

Examination and Confirmation

Sunday, May 2, 2021

10:45 a.m.

St. Mark's Lutheran Church & School
7869 Kingswood Drive
Citrus Heights, California 95610
(916) 961-7891 www.StMarksLutheran.com

Examination and Confirmation Service

May 2, 2021

10:45 a.m.

Welcome to St. Mark's Lutheran Church & School

In the name of our Savior, Jesus Christ, we welcome you to St. Mark's. We especially welcome our guests who have joined us today. We pray you will be strengthened by the good news about God's grace, love, and forgiveness to us through Jesus.

❖ ASSISTANCE FOR YOUNG FAMILIES:

- A **nursery** is located in the back of the church lobby.
- A **privacy room**, especially reserved for nursing mothers, is located on the east side of the church entryway.



❖ HEARING AND READING ASSISTANCE:

- **Personal hearing assistance devices** are available on the entryway wall near the sanctuary's west entrance door. The sanctuary is also *looped* for those who have hearing aids that can pick up the signal.
- We also have **large print service booklets** that you can pick up on the shelf under the Information Center bulletin board in the church lobby



- ❖ **PARTICIPATION IN THE LORD'S SUPPER:** St. Mark's celebrates the Lord's Supper on the first, third, and fifth Sundays of the month. The Bible teaches us that the Lord's Supper is a statement of God's grace and forgiveness to us, *and* a statement of our "oneness" or complete unity of faith with one another (1 Corinthians 10:16-17). *For this reason, we invite to the Lord's Supper those who have previously expressed their oneness with us through membership at St. Mark's or membership in another congregation in our church body, the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS).* If you haven't had the opportunity to fully learn what we believe and teach at St. Mark's but you would like to join us for the Lord's Supper in the future, please speak to the pastor after today's service or at another time. He would be happy to meet with you and to work toward a common confession of faith with you so that you can join us for the Lord's Supper in the near future.



THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

Worship Focus: Today we celebrate the wonderful grace of our God and his work in the hearts of his children. God has brought these confirmands to faith in Christ and has caused them to grow in the knowledge of his Word and of his grace. Now we all get to witness the work of the Holy Spirit in their hearts and minds as they confess the truths of God's eternal Word and promise their faithfulness to them. May this day usher them into a close, life-long relationship with their Savior, and may it be a refreshing experience for the rest of us that brings us to a greater appreciation of the truths God has given us.

PRELUDE

O Worship the King

Arr: Phillip Keveren

OPENING HYMN

The Love of Christ, Who Died for Me

Christian Worship Supplement #749

1. **The love of Christ, who died for me Is more than mind can know,
His mercy measureless and free To meet the debt I owe.
He came my sinful cause to plead, He laid his glories by,
For me a homeless life to lead, A shameful death to die.**
2. **My sins I only see in part, My self-regarding ways;
The secret places of my heart Lie bare before his gaze.
For me the price of sin he paid; My sins beyond recall
Are all alike on Jesus laid, he died to bear them all.**
3. **O living Lord of life, for whom The heavens held their breath,
To see, triumphant from the tomb, A love that conquers death,
Possess my heart that it may be Your kingdom without end,
O Christ who died for love of me And lives to be my friend.**

EXAMINATION OF THE CONFIRMANDS

The confirmands are given the opportunity to testify to their faith in the truths of Scripture before the congregation. The congregation is given the opportunity to refresh themselves in these life-giving truths.

"Fight the good fight of the faith. Take hold of the eternal life to which you were called when you made your good confession in the presence of many witnesses."

(1 Timothy 6:12)

HYMN OF THE DAY

Your Kingdom, O God
Christian Worship Supplement #755

1. **Your kingdom, O God, is my glorious treasure,
My pearl of incomparable worth.
Its value exceeds every standard of measure,
Surpassing the wealth of the earth.
Lord, give me your grace and the power of the Spirit
To value this treasure aright
That, never allured by the world, I inherit
Your kingdom of glory and light.**
2. **Your kingdom, O God, is alive with the power
Your Word and your Spirit bestow.
Like yeast, they affect the whole measure of flour,
Enabling your kingdom to grow.
Empower me, Lord, as I live your commission,
Though humble my service may be,
And bring every planting to perfect fruition,
A mustard seed grown to a tree.**
3. **Your kingdom, O God, is a field for the growing
Of seeds that your mercy has sown,
But still in our midst is the enemy sowing
The weeds that imperil your own.
Sustain me, O Lord, till your day of returning
And harvest me homeward at last,
To shine in the homeland that quiets all yearning,
Where sorrow and danger are past.**

SERMONETTE

Based on 1 John 3:18-24

¹⁸Dear children, let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth.
¹⁹This is how we know that we belong to the truth and how we set our hearts at rest in his presence: ²⁰If our hearts condemn us, we know that God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. ²¹Dear friends, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have confidence before God ²²and receive from him anything we ask, because we keep his commands and do what pleases him. ²³And this is his command: to believe in the name of his Son, Jesus Christ, and to love one another as he commanded us. ²⁴The one who keeps God's commands lives in him, and he in them. And this is how we know that he lives in us: We know it by the Spirit he gave us.

RITE OF CONFIRMATION

Four young people have completed their confirmation instruction and have given testimony to their faith this morning. They are now ready to publicly confess that faith and vow their life-long faithfulness to the Lord Jesus and his church. May our Lord bless them as they continue to grow in his grace. The confirmands will receive Holy Communion for the first time this morning.

Members of the 2021 St. Mark's Confirmation Class:

Gwendolyn Faljean

Daniel Hernandez

Madelyn Faljean

Savannah Sanders

THE SACRAMENT

PREFACE

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.



HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



C: Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly is the Lord of hosts.



The whole earth is full of your glo - ry.



You are my God, and I will ex - alt you.



I will give you thanks, for you have be - come my sal -



va - tion. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly is the Lord of hosts.



The whole earth is full of your glo - ry.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

M: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

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

C: Amen.

O CHRIST, LAMB OF GOD

C: O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. O Christ, Lamb of God, you
take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.
O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; grant us your peace. A - men.

DISTRIBUTION OF THE SACRAMENT

The ushers will direct communicants in a continuous flow distribution of the sacrament. Communicants will exit the pews to the outside and return to their seats via the center aisle. When approaching each table, communicants may pause as they take and eat or drink. Please follow the direction of the ushers.



DISTRIBUTION HYMN

Take and Eat
Christian Worship Supplement #741

Refrain:

**Take and eat, take and eat, this is my body given up for you.
Take and drink, take and drink, this is my blood given up for you.**

1. **I am the Word that spoke and light was made; I am the seed that died to be reborn;
I am the bread that comes from heav'n above; I am the vine that fills your cup with
joy.**

Refrain

2. **I am the way that leads the exile home; I am the truth that sets the captive free;
I am the life that raises up the dead; I am your peace, true peace my gift to you.**

Refrain

3. **I am the Lamb that takes away your sin; I am the gate that guards you night and day.
You are my flock: you know the Shepherd's voice; You are my own: your ransom is
my blood.**

Refrain

4. **I am the cornerstone that God has laid, A chosen stone and precious in his eyes.
You are God's dwelling place; on me you rest Like living stones, a temple for God's
praise.**

Refrain

5. **I am the Light that came into the world; I am the Light that darkness cannot hide;
I am the Morning Star that never sets. Lift up your face; in you my light will shine.**

Refrain

6. **I am the First and Last, the living One; I am the Lord who died that you might live;
I am the Bridegroom, this my wedding song. You are my bride; come to the marriage
feast.**

Refrain

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

(as needed)

We Walk by Faith and Not by Sight

Christian Worship Supplement #756

1. **We walk by faith and not by sight; No gracious words we hear
From him who spoke as none e'er spoke, But we believe him near.**
2. **We may not touch his hands and side Nor follow where he trod,
But in his promise we rejoice And cry, "My Lord and God!"**
3. **Help then, O Lord, our unbelief, And may our faith abound
To call on you when you are near And seek where you are found.**
4. **For you, O resurrected Lord, Are found in means divine:
Beneath the water and the Word, Beneath the bread and wine.**
5. **Lord, when our life of faith is done, In realms of clearer light,
We may behold you as you are With full and endless sight.**

PRAYER

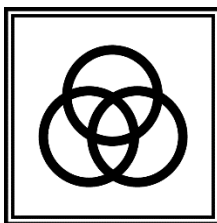
M: O God the Father, source of all goodness, in your loving kindness you sent your Son to share our humanity. We thank you that through him you have given us pardon and peace in his body and blood. We also pray that you will bless and guide the new confirmands by your Holy Spirit so that they—and all of us—may remain in you and your Word until life everlasting, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

BLESSING

M: The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look on you with favor and ☩ give you peace.

C: **Amen.**



CLOSING HYMN

Go, My Children, with My Blessing

Christian Worship #332

1. **Go, my children, with my blessing, Never alone.
Waking, sleeping, I am with you; You are my own.
In my love's baptismal river I have made you mine forever.
Go, my children, with my blessing—You are my own.**
2. **Go, my children, sins forgiven, At peace and pure.
Here you learned how much I love you, What I can cure.
Here you heard my dear Son's story; Here you touched him, saw his glory.
Go, my children, sins forgiven, At peace and pure.**
3. **Go, my children, fed and nourished, Closer to me;
Grow in love and love by serving, Joyful and free.
Here my Spirit's power filled you; Here his tender comfort stilled you.
Go, my children, fed and nourished, Joyful and free.**
4. **I the Lord will bless and keep you And give you peace;
I the Lord will smile upon you And give you peace;
I the Lord will be your Father, Savior, Comforter, and Brother.
Go, my children; I will keep you And give you peace.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

POSTLUDE

An Exultant Alleluiah

Lani Smith

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Scripture Quotations: From the *Holy Bible, New International Version* (NIV 2011), copyright © 1973, 1978, 1984 by Biblica, Inc.

TODAY AT ST. MARK'S

Serving at Worship

Presiding Minister: Pastor Brock Groth

Accompanist: Marty Puckett

Violin/Cello: Vince Beiderbecke

Percussion: Don Black

Altar Flowers: Flowers beautifying the altar have been placed by the parents of the 2021 St. Mark's confirmands.

THIS WEEK AT ST. MARK'S

Weekly Calendar

Today		Communion Mission Box Offering
	8:00 a.m.	Worship Service
	9:30 a.m.	Bible Class
	10:45 a.m.	Worship Service (Exam & Confirmation)
	7:00 p.m.	Teen Bible Study
Monday	5:30 p.m.	Men's Bible Study
	7:00 p.m.	Worship Service
Tuesday	7:00 p.m.	Buildings & Grounds Meeting
Wednesday	8:20 a.m.	School Chapel Service
	7:00 p.m.	Adult Choir
Thursday	9:30 a.m.	Joy of Living Women's Bible Study
	4:30 p.m.	Board of Stewardship Meeting
Next Sunday		****Mother's Day****
	8:00 a.m.	Worship Service
	9:30 a.m.	Bible Class
	10:45 a.m.	Worship Service

<i>Birthdays</i>		<i>Anniversaries</i>
Ari Egle	<i>May 3</i>	
Matthew Lervold		
	<i>May 4</i>	Joshua & Cierra Castagnola
Kathy Edwards	<i>May 6</i>	
Taylor Klunker	<i>May 7</i>	
Marilyn Zalunardo	<i>May 8</i>	



St. Mark's LUTHERAN CHURCH

Founded on the Word. Focused on the Cross.

7869 Kingswood Drive
Citrus Heights, California 95610

Phone: (916) 961-7891 Fax: (916) 961-5034

Website: www.StMarksLutheran.com
St. Mark's Guest Wi-Fi Password: stmarks7869

Sunday Services at 8:00 am (Indoor & Live streamed) & 10:45 a.m. (Indoor*)

*(4th Sundays – Outdoor, Sept-May)

Children's Sunday School Study from Home

Sunday Bible Discussion 9:30-10:15 (Indoor & Live streamed)

Monday Evening Service on hold until further notice

Wednesday School Chapel Service at 8:20 a.m.

Jonathan Kolander	Pastor
Brock Groth	Pastor
Darren Vogt	Principal, Grades 6-8
Hannah Ripley	Grades 3-5
Rosemarie Boushek	Grades 1-2
Judy Thrans	Jr.K/Kindergarten
Greg Thiesfeldt	Associate Teacher, Grades 3-8
Lisa Thiesfeldt	Associate Teacher, Grades 3-8
Ruth Vogt	Art
Dena Oswald	Ext. School Day Care

Glorify God • Grow in Grace • Go with the Gospel