

The Lord's Prayer

P Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

C 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 Benedicamus and Benediction

P Let us bless the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit † be with you all.

C Amen.

The Closing Hymn

922 "Go, My Children, with My Blessing"

Soli Deo Gloria!
(To God alone be the glory!)

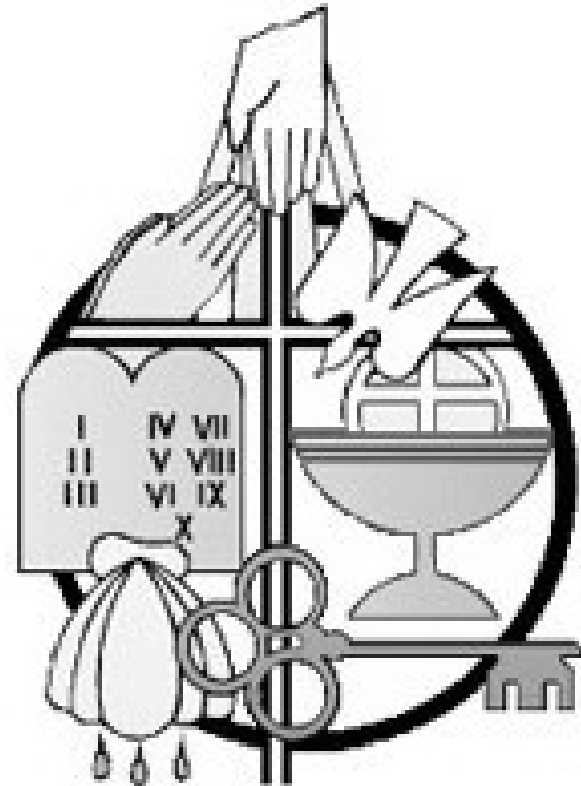
The Service of Public Questioning For Our 2008 Confirmands

17 May Anno † Domini 2008

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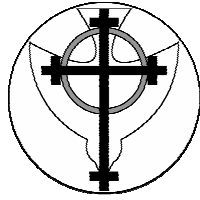
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Welcome and Introduction

The Opening Hymn: 655 “Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word”

The Invocation

- P** In the Name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

The Opening Versicles (*1 Peter 3:15; LSB 865*)

- P** Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you
C to give the reason for the hope that you have in Jesus Christ.
P Lord, help us ever to retain the Catechism’s doctrine plain
C as Luther taught the Word of truth in simple style to tender youth.
P Help us Your holy Law to learn, to mourn our sin and from it turn
C in faith to You and to Your Son and Holy Spirit, Three in One.
P Hear us, dear Father, when we pray for needed help from day to day
C that as Your children we may live, whom You baptized and so received.
P Lord, when we fall or go astray, absolve and lift us up, we pray;
C and through the Sacrament increase our faith till we depart in peace.

The Collect of the Day

- P** Let us pray: Lord God, heavenly Father, in Holy Baptism You began Your good work in these confirmands, and You have blessed their instruction and training in Your Word. We implore You to pour out Your Holy Spirit on their hearts and minds so that they will truly love and revere You, confess their faith with joy and boldness, endeavor to live according to Your commandments, and praise and glorify You as their faithful God and Lord, for the sake of Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, One God, now and forever.
C Amen.

The Readings

- P** Beloved in the Lord, our Lord Jesus Christ said:
“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” (Matthew 28:18-20).

Again, Jesus said:

Whoever confesses Me before men, I will also confess him before My Father in heaven. But he that denies Me before men, I will deny him before My Father in heaven (Matthew 10:32-33).

And finally, we are told by St. Peter, the blessed Apostle:

In your hearts, set apart Christ as Lord, and always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have (1 Peter 3:15).

- P** This is the Word of the Lord.
C Thanks be to God.

The Hymn of Response: 685 “Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus”

The Questioning of the Confirmands

The confirmands are called upon to confess their faith before the congregation by answering a series of questions based on Holy Scripture and the six chief parts of Christian doctrine as taught in Luther’s Small Catechism.

The Proclamation of Readiness and Charge to the Confirmands

- P** By correctly answering the Scriptural and Catechetical questions asked of you this day, you have proven to the Lord and to your brothers and sisters in the faith of this congregation that you possess the basic knowledge of, and are ready to be confirmed in, the Christian faith. However, your Christian education is anything but complete and will only continue as you make use of the means of grace offered to you by the Lord Himself through His Holy Word and Sacraments in the Divine Service, and as you are strengthened in the Word through regular participation in Bible Study. Therefore, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, and as your pastor, I charge you to continue in the Christian education which you have only just begun by making regular attendance of the Divine Service and continuous study of the Lord’s Holy Word a priority in your lives, that you may remain steadfast in the one true faith, willing to suffer all, even death, rather than fall away from it.
- R** May it be so with us, Lord. May the vows we take tomorrow continue to be our vows for as long as You give us life.
- C** Lord, may it be so with these confirmands and also for us. Grant this for Jesus’ sake. Amen.