

Message: *Pastor Eric Hanson*

2025 Confirmands’ Faith Statements

Hymn of the Day & Offering:

Offerings will be collected during the hymn of the day. Thank you also to those who give online. If you’d like to sign up for online giving please visit <http://www.stlukegoodhue.org/online-giving.html>. Children’s coin offering will go toward ELCA Good Gifts serving communities in need around the world.

“Here I Am Lord” #574

**Vs 1: I, the Lord of sea & sky, I have heard my people cry. All who dwell in dark & sin my hand will save.
I, who made the stars of night, I will make their darkness bright.
Whom will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?**

**Refrain: Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you calling in the night.
I will go, Lord, if you lead me. I will hold your people in my heart.**

**Vs 2: I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my people’s pain.
I have wept for love of them. They turn away. I will break their hearts of stone,
give them hearts for love alone. I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send? [Refrain]**

**Vs 3: I, the Lord of wind & flame, I will tend the poor & lame. I will set a feast for them. My hand will save,
Finest bread I will provide till their hearts be satisfied.
I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send? [Refrain]**

Offertory Response: “Give Thanks”

**Give thanks with a grateful heart. Give thanks to the Holy One.
Give thanks because He’s given Jesus Christ, His Son. And now let the weak say, “I am strong”.
Let the poor say, “I am rich Because of what the Lord has done for us”. Give thanks.**

Offering Prayer:

P: Let us pray together,

C: We thank you God for Eternal Life given to us in the resurrection of Jesus Christ. Use the gifts we lay upon your Table to bring life to our church and community. May your gift of life to us become gifts of life for our neighbors through us. Amen.

The Rite of Confirmation:

Katelyn Wieme, Hannah Jenson, Abigail Tipton, Macey Poston, Lyla Bonner, Lillian Volkmann, Benjamin Thomforde, Garrett Rehder, Levi Matthees, Isabella Mitchell, Mallory Lindholm, Aayden Lodermeier, Shelby Dankers, Aleaha Hanson, Clara Mandelkow, Lucy Carlson, & Lyla Smith

The Prayers:

God of resurrection and new life, we come before you in prayer for the church, the world, and all who are in need. *A brief silence.* You guide your people to the waters of life. Make your church a nourishing place for all who are thirsty for hope and healing. Renew us in the waters of baptism, and send us forth as signs of your love. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

You tend to the earth, sustaining life in all places. Revive fragile ecosystems and restore species in danger of extinction. Teach us new ways of living in balance and harmony with our non-human neighbors. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

You lead all peoples along right pathways. Grant wisdom and compassion to judges, lawyers, mediators, and legal advocates. Dismantle systems of mass incarceration, empower processes of restorative justice, and encourage all who strive for healing in our communities. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

You wipe the tears from every eye. Tend to all who struggle with anxiety or depression, loneliness, or despair. Enfold all who are in any need in your shepherding care especially Keith Brown, Jan Benidt, Dave (Pud) Gnotke, Shawn Fredrixon, Marc Bode, Harlan Reese, Gage Miller, Alex Stehr, Perry Fitzgerald, Tanya Bakken, Nicole Anderson, Henry Strauss, Diane Krenke, Steve Pabst, Bob Eppen, Tara Vieths, Chase Hanson, Scott Bignell & Peg Campbell. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

This Mother’s Day, bless mothers, grandmothers, and all who offer mothering care. Come close to those whose relationships with their families are difficult, and console all who grieve the loss of mother figures or the loss of children. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

You are the source of everlasting life. In deep gratitude for all your saints, we rejoice in the joy and hope of the resurrection made known to us in Jesus, your beloved child. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of our journeys, Guide well our 2025 confirmands who commit their lives to you on this day. May their faith in you give strength to their growing hearts and minds. May their questions about you draw them deeper into understanding. May their life’s work reflect the love & mercy you’ve given them, that they might shine Christ’s light on those around them. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We commend these and all our prayers to you, O God, trusting that you are always with us; in the name of Jesus Christ, our risen Savior. **Amen.**

Sharing the Peace: P: The peace of Christ be with you always **C: And also with you.**

The Great Thanksgiving:

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 Him thanks & praise.**

The Words of Institution

Lord’s Prayer: 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.

The Meal & Hymns: *(congregation may be seated)*

All are welcome at this meal. We believe in the saving power of Jesus Christ through the gift of his life, death, and resurrection experienced in bread and wine.

Please move forward via the center aisle. Bread is received in the hands. Wine is received by dipping the bread into the wine chalice and consuming both together. All ages are welcome to commune. Those not communing may receive a blessing by simply keeping your hands folded or extending your arms over your chest in the sign of a cross inviting blessing. For those unable to consume either wine or bread, communion is received fully in either element alone, for Christ is fully present in the meal. You may return to your seats via the side aisles after communing. Gluten-free is available, simply make the server aware of your need. Also, if you cannot come forward, but wish for communion or blessing, let the usher know it will come to you at the end.

“He Leadeth Me” ELW #501

**Vs 1: He leadeth me: O blessed thought! O words with heav’nly comfort fraught!
Whate’er I do, where’er I be, Still ’tis God’s hand that leadeth me.
He leadeth me, He leadeth me; By His own hand He leadeth me:
His faithful foll’wer I would be, For by His hand He leadeth me.**

**Vs 2: Sometimes ‘mid scenes of deepest gloom, Sometimes where Eden’s bowers bloom,
By waters calm, o’er troubled sea, Still ’tis His hand that leadeth me.
He leadeth me, He leadeth me; By His own hand He leadeth me:
His faithful foll’wer I would be, For by His hand He leadeth me.**

**Vs 3: Lord, I would clasp Thy hand in mine, Nor ever murmur nor repine;
Content, whatever lot I see, Since ’tis my God that leadeth me.
He leadeth me, He leadeth me; By His own hand He leadeth me:
His faithful foll’wer I would be, For by His hand He leadeth me.**

**Vs 4: And when my task on earth is done, When, by Thy grace, the vict’rys won,
E’en death’s cold wave I will not flee, Since God through Jordan leadeth me.
He leadeth me, He leadeth me; By His own hand He leadeth me:
His faithful foll’wer I would be, For by His hand He leadeth me.**

“Lord, Speak To Us That We May Speak” ELW #676

**Vs. 1: Lord, speak to us, that we may speak in living echoes of your tone;
as you have sought, so let us seek your straying children, lost and lone.**

**Vs. 2: Oh, lead us, Lord, that we may lead the wand’ring and the wav’ring feet;
oh, feed us, Lord, that we may feed your hung’ring ones with manna sweet.**

**Vs. 3: Oh, teach us, Lord, that we may teach the precious truths which you impart;
and wing our words, that they may reach the hidden depths of many a heart.**

**Vs. 4: Oh, fill us with your fullness, Lord, until our very hearts o’erflow
in kindling thought and glowing word, your love to tell, your praise to show.**

“Will You Come and Follow Me” ELW #798

Vs 1: Will you come and follow me if I but call your name? Will you go where you don’t know and never be the same? Will you let my love be shown, will you let my name be known, will you let my life be grown in you and you in me?

Vs 2: Will you leave yourself behind if I but call your name? Will you care for cruel and kind and never be the same? Will you risk the hostile stare should your life attract or scare? Will you let me answer prayer in you and you in me?

Vs 3: Will you let the blinded see if I but call your name? Will you set the prisoners free and never be the same? Will you kiss the leper clean, and do such as this unseen, and admit to what I mean in you and you in me?

Vs 4: Will you love the ‘you’ you hide if I but call your name? Will you quell the fear inside and never be the same? Will you use the faith you’ve found to reshape the world around, through my sight and touch and sound in you and you in me?

Vs. 5: Lord, your summons echoes true when you but call my name. Let me turn and follow you and never be the same. In your company I’ll go where your love and footsteps show, thus I’ll move and live and grow in you and you in me.

“Lord, I Want To Be A Christian In My Heart” ELW #234

Vs 1: Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart, in my heart; Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart, in my heart, in my heart, Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart.

Vs 2: Lord, I want to be more loving in my heart, in my heart; Lord, I want to be more loving in my heart, in my heart, in my heart, Lord, I want to be more loving in my heart.

Vs 3: Lord, I want to be more holy in my heart, in my heart; Lord, I want to be more holy in my heart, in my heart, in my heart, Lord, I want to be more holy in my heart.

Vs 4: Lord, I want to be like Jesus in my heart, in my heart; Lord, I want to be like Jesus in my heart, in my heart, in my heart, Lord, I want to be like Jesus in my heart.

Communion Prayer: *(please stand as you are able)*

P: Let us pray together,

C: Life-giving God, in the gift of Christ’s resurrection you send light to conquer darkness, water to give new life, and the bread of life to nourish your people. Send us forth as witnesses to your Son’s resurrection. May the Risen Christ live through us in word and deed. Amen.

“The Blessing” sung by Katie Schafer

Sending Hymn: “Jesus Loves Me!” ELW #595

Vs 1: Jesus loves me, this I know, for the Bible tells me so.
Little ones to him belong; they are weak, but he is strong.

Refrain: Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.

Vs 2: Jesus loves me he who died heaven’s gate to open wide.
He will wash away my sin, let his little child come in. [Refrain]

Vs 3: Jesus loves me, he will stay close beside me all the way;
when at last I come to die, he will take me home on high. [Refrain]

Dismissal: P: You are the body of Christ raised up for the world. Go in peace. Share the good news.
C: Thanks be to God.

Postlude



St. Luke Lutheran Church • Pastor Eric Hanson

Fourth Sunday of Easter • 9:30AM • May 11, 2025

Prelude: “I’ll Worship You Forever” solo by Katie Schafer

Welcome and Announcements

The Easter Litany: P: Christ is risen! C: Christ is Risen Indeed! Alleluia!

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, the fountain of living water, the rock who gave us birth, our light and our salvation. C: Amen.

Confession and Forgiveness: P: Faithful and Just God,

C: We confess that we are captive to doubt and fear, bound by the ways that lead to death. We have not loved our sisters & brothers as you have first loved us. Forgive us, God of mercy. Let your Holy Spirit work in us to change our lives & make us new, that we may know the abundant life given in Christ Jesus, our risen Lord. Amen.

P: Christ suffered for sins, once for all, in order to bring you to God. Now you are God’s people; now you have received mercy. In the name of the risen + Lord Jesus, I declare to you that your sins are forgiven. Lay aside guilt, put away shame, for you are chosen & precious in God’s sight. Live in the marvelous light of Christ. Amen.

Gathering Hymn: “I Have Decided To Follow Jesus” by Eugene Thomas, Holland Davis (CCLI licensed)

Vs 1: I have decided to follow Jesus; I have decided to follow Jesus;
I have decided to follow Jesus; no turning back, no turning back.

Vs. 2: Though none go with me, I still will follow; though none go with me, I still will follow;
though none go with me, I still will follow; no turning back, no turning back.

Vs 3: The world behind me, the cross before me; the world behind me, the cross before me,
the world behind me, the cross before me; no turning back, no turning back.

Prayer of the Day: P: Let us pray together,

C: Lord God, you have called us together into the mystical Body of Jesus Christ. As we grow in faith, help us to grow in unity with your mission to love and serve all people in Christ’s name. Help us to think as you think, to move as you move, and to love as you love. In Jesus’ name we pray, amen.

The Good News: 1 Corinthians 12:27-31, 13:1-13

²⁷Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it. ²⁸And God has placed in the church first of all apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then miracles, then gifts of healing, of helping, of guidance, and of different kinds of tongues. ²⁹Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? ³⁰Do all have gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues? Do all interpret? ³¹Now eagerly desire the greater gifts. ^{13:1}If I speak in the tongues of men or of angels, but do not have love, I am only a resounding gong or a clanging cymbal. ²If I have the gift of prophecy and can fathom all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have a faith that can move mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. ³If I give all I possess to the poor and give over my body to hardship that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing. ⁴Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. ⁵It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. ⁶Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. ⁷It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres. ⁸Love never fails. But where there are prophecies, they will cease; where there are tongues, they will be stilled; where there is knowledge, it will pass away. ⁹For we know in part and we prophesy in part, ¹⁰but when completeness comes, what is in part disappears. ¹¹When I was a child, I talked like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became a man, I put the ways of childhood behind me. ¹²For now we see only a reflection as in a mirror; then we shall see face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I am fully known. ¹³And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love.