



## CONFIRMATION HANDBOOK 2020-21

Fall has arrived and harvest is in full swing. It is time to start Confirmation. We are looking forward to another awesome year with our amazing youth! This will be a wonderful adventure!

### WHAT IS CONFIRMATION?

Baptism is at the heart of confirmation. Confirmation is properly known as “Affirmation of Baptism”—the time when you become an adult and respond to God’s gift of salvation through Jesus Christ and his call on your life.

Baptism is our entrance into the church. Through baptism you are chosen, called, saved and sent. God reaches through time and space, claiming you as his very own, as his child. He marks you with the sign of the cross and bestows on you his Holy Spirit to guide and strengthen you. You are cleansed of sin, die to the old self and enter into a new life in Jesus Christ. It is a calling to live a life of discipleship which means to follow Jesus. It is a pure gift of God. You are invited to remember and renew your baptismal covenant each day.

Parents and sponsors made promises on your behalf when you were baptized—that they would raise you as disciples of Jesus Christ and:

- Faithfully bring you to the services of God’s house
- Teach you the Lord’s Prayer, Creed and Ten Commandments
- Place into your hands the Holy Scriptures
- And provide for your instruction in the Christian faith

### CONFIRMATION IS . . .

. . . **a partnership of** parents, students, pastor, teachers and the congregation in helping the parents and sponsors to fulfill the promises they make at Baptism

. . . **rooted** in baptism. We don’t magically become like Jesus when we are baptized. Following Jesus is not a onetime event. Baptism marks the beginning of our calling to live as disciples of Jesus Christ.

. . . **a journey** in the faith life of Lutheran Christians. Baptism is the first step of the journey. But confirmation is not the ending of a person’s faith journey. It is one part of a never ending journey of following Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior.

. . . **a process** of learning, growing, being transformed and wrestling with faith in Jesus Christ. We don’t graduate when we are confirmed. Confirmation continues a lifelong process of faith formation.

. . . **a response** to Jesus’ invitation to “follow me”. He doesn’t say “go and do this and then follow me”. He doesn’t give us a long list of preconditions or a “To Do” list. Jesus doesn’t say, “Get your life in order. Sort out your problems and stop sinning first.” Jesus simply says, “follow me” just as you are, not the way you’re supposed to be; follow me even if you don’t understand everything; follow me even though you are a sinner with many problems and faults.

. . . **a time of personal confession** for students where you grow in faith and in your relationship with Jesus to the point of publicly professing your faith so you can say, “Yes, I believe.” This affirmation cannot, and should not, take place when a student does not desire to make public affirmation of their faith.

## WHAT ARE THE PARTS OF CONFIRMATION?

**Discipleship.** We will explore what it means to be bold, daring, adventurous followers of Jesus Christ. We will discuss and practice the nine marks of discipleship. The goal is to equip students to enter into a deeper relationship with God. That is, to help one another grow in Christian maturity and to become more like Christ *for others*.

**Gathered.** We cannot be Christians in isolation. We are part of a community where members uphold and nurture one another while also holding one another accountable.

**To Grow.** Through classes and activities, learn from God's Word his loving purpose for them and for all creation. Our goal is to know the story and make it our own.

**Sent.** Students are reminded that God calls them to a life of faithfulness in daily living in community as the church. We are "sent" by Jesus into our homes, neighborhoods, farms, workplaces, schools, and everyday lives to represent Him for the sake of the world

**To Serve.** We explore the meaning of Jesus' words "I came not to be served but to serve" (Matthew 20:28). Being servants is our calling as disciples who are obedient to Christ's command.

**Affirmation.** A public confession by the students of the faith in which they were baptized. This typically occurs on the last Sunday of October during 9<sup>th</sup> grade.

## WHAT ARE THE REQUIREMENTS?

### GATHERED TO GROW:

#### Worship

- Attend **worship** every week, preferably as a family.
- Attend **Thanksgiving eve and Christmas Eve worship** (either at KLC or another church if out of town)
- Attend both meals and worship on Wednesday evenings (6 PM to 7:30PM±) during **Lent** in lieu of regular classes.
- Attend all worship services during **Holy Week**, that is Easter Week—**Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, & Easter Sunday** (either at KLC or another church if out of town). Students participate in the Maundy Thursday service via the foot washing or stripping the altar. There will be rehearsal during regular class at 3:30 PM on the **Wednesday of Holy Week**.
- Complete 20 Worship Notes** during the course of the year. The worksheets are included in the confirmation book and are intended to help students focus on what they see and hear in worship. The header on each sheet allows a space for the student's name and for the worship date. Also provided is a space for a **parent's signature**, intended to give parents a chance to see their student's work and to encourage families to worship together.

**Fellowship:** We may occasionally have a family potluck/pizza night. Students may give a presentation about things they have been learning. In addition they will participate in fellowship during the Lenten suppers.

#### Learning:

- Attendance:** Please note that because we only meet once per week our time with the youth is very limited. So please schedule appointments for a day other than Wednesdays. Thank you for your consideration. Students should miss no more than 2 weekly sessions each year. Missing more than two sessions will require make up work.
- Be On Time.** Sessions *begin* at 4:00 p.m. and end at 5:30 p.m. Students should be here at KLC with enough time to sign-in and be in the Fellowship Hall before we begin. Snacks will be served before class begins.



- c) **Bring your Bible.** Students MUST bring their Bible each week, as reading from the Bible is a key part of every week's lesson and they can underline and markup key passages.
- d) **Bring Homework:** If homework is assigned, please bring it with you and turn in to Pastor.

## SENT TO SERVE:

### At Kindred Lutheran Church

- a) **Worship:** Every student shall sign up to serve during worship for **two entire months:** one month as acolyte/communion assistant and another month as video assistant on either Sundays *NOTE: You can't do both at the same worship service.*
- b) **Maundy Thursday worship:** Assist with the stripping of the altar and/or washing of the feet.

### In the Community

- a) **Feeding the Homeless:** Sign up to assist cooking and serving a meal at the Churches United for the Homeless. KLC is responsible for the third Friday of every month. No more than two students may volunteer for any given month. Students are welcome to sign up more than once if they so choose. It is critical that the youth show up for this event as the team will be depending on them—and so will the people at the homeless shelter. Please be at the shelter no later than 4PM. They may leave once all work is completed—sometime between 7 and 7:30 PM.
- b) Attend **Prayer Walk** on September 27. Students will be writing and sharing the prayers.
- c) Participate in **Homeless and Hungry** (Saturday and Sunday). Parents are asked to participate. Date to be scheduled.

### WHAT ARE THE COSTS?

We are requesting each student contribute **\$35** toward confirmation to cover the books, teaching materials, notebooks etc. for the year. Please make checks payable to Kindred Lutheran Church or pay electronically on the KLC App (be sure to identify that it is for confirmation). If you are unable to afford this, please contact Pastor Andrew.

### WHAT MATERIALS SHOULD THE YOUTH BRING TO CLASS?

- **Study Bible**—we recommend New International Version (NIV) Quest Study Bible which the youth were given in 3<sup>rd</sup> grade.
- They may use the Kindred Lutheran App.
- Notebook
- Pen or pencil
- Highlighter appropriate for use in a Bible. Twistable Crayolas work great too.

### SNACKS/MEALS

Teenagers are hungry, especially after school. Thus, from 3:30 to 4:00 we like to have food for the youth. In the past, parents have signed up to take turns to provide food for the entire class. Due to COVID, however, in lieu of providing food for the entire class we are asking parents to please send food and a drink with your youth each week for their own consumption. Youth should not be sharing food.

### SIGN UPS

Either use the **KLC Church APP** or go to <https://www.kindredlutheran.com/youth/> and sign up for the following:

- Confirmation Worship Assistants (1-month acolyte *and* 1-month video)
- Complete the BOTH the registration and liability and release form.

### COVID

Masks are optional for the youth. They will be seated with 3-4 youth per table.