

Confirmation Preparation Description

What is Confirmation?

Confirmation is a public rite of the church preceded by a period of instruction designed to help baptized Christians identify with the life and mission of the Christian community.

Prior to admission to the Lord's Supper, it is necessary to be instructed in the Christian Faith (1 Cor. 11:28). The rite of confirmation provides an opportunity for the individual Christian, relying on God's promise given in Holy Baptism, to make a personal public confession of the faith (Matt.10:32-33) and a lifelong pledge of fidelity to Christ (Rev. 2:10).

Confirmation Preparation Objectives

Confirmation Preparation, a long standing tradition in the Lutheran Church, provides an opportunity for young people to become familiar with the teachings of the Lutheran faith and prepares them to identify more deeply with the Christian community and participate more fully in Christ's mission for His church. Following a period of instruction, participants confirm their faith by making a public affirmation of their baptismal vows. At Zion, confirmation instruction is part of an overall program of ministry with youth and is the responsibility of the entire congregation (a pledge made at baptism).

The life of the confirmed is a lifelong process. It begins with baptism when a child is welcomed into the church. Parents and sponsors promise to support and guide their children as they grow in Christ. Confirmation Preparation is a continuation of instruction that a child has been receiving from their parents and training in church through Sunday School, Bible Studies, and Youth Ministry. Confirmation Preparation includes a more formal study of the fundamentals of the Christian faith (Luther's Small Catechism).

Each confirmand makes a public affirmation of faith and confirms God's action in their lives. Learning to live one's faith does not end at this public affirmation (confirmation), but requires a lifetime of effort and commitment. Confirmation is the end of the beginning (the end of Chapter 1). At the day of Confirmation the student will have experienced and will be able to continue to:

- 1) Make a profession of faith/trust in Christ.
- 2) Develop consistency in spending time in God's Word.
- 3) Be regular in attendance in Confirmation Class.
- 4) Be regular in attendance in Church and Bible Classes.
- 5) Know the material of the Course (Six Primary Teachings of the Christian Faith).
- 6) Memorize:
 - a) Ten Commandments (with meanings)
 - b) Lord's Prayer
 - c) Apostle's Creed (with meanings)
 - d) Books of the Bible
 - e) Selective Bible Verses
- 7) Be active in service at home and to church and community.
- 8) Develop active listening in Worship.

To help achieve the objectives on the front of this page the following description of requirements for Confirmation 1 are as follows:

1. **Class Notebook** – Preferably a 3-ring notebook with at least one pocket for sermon reports and blank notebook paper to keep all confirmation materials and assignments in one place. (Dividers are recommended with the headings of the following: Course Schedule/Assignment Tracker; Weekly Assignments; Weekly Handouts/Notes; Quizzes; Blank Paper for notes and quizzes)
2. **Assignments** - Assignments will be given each week to complete before the next class.
3. **Memory Work** - Memory work will be assigned each week per the class schedule. For effective long-term memory of the assigned memory work needs to be practiced every day. A quiz should be expected each class over the memory work.
4. **God's Word** - Spending time in God's Word (Gospel of John & Romans)
5. **Service Projects** - Opportunities for service to the church and community is offered through our Youth Ministry. The confirmand may choose to be a part of this group or work on individual service projects. Families are encouraged to serve together as ushers or greeters during worship services
6. **Sermon Reports** - Each week we have the privilege of hearing God's Word proclaimed. The sermon report allows us to be active listeners and to reflect on how God's Word can and does change our lives.
7. **Catechism** - Weekly reading assignments from the small catechism will assist the confirmand in preparation for the next class.

What to Bring to Class Each Week:

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| 1) Bible (ESV preferred) | 5) Notebook with blank notebook paper |
| 2) Catechism | 6) Completed Weekly Sermon Reports |
| 3) Writing utensil (pen / pencil) | 7) Weekly Memory Work Memorized |
| 4) Completed weekly assignment | (in long term memory) |

Class Preparation (*before coming to class each week*):

Before class each week the confirmand will need to perform these tasks:

Assignments - The weekly assignment should be completed sometime during the week before attending class.

Catechism Reading & Video -The weekly reading assignment and video should be completed before class to better understanding of the lesson.

Memory Work - The weekly memory work assignment should be completed before coming to class and recited daily so that it is in the confirmand's long term memory.

Sermon Reports - A sermon report sheet will be going home with the confirmand to be started during the Sunday sermon and completed before class.

Assignment Tracker Report

This report will allow the confirmand to keep track of how he/she is progressing in confirmation class.

May there be much joy in your journey with Jesus!!