



ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

420 1st Street SE

PO Box 118

Gwinner, ND

701.678.2401

www.ziongwinner.org

Pastor Mike Grieve

April 2025 Newsletter

Why Confirmation Vows Matter

Why does a boy or girl, man or woman, make vows to God when getting confirmed in the faith?

Are oaths even necessary? Some have said no, based on a misreading of Matthew 5:33-37, where Jesus speaks against oaths. But, if Jesus intended to outlaw all oaths, how would one explain that Jesus Himself is required to give testimony under oath and He gives it: And the high priest said to Jesus: 'I adjure you (I put you under oath) by the living God, tell us if you are the Christ, the Son of the living God.'" Jesus said to him, You have said so (Matthew 26:63). That confession proposed to Jesus in the form of a question by Caiphaz is likened to the one made by Peter in his answer in Matthew 16:16: You are the Christ, the Son of the living God. If Jesus were outlawing vows, He would be breaking His own command at the most crucial moment of his life.

Specific to confirmation vows is the grace and promises of God first received in holy baptism, to which the catechumen, in being confirmed, promises to live in for the rest of his or her life. The catechumen is charged with giving answer to the God of all grace, in the name of the Lord (2nd Commandment). This includes acknowledgment of the gifts of God given in baptism, the renunciation of the devil, his works, and his ways, and the confession that God is Father, Son, and Holy Spirit (as confessed in all 3 Christian Creeds).

The confirmand is asked if he or she believes the Bible is the inspired Word of God, and if he or she believes that the doctrine of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, drawn from the Bible, taught from the Small Catechism, is faithful and true.

The remaining vows truly bind the confirmand to the grace of God for the rest of his or her life. The confirmand vows, by the grace of God, to hear the Word of God and receive the Lord's Supper faithfully. The confirmand vows, by the grace of God, 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. The confirmand also vows, by the grace of God, to continue steadfast in this confession and Church and to suffer all, even death, rather than fall away from it. Living under God's grace is to continue faithfully and steadfastly in all these things. Breaking these vows (even if leaving for a different confession and Church with the name Lutheran on the sign, but not in truth) is a serious sin. The Lutheran church is about the confession of what is true according to the Bible. Breaking one's confirmation vows is a forgivable sin, through repentance (a confession of the sin), and renewal and reaffirmation of the confirmation vows according to the true teaching. For Christ died for all sins on the cross, including this one.

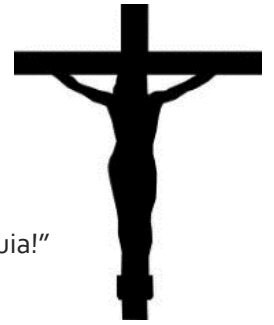
Continued blessings in Christ Jesus, Pastor

In This Issue...

- Why Confirmation....
- Congregation at Prayer
- Mission of the Month
- Invitation
- April Birthdays
- Service Lists
- Calendar



The Congregation at Prayer



The Order of Meditation and Prayer

Invocation:

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

Apostles' Creed:

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

And 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 sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

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. Amen.

The Small Catechism: Confession/Office of the Keys Sacrament of the Altar

April 6-12 What do you believe according to these words?

April 13-20 What is the Sacrament of the Altar?

April 20-26 Where is this written?

April 27-May 4 What is the benefit of this eating and drinking?

Readings:

Judica (April 6-12)

Old Testament: Genesis 22:1-14

Psalm 43

Epistle: Hebrews 9:11-15

Gospel: John 8:42-59

Palmarum (April 13-19)

Old Testament: Zechariah 9:9-12

Psalm 31:9-16

Epistle: Philippians 2:5-11

Gospel: Matthew 27:11-54

Easter (Resurrection of Our Lord) (April 20-26)

Old Testament: Job 19:23-27

Psalm 118:15-29

Epistle: 1 Corinthians 5:6-8

Gospel: Mark 16:1-8

Octave of Easter (April 27-May 3)

Old Testament: Ezekiel 37:1-14

Psalm 33

Epistle: 1 John 5:4-10

Gospel: John 20:19-31

Hymn of the Month:

LSB 463

"Christ the Lord Is Risen Today; Alleluia!"

Prayers:

In our Prayers this week at Zion:

Use your weekly bulletin and include the prayer requests listed in each week's bulletin.

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.

Morning Prayer:

I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have kept me this night from all harm and danger; and I pray that You would keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings and life may please You. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.

Evening Prayer:

I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have graciously kept me this day; and I pray that You would forgive me all my sins where I have done wrong, and graciously keep me this night. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.

Blessing:

Let us bless the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Word of the Month

Terms Relating to Worship and God's House

Paschal Candle

A large candle used during Eastertide and at baptisms and funerals to signify the presence of the risen Christ among His people.

Hymn of Invocation: 463 Christ the Lord Is Risen Today; Alleluia



1 Christ the Lord is ris'n to - day; Al - le - lu - ia!
2 For the sheep the Lamb has bled, Al - le - lu - ia!
3 Hail, the vic - tim un - de - filed, Al - le - lu - ia!
4 Chris - tians, on this ho - ly day, Al - le - lu - ia!



Chris-tians, has - ten on your way; Al - le - lu - ia!
Sin - less in the sin - ner's stead. Al - le - lu - ia!
God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled, Al - le - lu - ia!
All your grate - ful hom - age pay; Al - le - lu - ia!



Of - fer praise with love re - plete, Al - le - lu - ia!
Christ the Lord is ris'n on high; Al - le - lu - ia!
When con - tend - ing death and life, Al - le - lu - ia!
Christ the Lord is ris'n on high; Al - le - lu - ia!



At the pas - chal vic - tim's feet. Al - le - lu - ia!
Now He lives, no more to die. Al - le - lu - ia!
Met in strange and awe - some strife. Al - le - lu - ia!
Now He lives, no more to die. Al - le - lu - ia!

Text: attr. Wipo of Burgundy, d. c. 1050; tr. Jane E. Leeson, 1809–81, alt.

Tune: Robert Williams, c. 1781–1821

Text and tune: Public domain



Mission of the Month

Shepherd's Hill at the Crossroads

Shepherd's Hill at the Crossroads provides Christ-centered faith and life enrichment through year-round outdoor ministry.

They offer their own planned scheduled events including summer youth and family camps, day camps, retreats, and weekend events. These programs are available to community, church groups and individuals. They also rent their facilities for those who want to plan their own program.

Pastor and Krista would like to invite the church family to help celebrate, with our families, Lydia's Confirmation.

You are invited after the service to come and join us for lunch in the fellowship hall.



April Birthdays

10 – Rodney Asche

11 - Paul Roeder
Mark McFarland

13 – Connor Olson

17 – Slatin Essig

20 – McKenzie Schwab

21 – Marsha Mathias

25 – Laurie Timmerman

26 – Autumn Gaden

Continue to celebrate Palm Sunday after church. The LWML is hosting a brunch.

Pastor's Study Hours

Tuesday: 8:30-noon 1-2:30 pm

Wednesday: 8:30-9 am, 10-noon 1-2:30

Thursday: 8:30-noon 1-2:30

Friday: 8:30-noon 1-2:30

Parish Assistant Office Hours

Krista has no set office hours. Please feel free to leave a written message on the desk, or send an email.

I try and copy bulletins on Wednesday.

Email: secretary@zionwinner.org



Acolytes

6th and 20th :Lydia

13th and 27th: Elder

Midweek services: Lydia or Elder

Prayer Families

April 6

AJ & Abby Enderson
Summit & Motley
13360 83rd St SE
Gwinner, ND 58040

April 13

Jada Enderson
15101 Geenhaven Dr.
Apt. C33
Burnsville, MN 55306



April 20

Jay & Karen Ederson
412 3rd Ave SE
Gwinner, ND 58040

April 27

Joey & Cindy Enderson
PO Box 164 112 S. Main St.
Gwinner, ND 58040



Ushers

2nd: Greg 17th Brian

6th: Grover 18th Andrew

9th: Randal 20th Greg

13th: Ron 27th Grover



2nd Brian

27th Brian

6th Krista

9th Evan

13th Cindy

17th Andrew

18th Greg

20th Krista

Note: If you are unable to usher or acolyte on your scheduled date, we ask that you please contact another member to switch with.

Counters



2nd: Sam & Jason

6th Gary & Michelle

9th Bob & Jim

13th Brian & Jason

17th Sam & Gary

18th Michelle & Bob

20th Jim & Brian

27th Sam & Jason

Cleaners List

6-12

- Dennis & Cindy Lingerkamp
- Randal & Michelle Brockman
- Spencer & Emma Brockman

20-26

- Tim & JoAnne Rehborg
- Allen & Diane McDaniel

13-19

- Gary & Kay Drevlow
- Jay & Karen Enderson
- Joey & Cindy Enderson

27-May 3

- Jim & Marge Asche
- Jason & Hollie Asche
- Lisa Schwab



****Please remember to sign your name on the chart on the bulletin board by the kitchen noting which area of the church you have cleaned****

April 2025

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1 9:30 a.m. Pastor's Circuit Winkle @ Trinity/Great Bend 3:30 pm Catechesis	2 9 a.m. Bible Study 3:45 p.m. Youth Catechesis 5:30 p.m. Dinner 6:00 pm Private Confession/Absolution 6:30 pm Lent Midweek Vespers	3 7 p.m. Elders	4	5
6 8:45 a.m. Bible Study and Sunday School 10 a.m. Divine Service 11:15 a.m. Coffee 11:15 a.m. Council	7 Pastor's Day Off	8 3:30 pm Catechesis	9 9 a.m. Bible Study 5:30 pm Dinner 6 p.m. Private Confession/Absolution 6:30 pm Lent Midweek Evening Prayer	10	11	12
13 8:45 a.m. Bible Study and Sunday School 10 a.m. Divine Service (Palm Sunday) 11:15 a.m. LWML hosted brunch	14 Pastor's Day Off	15 2 pm LWML 3:30 pm Catechesis	16 9 a.m. Bible Study	17 6:30 p.m. Maundy Thursday Divine Service	18 6:30 p.m. Good Friday Tenebrae Vespers	19
20 8:30 a.m. Private Confession/Absolution 8:45 a.m. Bible Study and Sunday School 10 a.m. Divine Service (Resurrection of Jesus) 11:15 a.m. Coffee	21 Pastor's Day Off	22 3:30 pm Catechesis	23 9 a.m. Bible Study	24 7 p.m. Voters	25	26
27 8:45 a.m. Bible Study and Sunday School 10 a.m. Divine Service/w Confirmation 11:15 a.m. Coffee	28 Pastor's Day Off	29 3:30 pm Catechesis 2 p.m. Lutheran Confessions Study @Immanuel in Lidgerwood	30 9 a.m. Bible Study			