

Sunday, October 29, 2023
Reformation Sunday, Year A

AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM

2023 Confirmands
Seth Aldorfer, Oliver Bauer, Luke Cordes



Ring of Bell

PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

P: Blessed be God, the one who forms us, + Jesus who bears the cross,
the Spirit who makes our joy complete.

C: **Amen.**

P: Let us bow before God in humility, confessing our sin.
Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Steadfast and faithful God,

C: **you have revealed the ways of justice, yet we fail to follow you. We are overwhelmed by the world's violence and suffering. We are afraid to risk what we have for the sake of others. For the harm we have caused, known and unknown, forgive us. For the unjust demands we place on others and your creation, forgive us. For the ways we turn away from you and our neighbor, forgive us. Lead us back to you and set us on the right path; in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.**

P: Beloved in Christ, God's justice stretches beyond all understanding.
God's compassion is beyond compare.
In Jesus, God is always making a new way for us.
In + Christ, you are already and always forgiven.

C: **Amen.**

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

A Mighty Fortress

vss. 1, 2, 4 No. 504

- 1 **A mighty fortress is our God, a sword and shield victorious;
he breaks the cruel oppressor's rod and wins salvation glorious.
The old satanic foe has sworn to work us woe!
With craft and dreadful might he arms himself to fight.
On earth he has no equal.**
- 2 **No strength of ours can match his might! We would be lost, rejected.
But now a champion comes to fight, whom God himself elected.
You ask who this may be? The Lord of hosts is he!
Christ Jesus, mighty Lord, God's only Son, adored.
He holds the field victorious.**

- 4 **God's Word forever shall abide, no thanks to foes, who fear it;
for God himself fights by our side with weapons of the Spirit.
Were they to take our house, goods, honor, child, or spouse,
though life be wrenched away, they cannot win the day.
The kingdom's ours forever!**

PRAYER OF THE DAY *We pray together*

L: The Lord be with you. **C: And also with you.**

Almighty God, gracious Lord, we thank you that your Holy Spirit renews the church in every age. Pour out your Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep them steadfast in your word, protect and comfort them in times of trial, defend them against all enemies of the gospel, and bestow on the church your saving peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

FIRST READING: JEREMIAH 31:31-34 *The new covenant with the house of Israel*

³¹The 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.

WORD OF GOD, WORD OF LIFE. **THANKS BE TO GOD.**

PSALM 46 *We read responsively*

- L: God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.
**C: Therefore we will not fear, though the earth be moved,
and though the mountains shake in the depths of the sea;**
L: though its waters rage and foam, and 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 shaken; God shall help it at the break of day.
C: The nations rage, and the kingdoms shake; God speaks, and the earth melts away.
L: The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our stronghold.
**C: Come now, regard the works of the LORD,
what desolations God has brought upon the earth;**
L: behold the one who makes war to cease in all the world;
who breaks the bow, and shatters the spear, and burns the shields with fire.
**C: “Be still, then, and know that I am God;
I will be exalted among the nations; I will be exalted in the earth.”**
L: The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

SECOND READING: ROMANS 3:19-28 *Justified by God's grace*

¹⁹Now we know that whatever the law says, it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be silenced, and the whole world may be held accountable to God. ²⁰For “no human being will be justified in his sight” by deeds prescribed by the law, for through the law comes the knowledge of sin.

²¹But now, apart from law, the righteousness of God has been disclosed, and is attested by the law and the prophets, ²²the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction, ²³since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God; ²⁴they are now justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, ²⁵whom God put forward as a sacrifice of atonement by his blood, effective through faith. He did this to show his righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he

had passed over the sins previously committed; ²⁶it was to prove at the present time that he himself is righteous and that he justifies the one who has faith in Jesus.

²⁷Then what becomes of boasting? It is excluded. By what law? By that of works? No, but by the law of faith. ²⁸For we hold that a person is justified by faith apart from works prescribed by the law.

WORD OF GOD, WORD OF LIFE. **THANKS BE TO GOD.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Sung

pg. 151

C: Alleluia. Lord to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.

THE HOLY GOSPEL ACCORDING TO JOHN 8:31-36 *The truth that makes you free*

C: GLORY TO YOU, O LORD

³¹Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, "If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples; ³²and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free." ³³They answered him, "We are descendants of Abraham and have never been slaves to anyone. What do you mean by saying, 'You will be made free'?"

³⁴Jesus answered them, "Very truly, I tell you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin. ³⁵The slave does not have a permanent place in the household; the son has a place there forever. ³⁶So if the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed."

P: THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD. **C: PRAISE TO YOU, O CHRIST.**

CHILDREN'S WORD

SERMON Pastor Kris Ferkin

HYMN *Lord, Keep us Steadfast in Your Word*

No. 517

- 1 Lord, keep us steadfast in your word; curb those who by deceit or sword would wrest the kingdom from your Son and bring to naught all he has done.
- 2 Lord Jesus Christ, your pow'r make known, for you are Lord of lords alone; defend your holy church, that we may sing your praise eternally.
- 3 O Comforter of priceless worth, send peace and unity on earth; support us in our final strife and lead us out of death to life.

AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM – RITE OF CONFIRMATION

p. 234-236

ASSEMBLY AFFIRMATION:

P: Let us rejoice with these 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.

PRAYERS

P: ...Lord in your mercy: **C: Hear our prayer.**

SHARING OF PEACE P: The peace of Christ be with you always. **C: And also with you.**

OFFERING—OFFERTORY—GLOBE OFFERING

Children are invited to bring forward an offering to the globe in the front of the church. Globe offerings go to one of our global mission partners.

OFFERING PRAYER

P: God of power, God of plenty,

C: all things belong to you. We bring your gifts to the table, that all might be fed. Form us into the body of your Beloved, Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING *Spoken*

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**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION – LORD’S PRAYER

INVITATION TO COMMUNION *Jesus invites you to this table. Come, eat, and live.*

DISTRIBUTION & HYMNS

Let Us Break Bread Together

No. 471

1 Let us break bread together on our knees; let us break bread together on our knees.

Refrain **When I fall on my knees, with my face to the rising sun, O Lord, have mercy on me.**

2 Let us drink wine together on our knees; let us drink wine together on our knees.

Refrain **When I fall on my knees, with my face to the rising sun, O Lord, have mercy on me.**

3 Let us praise God together on our knees; let us praise God together on our knees.

Refrain **When I fall on my knees, with my face to the rising sun, O Lord, have mercy on me.**

Remember and Rejoice

No. 454

**1 Remember and rejoice, renewed by floods of grace.
We bear the sign of Jesus Christ, that time cannot erase.**

**2 In life, in death, we trust in God's most holy name,
forever traced by water sign, and sealed by Spirit flame.**

**3 We pledge ourselves anew to flee the lures of hell,
to cling to Christ's community, in justice, peace to dwell.**

**4 God, bless us by your grace; remind us of your care.
Renewing Spirit, fill us now, inspire our work, our prayer.**

**5 Remember and rejoice, renewed by floods of grace.
We bear the sign of Jesus Christ, that time cannot erase.**

COMMUNION BLESSING — PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C: Amen.

P: Blessed be your name, O God, for we have feasted on your Word, Christ Jesus,
the joy and delight of our hearts.

**C: Strengthened by this food, send us to gather the world to your banquet,
where none are left out and all are satisfied. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.**

BENEDICTION

P: The God of Glory, + Jesus Christ name above all names,
and the Spirit who lives in you, bless you now and forever.

C: Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

How Firm a Foundation

vs. 1-2

No. 796

**1 How firm a foundation, O saints of the Lord, Is laid for your faith in Christ Jesus, the Word!
What more can he say than to you he has said Who unto the Savior for refuge have fled?**

**2 “Fear not, I am with you, oh, be not dismayed, For I am your God and will still give you aid;
I’ll strengthen you, help you, and cause you to stand, Upheld by my righteous, omnipotent hand.”**

Ringling of Bell

DISMISSAL L: Go in peace. God is at work in you. C: **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

PARTICIPANTS

INTERIM PASTOR—Kris Ferkin ORGAN—Tammy Hanson WORSHIP ASSISTANT—Carmen Nesseth
COMMUNION SET-UP—Carmen Nesseth GREETERS—Josh, Abby & Olivia Lorfald
COMMUNION SERVERS—Jamie Hoffman, Jenn Lorfald & Carmen Nesseth COFFEE SERVERS—Lorfalds
TECH CREW—Heidi Haugen, Barb Groth, Steve Johnson, Holly Aldorfer.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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CONNECTIONS

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REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Lila Cole, Jennifer Lorfald, Carolyn Walker, Lavon Underdahl, Kevin Hildebrandt, Jim Fountaine, Liz Flaten, Boe Aronson, Donna Berge; and the Families of Sid Strandemo, Helen Aase, and Marcy Kvitem.

CALENDAR & ANNOUNCEMENTS

SUN/OCT 29	9 AM	Worship - Rite of Confirmation – In person & Live-streamed
	10 AM	Sunday School
	10 AM	Coffee
	7 PM	AA
WED/NOV 1	6 PM	Wed Worship
	6:30 PM	Confirmation
THU/NOV 2	7 PM	AA
SUN NOV 5	9 AM	Worship – All Saint's Sunday – In person & Live-streamed
	10 AM	Sunday School
	10 AM	Coffee
	7 PM	AA

NOVEMBER DATES

Fri/Sat Nov 10-11 Lefse Making - workers needed for: mixing, rolling, baking, packaging.

Sun Nov 12 Bring Thankoffering Envelopes – Giving Envelopes are available now on entrance tables, to be returned Nov. 12. Offering goes to **Women of the ELCA**.

Sun Nov 19 After Worship You Are Invited to – Coffee & Fellowship, Potluck Meal & Intergenerational Games. Bring a light lunch/brunch dish to share, beverages will be provided. Sponsored by Worship/Evangelism and Ed/You Committees.

Sun Nov 19 3 pm – Ordination Service of Kris Hertsgaard Kincaid.