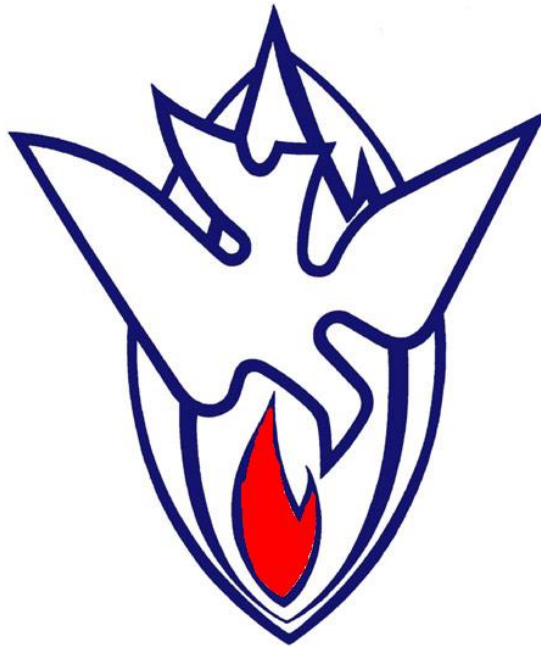


Welcome to  
**WEST CLERMONT LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
Member of the Evangelical Lutheran  
Church in America  
*April 7, 2024*



**Worship 9:30am**  
**Pastor Micheal Erickson**

West Clermont Lutheran Church

Address: PO Box 327

Phone: 563-423-7170

Email: [wclc@acegroup.cc](mailto:wclc@acegroup.cc)

Website: [westclermontlutheranchurch.com](http://westclermontlutheranchurch.com)

**Facebook Live @ West Clermont**

<https://www.facebook.com/100011482533370>

# Confirmation Sunday

April 7, 2024

## INTRODUCTION

*The Easter season is a week of weeks, seven Sundays when we play in the mystery of Christ's presence, mostly through the glorious Gospel of John. Today we gather with the disciples on the first Easter, and Jesus breathes the Spirit on us. With Thomas we ask for a sign, and Jesus offers us his wounded self in the broken bread. From frightened individuals we are transformed into a community of open doors, peace, forgiveness, and material sharing such that no one among us is in need.*

## GATHERING

### PRELUDE

### GREETING

P: He is risen!

**C: He is risen indeed!**

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

**C: And also with you.**

### WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

**WCLC MISSION STATEMENT:** *As children of God, called to love God and one another, we proclaim the Word of God through study, prayer, worship, and discipleship. We serve those in need within our congregation, our community, and our world as an expression of God's love for us. LOVE, PROCLAIM, SERVE!*

### GATHER HYMN:

“A Hymn of Glory”

ELW 393

### THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, the wellspring of grace, our Easter and our joy.

**C: Amen.**

P: Look, here is water!

**C: Here is our water of life! Alleluia!**

P: Immersed in the promises of baptism, let us give thanks for what God has done for us. We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your voice thundered over the deep and water became the essence of life. Adam and Eve beheld Eden's verdant rivers. The ark carried your creation through the flood into a new day.

Miriam led the dancing as your people passed through the sea into freedom's land. In a desert pool the Ethiopian official entered your boundless baptismal life. Look, here is water!

**C: Here is our water of life! Alleluia!**

P: At the river your beloved Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection you opened the floodgates of your reconciling love, freeing us to live as Easter people. We rejoice with glad hearts, giving all honor and praise to you, through the risen Christ, our source of living water, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

P: Look, here is water!

**C: Here is our water of life! Alleluia!**

## **KYRIE**

ELW pg. 120

**CANTICLE OF PRAISE**    *This is the feast....*    ELW pg. 122

**PRAYER OF THE DAY:** Almighty God, with joy we celebrate the day of our Lord's resurrection. By the grace of Christ among us, enable us to show the power of the resurrection in all that we say and do, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

## **NOISY CAN OFFERING**

**SPECIAL MUSIC:**

*"We Have Seen the Lord"*

ELW 869

## **WORD**

**First Reading:** Acts 4:32-35

<sup>32</sup>Now the whole group of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one claimed private ownership of any possessions, but everything they owned was held in

common. <sup>33</sup>With great power the apostles gave their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. <sup>34</sup>There was not a needy person among them, for as many as owned lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold. <sup>35</sup>They laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need.

R: *The Word of the Lord.*

C: **Thanks be to God!**

**Psalm: 133 (Responsively)**

<sup>1</sup>How good and how pleasant it is, when kindred live together in unity!

<sup>2</sup>**It is like fine oil upon the head, flowing down upon the beard,  
upon the beard of Aaron, flowing down upon the collar of his robe.**

<sup>3</sup>It is like the dew of Hermon flowing down upon the hills of Zion.

For there the LORD has commanded the blessing: life forevermore.

**Second Reading: 1 John 1:1--2:2**

<sup>1</sup>We declare to you what was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we have looked at and touched with our hands, concerning the word of life—<sup>2</sup>this life was revealed, and we have seen it and testify to it, and declare to you the eternal life that was with the Father and was revealed to us—<sup>3</sup>we declare to you what we have seen and heard so that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. <sup>4</sup>We are writing these things so that our joy may be complete.

<sup>5</sup>This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light and in him there is no darkness at all. <sup>6</sup>If we say that we have fellowship with him while we are walking in darkness, we lie and do not do what is true; <sup>7</sup>but if we walk in the light as he himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. <sup>8</sup>If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. <sup>9</sup>If we confess our sins, he who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. <sup>10</sup>If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

<sup>2:1</sup>My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; <sup>2</sup>and he is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

R: *The Word of the Lord.*

C: **Thanks be to God!**

**Gospel: John 20:19-31**

P: The Holy Gospel according to John.

**C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>19</sup>When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” <sup>20</sup>After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. <sup>21</sup>Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.” <sup>22</sup>When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit. <sup>23</sup>If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.”

<sup>24</sup>But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. <sup>25</sup>So the other disciples told him, “We have seen the Lord.” But he said to them, “Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe.”

<sup>26</sup>A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” <sup>27</sup>Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe.” <sup>28</sup>Thomas answered him, “My Lord and my God!” <sup>29</sup>Jesus said to him, “Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.”

<sup>30</sup>Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. <sup>31</sup>But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

P: *The gospel of the Lord.*

**C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

**CHILDREN’S SERMON**

**Pastor Mike Erickson**

**SPECIAL MUSIC:** *“The Commission”* by Cain CCLI song #7146623

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XkJniP87XdQ>

**SERMON**

**Pastor Mike Erickson**

**Faith Statements by Confirmand:**

*Taylor Dean  
Peyton Dean  
Bella Dirksen  
Mark Erickson*

*Please hold applause until all have read their faith statement.*

**CONFIRMATION**

**PRESENTATION**

P: The following have been instructed in the Christian faith and desire to make public profession of their faith in Jesus Christ:

**Taylor Maye Dean**

**Peyton Glen Dean**

**Isabella Marie Dirksen**

**Mark Charles S. Erickson**

*Confirmands come forward and stand at the communion rail.*

**AFFIRMATION BY THE ASSEMBLY**

P: Dear friends, we give thanks for the gift of baptism as we come before God to make public affirmation of baptism into Christ.

P: Let us pray.

Merciful God, we thank you that you have made us your own by water and the Word in baptism. You have called us to yourself, enlightened us with the gifts of your Spirit, and nourished us in the community of faith. Uphold us and all 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.

**C: Amen.**

**PROFESSION OF FAITH**

*The presiding minister addresses those making public affirmation of baptism. The assembly may stand and join in the responses.*

P: 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: Do you believe in God the Father?

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

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

**C: 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?

**C: 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 BY THE CONFIRMAND**

#### *Affirmation in the Presence of the Assembly*

P: 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?

*Each confirmand responds:*

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

*The minister addresses the assembly.*

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

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

*Those making affirmation may kneel. The presiding minister prays for God's blessing.*

P: 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.

*The minister will bless the confirmand by saying;*

P: Stir up in **Taylor, Peyton, Bella, and Mark** 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.

**C: Amen.**

*Confirmand making public affirmation stand and face the assembly.*

### **CONFIRMATION BLESSING**

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

**C: 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.**

### **READING & PRESENTATION OF CONFIRMATION BIBLE VERSES**

**Taylor Dean**- Philippians 4:13

*<sup>13</sup>I can do all things through him who strengthens me.*

**Peyton Dean**- John 3:16

*<sup>16</sup>For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.*

**Bella Dirksen**- Romans 8:5-6

*<sup>5</sup>For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. <sup>6</sup>To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace.*

**Mark Erickson**- Matthew 22:37

*<sup>37</sup>He said to him, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind."*

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## **WE SHARE GOD'S PEACE**

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

**C: And also with you.**

P: Let us offer each other a sign of peace.

**OFFERING:**                    *"That Easter Day With Joy Was Bright"*

**ELW 384**

## **OFFERING PRAYER**

P: Risen One, you call us to believe and bear fruit. May the gifts that we offer here be signs of your abiding love. Form us to be your witnesses in the world, through Jesus Christ, our true vine.

**C: Amen.**

## **MEAL**

### **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 our thanks and praise.**

### **PREFACE**

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ, the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin; who in dying has destroyed death, and in rising has brought us to eternal life.

And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**Holy, holy, holy.....**

**ELW pg. 130**

### **THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE**

P: 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**

P: Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

**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.**

### **INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

P: The risen Christ is made known to us in the breaking of the bread. Come and eat at God's table.

**COMMUNION:**                                    *"Now the Green Blade Rises"*                                    **ELW 379**

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION: Shepherding God, you have prepared a table before us and nourished us with your love. Send us forth from this banquet to proclaim your goodness and share the abundant mercy of Jesus, our redeemer and friend. Amen.**

### **SENDING**

#### **BLESSING**

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**C: Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

P: The God of resurrection power, the Christ of unending joy, and the Spirit of Easter hope ✠ bless you now and always.

**C: Amen.**

**SENDING MUSIC:**                                    *"Hallelujah! We Sing Your Praises"*                                    **ELW 535**

## DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Love. Proclaim. Serve.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

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## Prayer List

**Requested:** Jeanette (Davisson) Cain, Don Erickson, Ken Erickson, Jake Noggle, Karen Guyer, Lynzee Henrikson-Makowski, Karen Kohls, Ardell Fortune, Inez Oakland, Julie Albertson, Danice Cummings, Larry Kohls, Jennifer Ruckdashel, Karen Kerner, Terry Cummings.

**Assisted Living, Nursing Homes & Shut-Ins:** Millard Nelson, Betty Erickson, Gail Herman, Marilyn Knutsen, Bud Siebrecht, Karen Follett, Judy Nelson.

**In the Military:** Jeff Kleppe, Nathan Guyer, Major Stephanie Wilkins, Kennedy White.



Please keep the family and friends of Gary Kittleson in your thoughts and prayers. Gary passed away on March 28<sup>th</sup>. No services are planned.



Please keep the family and friends of Jerry Erickson in your thoughts and prayers. Jerry passed away on March 28<sup>th</sup>.

## What's Happening

Mon. 4/8	6:30pm	Women's Auxiliary Mtg.
Tues. 4/9	9am	Quilting
Wed. 4/10	<b>10:30am</b>	<b>Copper Creek Worship Service</b>
	2-4pm	Senior Game Day
Sun. 4/14	<b>9:30am</b>	<b>Sunday Worship Service</b>
		Sunday School
	10:30am	Fellowship and coffee
	4pm	Sunday Mtg.

*Pastor Mike is on vacation April 12<sup>th</sup> thru April 14<sup>th</sup>.*

## Maundy Thursday, March 28, 2024

Loose: \$41.00      Lent: \$3.00

**Total General Fund: \$69.00**

Roof: \$180.00

## Attendance: 19

Easter: \$20.00      Regular: \$5.00

## Easter Sunday, March 31, 2024

Regular: \$745.00

Loose: \$175.00


**Total General Fund: \$1,724.48**

**Attendance: 124**

Noisy Can: \$74.48

Easter: \$730.00



 **Noisy Can Offering** for 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter (April - June) will go to Jo Kramer from Waucoma, for her ongoing health concerns and cancer treatments. Jo writes a blog about her experiences with her illness.



**Direct Deposit Offering** is available for your weekly/monthly offering. Simply contact the office for account and routing information. It's fast and easy!



**Pictorial Time!** Our last pictorial was five years ago and a lot has happened since then. As we start preparing for our next pictorial, we are asking you to share any photos of church events with the office. We would like to have a good representation of all the things we do as a congregation from worship to the Fall Dinner, quilting to Luther League.



**Calmar Lutheran Church Luther League BINGO!** on April 28<sup>th</sup> @ the church in Calmar. Doors open at 2:30pm. Games start at 3pm. \$2 buy in with each additional card \$5 each. 15 regular BINGO games, 4 special games and 1 blackout. Payout (1 winner per game): \$25 for regular bingo, \$40 for special games and \$100 for blackout winner. Concessions available. Door prizes and 50/50 raffle.

**CAMPERSHIPS** **WCLC Camperships** are available for those attending a faith-based summer camp in 2024. Stop in the office or email the church for the application. You are encouraged to submit the completed application before the May 1<sup>st</sup>, Council Meeting. This will allow for timely receipt of campership funds.



**to our confirmand.**

Today, you confirmed the promises made when you were baptized. May your spiritual journey continue and may the Holy Spirit be with you always!

**Taylor Dean** baptized November 29, 2009

**Peyton Dean** baptized March 13, 2011

**Bella Dirksen** baptized July 11, 2010

**Mark Erickson** baptized April 25, 2010