FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER/CONFIRMATION

Because I Am Going to the Father/Confirmation Sunday

AS WE GATHER

“A little while” says Jesus, and He will not be seen and then seen again—because He is going to the Father. Jesus is nothing but blunt with His disciples, telling them what will happen. But they do not want to hear it. They did not want to hear His words of suffering and death to come on the cross, and they missed His promise to rise again. Jesus knew their aching hearts were full and promised the Spirit to lead them into all truth. A little while and death will give way to life—for Jesus and also for His disciples. Because He goes to the Father, preparing the way, we also look forward to going to the Father. This hope sustains the weary through their trials in this mortal life. We belong forever to the Lord.
CONFIRMATION: May 19, 2019

CONFIRMATION VERSES

IAN AVEDISSIAN
Proverbs 17:22—A cheerful heart is good medicine, but a crushed spirit dries up the bones.

ANN RANISATE
Psalm 23:1—The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.

HANNAH SCHMITT
Ephesians 4:32—Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you.

HOLLAND SCHMITT
Psalm 133:1—Behold, how good and pleasant it is when brothers dwell in unity!

ERIK SCHWERIN
1 Samuel 17:45, 47b—David said to the Philistine, “You come against me with sword and spear and javelin, but I come against you in the name of the Lord Almighty, the God of the armies of Israel, whom you have defied… for the battle is the Lord’s”.

CODY URBACH
Psalm 46:1—God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.
PRELUDE  "Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing"  Diane Bish

PASTORAL GREETING

TOLLING OF THE BELL

PROCESSIONAL HYMN  "Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing"  LSB 686

INVOCATION

Pastor:  In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
People:  Amen.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor:  The Lord has made known His salvation;
People:  He has revealed His righteousness in the sight of the nations.
Pastor:  He has remembered His steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel.
People:  All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.
Pastor:  Come, let us kneel before the Lord and make confession of our sin, and call upon His mercy that we may be forgiven.

Silence for reflection and examination

Pastor:  Let us confess our sins to God our Father:
People:  I confess to God Almighty, before the whole company of heaven and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have sinned in thought, word, and deed by my fault, by my own fault, by my own most grievous fault; wherefore I pray God Almighty to have mercy on me, forgive me all my sins, and bring me to everlasting life. Amen.
Pastor:  Almighty God has had mercy upon you and has given His only Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained 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. May He who began this good work in you bring it to completion at the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.
People:  Amen.

WORD

Kyrie (spoken)

Pastor:  In peace, let us pray to the Lord.
People:  Lord, have mercy.
Pastor:  For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.
People:  Lord, have mercy.
Pastor: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.
Pastor: For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.
Pastor: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

People: Amen.

HYMN OF PRAISE “Splendor and Honor” LSB 950

SALUTATION

Pastor: The Lord be with you.
People: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray.

O blessed Lord, in whom all the peoples of the world are united in Christ and made one people by Baptism and faith, widen the hearts of Your people that we welcome the stranger whom You have called by the voice of Your Word and together rejoice in Your mercy that knows no end; through Jesus Christ, the risen Lord, whom with the Father and the Spirit we adore as one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

Amen!

FIRST LESSON: Acts 11:1–18
(What God has made clean do not call common.)

The apostles and the brothers throughout Judea heard that the Gentiles also had received the word of God. So when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcised believers criticized him and said, "You went into the house of uncircumcised men and ate with them."

Peter began and explained everything to them precisely as it had happened: "I was in the city of Joppa praying, and in a trance I saw a vision. I saw something like a large sheet being let down from heaven by its four corners, and it came down to where I was. I looked into it and saw four-footed animals of the earth, wild beasts, reptiles, and birds of the air. Then I heard a voice telling me, `Get up, Peter. Kill and eat.'"
"I replied, `Surely not, Lord! Nothing impure or unclean has ever entered my
mouth.' "The voice spoke from heaven a second time, `Do not call anything impure that
God has made clean.' This happened three times, and then it was all pulled up to
heaven again. "Right then three men who had been sent to me from Caesarea stopped at the
house where I was staying. The Spirit told me to have no hesitation about going
with them. These six brothers also went with me, and we entered the man's
house. He told us how he had seen an angel appear in his house and say, `Send
to Joppa for Simon who is called Peter. He will bring you a message through
which you and all your household will be saved.' "As I began to speak, the Holy Spirit came on them as he had come on us at the
beginning. Then I remembered what the Lord had said: `John baptized with
water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.' So if God gave them the
same gift as he gave us, who believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I to
think that I could oppose God?"

When they heard this, they had no further objections and praised God, saying,
"So then, God has granted even the Gentiles repentance unto life."

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.

MINISTRY OF MUSIC "Amen Siakudumisa" ("Amen, We Praise Your Name, O God")
Cathy Mokelbust
Gloria Dei Handbell Ringers
Eli Faulk, Shaker; Bri Fort, Maracas; Michael Zehnder, Djembe

EPISTLE: Revelation 21:1–7
(The vision of the Holy City, the new Jerusalem, is described.)

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth
had passed away, and there was no longer any sea. I saw the Holy City, the new
Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride beautifully
dressed for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Now
the dwelling of God is with men, and he will live with them. They will be his
people, and God himself will be with them and be their God. He will wipe every
tear from their eyes. There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain,
for the old order of things has passed away." He who was seated on the throne
said, "I am making everything new!" Then he said, "Write this down, for these
words are trustworthy and true." He said to me: "It is done. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the
End. To him who is thirsty I will give to drink without cost from the spring of the
water of life. He who overcomes will inherit all this, and I will be his God and he
will be my son."
Lector:  This is the Word of the Lord.
People:  Thanks be to God.

Congregation, please rise for the Alleluia verse and the Holy Gospel.

VERSE  Romans 6:9; John 14:23

Pastor:  Alleluia! Alleluia!
People:  Alleluia! Alleluia!
Pastor:  We know that Christ being raised from the dead will never die again; death no longer has dominion over Him.
People:  If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word, and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our home with him. Alleluia! Alleluia!

HOLY GOSPEL: John 16:12–22
(I am going to the Father.)

Pastor:  The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the sixteenth chapter.
People:  Glory to You, O Lord.

"I have much more to say to you, more than you can now bear. But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all truth. He will not speak on his own; he will speak only what he hears, and he will tell you what is yet to come. He will bring glory to me by taking from what is mine and making it known to you. All that belongs to the Father is mine. That is why I said the Spirit will take from what is mine and make it known to you.

"In a little while you will see me no more, and then after a little while you will see me."

Some of his disciples said to one another, "What does he mean by saying, `In a little while you will see me no more, and then after a little while you will see me,' and `Because I am going to the Father'?" They kept asking, "What does he mean by `a little while'? We don't understand what he is saying."

Jesus saw that they wanted to ask him about this, so he said to them, "Are you asking one another what I meant when I said, `In a little while you will see me no more, and then after a little while you will see me'? I tell you the truth, you will weep and mourn while the world rejoices. You will grieve, but your grief will turn to joy. A woman giving birth to a child has pain because her time has come; but when her baby is born she forgets the anguish because of her joy that a child is born into the world. So with you: Now is your time of grief, but I will see you again and you will rejoice, and no one will take away your joy.

Pastor:  This is the Gospel of the Lord.
People:  Praise to You, O Christ.

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE  (10:30 ONLY)  Pastor John Larson
HYMN OF THE DAY
“The Gifts Christ Freely Gives”  
LSB 602
Verse One: Solo  
Verses 2-3: All  
Verse 4: Choir Only  
Verses 5-6: All

SERMON
“Good Questions”  
Pastor John Larson  
Text: John 16:12-22

APOSTLES’ CREED  
Text found in the back of the Hymnal.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH
Pastor:  
God has made His dwelling place with man; He will dwell with us, and we will be His people; and God will be our God. In confidence of this, let us raise to Him our prayers on behalf of those in need and all people.

Almighty Father, You met a divided world with one saving love and will, manifested in the incarnation, suffering, death, and resurrection of Your Son, Jesus Christ. Make us one people in Him, and bless all efforts to come to the true unity of Your Word by the power of Your Spirit. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor:  
Give us Your Spirit, O Lord, that we welcome the stranger and boldly speak Your Word to those who have not heard it. Guide us by Your grace that we be faithful witnesses until You come in Your glory to finish Your new creation. Strengthen our new confirmands in faith and life to hold fast to Your Word and be bold witnesses for You. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor:  
Raise up before us, O Lord, the holy vision of heaven and the eternal city, Jerusalem, on high, that things of this life not distract us from the future You have promised and that we live in holy anticipation of the eternal day when all things have been brought to fulfillment. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor:  
Accept, O Lord, our song of praise and the worship of our hearts, and with them the tithes and offerings of a grateful people, who rejoice in Your mercies and in the daily provision of Your love. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor:  
Guard those in need, O Lord, from the pain of body or mind, from the suffering of illness, and from the fear of death, [especially . . .]. Bring them the comfort of Your presence, healing according to Your will, patience in the day of trial, and deliverance at the last. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor:  
[Additional intersessions may be added here…]. Strengthen them with Your Spirit and keep them firm in their faith. Risen Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.
Pastor: Bidden by Your promise, we Your people commend to You these concerns of our hearts, these prayers of Your Church, and these petitions on behalf of all people as they have need, through the mercy and because of the merits of Your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ.

People: Amen.

THE SHARING OF THE PEACE

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

People: And also with you.

OFFERING “Think On These Things”

Mark Patterson
Ascension Chorale
Cheryl Olson, piano; Ann Westra, cello

CONFIRMATION

Confirmation Liturgy (10:30 ONLY)

IAN AVEDISSIAN
ANN CLARICE RANISATE
HANNAH FAITH SCHMITT
HOLLAND GRACE SCHMITT
ERIK ALAN SCHWERIN
CODY BRADFORD URBACH

Faith Milestones
The Lord, our Host, invites to his Supper those who are baptized into the Christian faith, confess him as Savior, have been instructed and have examined themselves, truly repent of sins, believe the Risen Lord is present in the sacrament with his true body and blood, and resolve to live faithfully and obediently. For those with an intolerance to alcohol, the center ring of the tray contains grape juice. Gluten free wafers are available to those with wheat allergies. Children who have not been instructed, yet desire a blessing, are invited to come forward with arms crossed. When receiving the bread and wine, the communicant may respond with “Amen!”, a word of affirmation and belief.
PROPER PREFACE

Pastor: Holy Lord, in whose Son death has been overcome and life restored, it is truly good and right and our duty and delight to offer You thanks, praise, and worship, through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, in whom the divisions of old have been forever bridged and Your people have been made truly one, in a unity anticipated here on earth until it is fully known in heaven. With angels and archangels, with the patriarchs and prophets, with the apostles and evangelists, and with all the saints we join in the unending hymn of praise:

Sanctus (Divine Service, Setting Three)


Pastor: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”
In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

**LORD’S PRAYER**

Matthew 6:9–13

**Text found in the back of the Hymnal.**

**Agnus Dei (Divine Service, Setting Three)**

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that taketh away the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. Amen.

**DISTRIBUTION MUSIC**

“In Christ There Is No East or West”

“O Blessed Spring”

“With High Delight Let Us Unite”

LSB 653

LSB 595

LSB 483

**GENERAL COMMUNION BLESSING**

**BENEDICTION**

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace. *Numbers 6:24–26*

People: Amen.
CHORAL BENEDICTION
“The Lord Bless You and Keep You”  Peter Lutkin
Ascension Chorale

RECESSIONAL HYMN
“We Know That Christ is Raised”  LSB 603

CONGREGATIONAL CONCERNS

POSTLUDE
“Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing”  Michael Burkhardt

Confirmation
Our New Confirmants
Ian Joseph Avedissian
My name is Ian and I was born on January 3rd, 2005. I am 14 and currently in 8th grade at Cresthill Middle School. I have a mom and a dad and a sister (Megan). I am a Boy Scout and am currently working towards my Eagle rank. I love to play video games with my friends like Erik Schwerin.

Ann Clarice Ranisate
I am thirteen years old and currently in 8th grade attending Euclid Middle School. My mom, Julia Brent, brother, Hunter Brent, and my grandmother, Laurel Shurtleff attend Ascension. My favorite hobbies are drawing, crochet, painting, and crafts. Activities I enjoy are cheers, hiking, and other outdoor activities. Over the past two years I have learned a lot about how God sacrificed His only Son for our forgiveness of sins.

Hannah Faith Schmitt
My name is Hannah, and for the past 14 years I’ve grown up with two loving and supporting parents, Jim and Tanya Schmitt, along with two crazy, but awesome siblings, Jamison and Holly Schmitt. Both sides of my grandparents, Mike and Mary Lou Regan and Lois and Durwin Schmitt attend Ascension. Both are some of the most generous, warm hearted people I’ve ever met. I spend most of my free time playing soccer at Colorado United. Confirmation has opened my eyes to the depth of Christianity. I’m beyond grateful for God and the people and things He’s blessed me with!

Holland Grace Schmitt
I am 14 years old and I am an 8th grader at Ranch View Middle School in Highlands Ranch. I play soccer and have all A’s and B’s in school. I love hanging out with friends and listening to music. My whole family goes to Ascension including Jim and Tanya Schmitt, Lois and Durwin Schmitt, Mike and Mary Lou Regan, Derek Regan, and Bob and Julie Schmitt. I love them all endlessly. I am very excited and happy to be confirmed and continue my journey with Jesus!

Erik Alan Schwerin
I am 14 and in 8th grade at Cresthill Middle School. My mom is Cheryl Schwerin, my dad is Bill Schwerin, my brother is Will Schwerin, my sister is Kris Schwerin, and my grandpa is Bill Schwerin. My hobbies include making videos, videogaming (working on Kingdom of Hearts Three), and being involved at school and after school activities. I’m one of the main school student leaders. I’m part of the year book staff, and I’m starting my own club. I know most of the teachers in the school, and I’m good friends with our principal.

Cody Bradford Urbach
My birthday is September 7th, 2004, and I am 14 and in 8th grade. I attend Englewood Middle School. My family members who have attended Ascension are my sister, Alexandria Anderson, my mom, Jennifer Urbach, and my dad, Bryan Anderson. Two of my hobbies are playing video games and running competitively.
Celebrating Their Confirmation
Serving in Worship

OFFICIANT and CELEBRANT
Pastor John Larson

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC MINISTRIES
Michael Zehnder

CHOIR ACCOMPANIST
Cheryl Olson

ORGAN ASSISTANT
Gwen Geisler

ELDER
8:00 Bill Redden
10:30 Michael Lawrenz

LECTOR
8:00 Lynne Hansen
10:30 Margo Pasha

ACOLYTE
8:00 Esther Langness
10:30 Espen Erling

USHERS
8:00 Barry Kratzer, Members of the
Congregation
10:30 Jason Dierking, Members of the
Congregation

ALTAR GUILD
Phyllis McConnell, Tricia McCulley,
Sharon Seible, Cathy Utecht

FLOWERS
Charlene Dierking and Family, In loving
memory of John Dierking (d. 5/22/2004)

CCLI License #1903595