIS SUNDAY'S BIBLE STUDY

How to Study the Bible – Part 2
Join us in the cafeteria from 9:15 to 10:15 a.m.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR SPLASH PARTY!

June 15 | 1:00-4:00 p.m.

Join us for some summer fun at our new Splash Party event. Volunteers are needed to make this outreach effort a success. There will be food to serve, games to supervise, and people to greet. We also need people to build some of the games or loan us game-related items. Please see the sign-up sheets on the display in the Welcome Center – along the east wall. If you have any questions, please contact Laurie Meister at 715-570-9560 or meisters.kclm@gmail.com.

PICK UP A BABY BOTTLE

If you were not here last Sunday, you can still pick up a bottle for the Baby Bottle Campaign. They are located in the cradle in the Welcome Center. Money placed in the bottles will go to the local pregnancy resource center, First Choice.

MAKE OUR DIRECTORY COMPLETE

June 5-8 & 12-15

LifeTouch photographers will be here in less than three weeks to take photos for our new church directory. If you haven't scheduled your appointment yet, please do so. There are no fees, and you will receive a FREE 8X10 print as well as a church directory. You can schedule your session online; look for the link on our website. You can also call the church office, and we will add you to the online schedule.

LIVE GENEROUSLY

June 9 | 11:45 a.m.

Learn how Thrivent can help you meet your financial goals while living more generously! Matt Casper with Thrivent Financial will share opportunities we have through Thrivent to make a lasting impact in our families, church and community. Learn about the benefits of Thrivent membership and how to use them to benefit the Church. The presentation should last about 30 minutes. Refreshments will be provided!

NO WORSHIP ON MEMORIAL DAY

We will not hold our usual Monday night service on Memorial Day. Our Monday night services are a great option if you are out of town or working on Sunday morning. These services are held at 6:30 p.m. and will resume on June 3.

DON'T MISS THE DISCOUNT

This is the last Sunday to add your name to list of people requesting copies of the books, *Prepared to Answer* and *More Prepared to Answer*. We are placing our order this week, and expect to receive a 30% discount. Be sure to add your name to the sign-up sheet on the Ministry Table in the Welcome Center so you don't miss this deal!

FAMILY FEST AT CAMP PHILLIP

June 14-16

The whole family can enjoy a camping experience at Camp Phillip in Wautoma. Bring a tent or RV, or rent one of their cabins. Cook over a fire, or purchase meals at the dining hall. Just relax and enjoy nature, or participate in the many activities throughout the day. For more information, visit www.campphillip.com.

TASTE OF MISSIONS

July 13 | 12:00-5:00 p.m.

WELS Missions is hosting its first ever "Taste of Missions" event this July at Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary in Mequon. Fellowship with missionaries and their families, sample ethnic cuisine, and learn more about WELS home, world, and joint mission work. Activities for the whole family. The day concludes with a worship service celebrating the blessings of WELS mission work. The cost is \$5 per person; children under five are free. Learn more, view a full itinerary, and register online at wels.net/tasteofmissions2019.

MARRIAGE GET-AWAY IN MILWAUKEE

Sept. 20-21

Grace Lutheran Church will be the home of a two-day marriage workshop on Healthy Marriage. Learn to appreciate and trust your spouse, resolve conflict, and develop rituals that help you stay connected. The package price includes a traditional Spanish family-style dinner Friday & lunch Saturday catered by Olde Madrid of Racine, continental breakfast Saturday, and all enrichment sessions. Lodging is your choice! You can make it a special get-away at a nice hotel or stay somewhere more economical. Saturday sessions conclude mid-afternoon so you can enjoy a date night on your own - as fancy or simple as you wish! For more information, visit wels.net/marriage-enrichment.

SUNDAY	8:00 AM	Worship
	9:15 AM	Bible Study in the cafeteria
	9:15 AM	Sunday School (grades K-5)
	10:30 AM	Worship/Confirmation
	6:30 PM	Leadership Council in the Bible Study Room
MONDAY	4:00 PM	Children's outreach Ministry Task Force
	6:30 PM	Willing Workers in the Dining Room
	6:30 PM	Worship
TUESDAY	6:45 AM	Men's Bible Study at From the Ground Up Coffee Shop
	9:45 AM	Women Walking in the Word in the Resource Center
WEDNESDAY	9:00 AM	School Chapel Service
	6:30 PM	Contemporary Choir practice in the Balcony
THURSDAY	7:00 AM	Men's Small Group at From the Ground Up Coffee Shop
	1:00 PM	Newsletter Assembly in the Volunteer Workroom
SUNDAY	8:00 AM	Worship
	9:15 AM	Bible Study in the cafeteria
	10:30 AM	Worship

ATTENDANCE & OFFERING REPORT

Last week's attendance: 302

Year-to-date average attendance: 249

From July 1, 2018 to May 10, 2019

Actual gifts to ministry: \$ 869,353

Actual cost of ministry: \$ 898,987

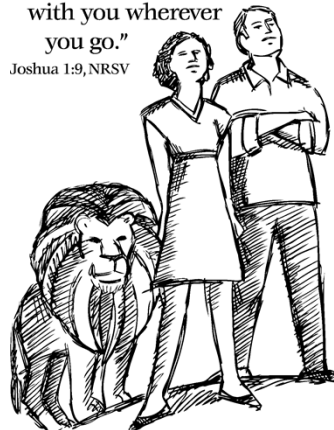
Mortgage Balance \$ 1,522,990

UPCOMING EVENTS

June 5-15 Church Directory Photos

June 15 Summer Splash Party

"Be **strong** and **courageous**...
for the **LORD** your God is
with you wherever
you go."
Joshua 1:9, NRSV





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