

Affirmation of Baptism Service

2026 CONFIRMATION CLASS

Sunday, October 25, 2026



Grace Lutheran Pastors, Staff, and Musicians

Rev. Dr. Allison Cobb: Senior Pastor

Nicole Kolbe: Office Administrator

Jaime Core: Youth Coordinator

Dr. Lyn Burkett: Youth Choir Director

Joyce Jorgenson: Chancel Choir Director

Jen Kahler and Musicians: Praise Band

Rev. Cole McCormick: Associate Pastor

Jane Reiman: Finance Director

Amber Hansen: Open Door Meal Coordinator

Molly Bless: Pianist and Celebration

Choir Director

Carol Madsen: Organist

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Please Note: Worship services are broadcast on local TV and online. Being in the Sanctuary implies consent to being on camera. If you do not wish to be on camera, please sit in the back rows or balcony. Communion may be brought to you in your pew.

*At Grace Lutheran, we believe in the real presence of Christ in Holy Communion, and we practice eucharistic hospitality with an open table. **All persons**, whether visiting or a member, are welcome to meet Jesus at the table. Please ask your communion server if you prefer grape juice or a gluten free communion kit. The ushers will direct you to the front for communion or you may receive communion in your pew. Jesus invites all to come and be fed, forgiven, and free!*

Prelude and Bell Ringing

Welcome and Offering of Peace

P: The Peace of Christ be with you always.

All: **And also with you.**

P: Welcome to Worship!

Announcements

Call to Worship

Confession and Forgiveness

P: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

All: **Amen.**

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Most merciful God,

All: **we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

P: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I

therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

✠ **Gathering Song**

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

#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.
- 3 Though hordes of devils fill the land
all threat'ning to devour us,
we tremble not, unmoved we stand;
they cannot overpow'r us.
Let this world's tyrant rage;
in battle we'll engage!
His might is doomed to fail;
God's judgment must prevail!
One little word subdues him.
- 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!

† Greeting

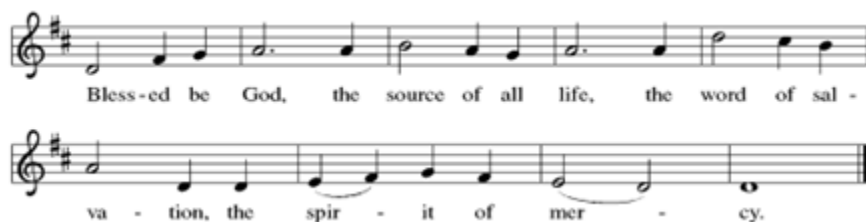
P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and
the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

All: And also with you.

† Kyrie



† Song of Praise



† Prayer of the Day

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

³¹ The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ³² It 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. ³³ But 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. ³⁴ No 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.

Lector: The Word of the Lord. **All: Thanks be to God.**

Second Reading: Romans 3:19-28

¹⁹ Now 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. ²⁰ For no human will be justified before him by deeds prescribed by the law, for through the law comes the knowledge of sin.

²¹ But now, apart from the law, the righteousness of God has been disclosed and is attested by the Law and the Prophets, ²² the righteousness of God through the faith of Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction, ²³ since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God; ²⁴ they are now justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, ²⁵ whom God put forward as a sacrifice of atonement by his blood, effective through faith. He did this to demonstrate his righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over the sins previously committed; ²⁶ it was to demonstrate at the present time his own righteousness, so that he is righteous and he justifies the one who has the faith of Jesus.

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

Lector: The Word of the Lord. **All: Thanks be to God.**

Children's Message (Sing)

Zacchaeus

Zacchaeus was a wee, little man,
And a wee, little man was he.
He climbed up in a sycamore tree,
For the Lord he wanted to see.
And as the Savior came that way,
He looked up in the tree,

Spoken: And he said, "Zacchaeus, you come down!"

For I'm going to your house today.
For I'm going to your house today.

† **Gospel Acclamation**

What are you look - ing for? Come,

see, come and see. What are you

look - ing for? Come and see. Come and see.

P: A reading from the Gospel of John.

All: Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel: John 8:31-36

³¹ Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, “If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples, ³² and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free.” ³³ They 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’?”

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

Pastor: The Gospel of the Lord. **All: Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon

Pastor Cole McCormick

† Song of the Day

In Christ Alone

Verse 1 In Christ alone my hope is found
 He is my light my strength my song
 This Cornerstone this solid Ground
 Firm through the fiercest drought and storm
 What heights of love what depths of peace
 When fears are stilled when strivings cease
 My Comforter my All in All
 Here in the love of Christ I stand

Verse 2 In Christ alone who took on flesh
 Fullness of God in helpless babe
 This gift of love and righteousness
 Scorned by the ones He came to save
 Till on that cross as Jesus died
 The wrath of God was satisfied
 For every sin on Him was laid
 Here in the death of Christ I live

Verse 3 There in the ground His body lay
 Light of the world by darkness slain
 Then bursting forth in glorious Day

Up from the grave He rose again
 And as He stands in victory
 Sin's curse has lost its grip on me
 For I am His and He is mine
 Bought with the precious blood of Christ

Verse 4 No guilt in life no fear in death
 This is the power of Christ in me
 From life's first cry to final breath
 Jesus commands my destiny
 No power of hell no scheme of man
 Can ever pluck me from His hand
 Till He returns or calls me home
 Here in the power of Christ I'll stand

Affirmation of Baptism

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Presentation

P: Dear friends, we give thanks for the gift of baptism and for these young people, one with us in the body of Christ, who are making public affirmation of their baptism.

Each confirmand who desires to make public affirmation of their baptism will now be invited forward. They will share with us their chosen Bible verse, make the sign of the cross on their forehead from the baptismal waters, and take their place on the steps for this special faith milestone.

✝ Madelyn Campbell
 ✝ Kylie Flanagan
 ✝ Holden Junkermeier
 ✝ Peyton Klusmeier
 ✝ Audrey Nemmers
 ✝ Jaxson Weihe
 ✝ Georgia Werre

✝ Jenna Fett
 ✝ Lidya Gronewold
 ✝ Kaylee Kloeckner
 ✝ Raelynn Meyerdirk
 ✝ Emma Schmidt
 ✝ Corinn Wells
 ✝ Cooper Wiederhoeft

P: Let us pray.

Merciful God, we thank you for these sisters and brothers in Christ, whom you have made your own by water and the Word in baptism. You have called them to yourself, enlightened them with the gifts of your Spirit, and nourished them in the community of faith. Uphold your servants in the gifts and promises of baptism and unite the hearts of all whom you have brought to new birth. We ask this in the name of Christ. **Amen.**

Profession of Faith

P: Confirmands, I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church. Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God?

C: **I renounce them.**

P: Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God?

C: **I renounce them.**

P: Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from God?

C: **I renounce them.**

P: To the whole church gathered here today, please join the confirmands in confessing their faith using the words of the Apostles Creed:

Do you believe in God the Father?

All: **I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

P: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

All: **I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.
 On the third day he rose again;
 he ascended into heaven,
 he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
 and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

P: Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

All: **I believe in the Holy Spirit,
 the holy catholic church,
 the communion of saints,
 the forgiveness of sins,
 the resurrection of the body,
 and the life everlasting.**

Affirmation

P: Confirmands: You have made public profession of your faith.
 Do you intend to continue in the covenant God made with you
 in holy baptism:

to live among God's faithful people,
 to hear the word of God and share in the Lord's supper,
 to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and
 deed to serve all people, following the example of Jesus,
 and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth?

C: **I do, and I ask God to help and guide me.**

P: People of God, do you promise to support these sisters and
 brothers and pray for them in their life in Christ?

All: **We do, and ask God to help and guide us.**

P: Confirmands: please find your loved ones in the pews and stand
 by them so they can lay hands on you and bless you as we pray.

Let us pray:

We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit, you give us new birth, cleanse us from sin, and raise us to eternal life. Stir up in these young people of God the gift of your Holy Spirit: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever.

All: Amen.

P: Let us rejoice with these sisters and brothers in Christ with these words of celebration.

All: 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 of the Church



Lord, lis-ten to your chil-dren pray-ing, Lord, send your Spir-it in this place;



Lord, lis-ten to your chil-dren pray-ing, send us love, send us pow'r, send us grace.

Loaves and Fishes Offering

Youth are invited to walk forward and place their offering into the basket. Just like the little boy who gave his 2 fish and 5 loaves to Jesus, who multiplied them to feed thousands, the youth offering will go to The Grace Food Pantry. Adults are welcome to give a child an offering to bring up too.

Offering Song***Cornerstone***

Verse 1 My hope is built on nothing less
 Than Jesus' blood and righteousness
 I dare not trust the sweetest frame
 But wholly trust in Jesus' Name (REPEAT)

Chorus Christ alone cornerstone
 Weak made strong in the Saviour's love
 Through the storm He is Lord
 Lord of all

Verse 2 When darkness seems to hide His face
 I rest on His unchanging grace
 In every high and stormy gale
 My anchor holds within the veil
 My anchor holds within the veil (Chorus)

Interlude He is Lord Lord of all (Chorus)

Verse 3 When He shall come with trumpet sound
 Oh may I then in Him be found
 Dressed in His righteousness alone
 Faultless stand before the throne

† Offering Prayer

God of creation, **you send rain and the earth springs forth abundantly. All blessings are from you; make us generous with what we have. Use our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts in service to you and in love to our neighbors, today and always. Amen.**

Holy Communion

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

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed

for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

✠ **Lord's Prayer** (spoken)

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.

Communion Song

Amazing Grace (My Chains are Gone)

- | | |
|---------|--|
| Verse 1 | Amazing grace how sweet the sound
That saved a wretch like me
I once was lost but now I'm found
Was blind but now I see |
| Verse 2 | 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear
And grace my fears relieved
How precious did that grace appear
The hour I first believed |
| Chorus | My chains are gone I've been set free
My God my Savior has ransomed me
And like a flood His mercy rains
Unending love amazing grace |
| Verse 3 | The Lord has promised good to me
His word my hope secures
He will my shield and portion be
As long as life endures |
| Chorus | My chains are gone I've been set free
My God my Savior has ransomed me
And like a flood His mercy rains
Unending love amazing grace |

Verse 4 The earth shall soon dissolve like snow
 The sun forbear to shine
 But God who called me here below
 Will be forever mine
 Will be forever mine
 You are forever mine

✠ **Prayer after Communion**

P: Sustaining God, with this bread and cup, you nourish us with mercy and abundant life. By your Spirit, send us from this table to serve a world in need. Make us living signs of your liberation, healing, and love, following the way of Jesus, in whose name we pray.

All: Amen.

✠ **Blessing**

P: 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 your peace. In the name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

✠ **Sending Song**

The Blessing

The Lord bless you and keep you
 Make His face to shine upon you
 And be gracious to you
 The Lord turn His face toward you
 And give you peace (Repeat this stanza)

Amen, Amen, Amen

Amen, Amen, Amen

May His favor be upon you and a thousand generations
 And your family, and your children, and their children, and their children

May His presence go before and behind you and beside you
 All around you and within you, He is with you, He is with you

In the morning, in the evening, in your coming, and your going
In your weeping, and rejoicing, He is for you, He is for you

Amen, Amen, Amen

Amen, Amen, Amen

✠ Sending

P: Go out in joy. Be led forth in peace.

All: Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Thank you:

A special thank you to the 2026 Confirmation Class Small
Group Guides, who have met with the confirmands each week
for the past three years during confirmation:

Josh Ensrud, Wendy Nemmers, and Jessica Schmidt

Thank you to our mentors who shared their faith and presence
with our confirmands!



Congratulations
**CONFIRMATION CLASS
OF 2026!**

