

THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. HELENA



CONFIRMATION, RECEPTION
and
REAFFIRMATION

with the Laying on of Hands by the Bishop

Old Sheldon Church
Thursday, April 15, 2021
6:00 p.m.

CONFIRMATION, RECEPTION
and
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Please stand to sing the opening hymn.

Opening Hymn: In Christ Alone

In Christ alone my hope is found;
he is my light, my strength, my song;
this Cornerstone, this solid ground,
firm thro' 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.

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 ev'ry sin on Him was laid;
here in the death of Christ I stand.

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.

No guilt in life, no fear in death,
this is the pow'r of Christ in me;
from life's first cry to final breath,
Jesus commands my destiny.
No pow'r of hell, no scheme of man,
can ever pluck me from His hand;
till He returns or calls me home,
here in the pow'r of Christ I'll stand.

Bishop: The Lord will pour out his Spirit upon all flesh,
People: *And your sons and daughters shall prophesy.*
Bishop: Your old men shall dream dreams,
People: *And your young men shall see visions.*
Bishop: You shall know that the Lord is in the midst of his
people,
People: *That he is the Lord and there is none else.*
Bishop: And it shall come to pass
People: *That everyone who calls on the Name of the Lord
shall be saved.*

Bishop: The Lord be with you.
People: *And with your spirit.*
Bishop: Let us pray.

The Collect for the Universal Church

O God of unchangeable power and eternal light: Look favorably on your whole Church, that wonderful and sacred mystery; by the effectual working of your providence, carry out in tranquility the plan of salvation; let the whole world see and know that things which were cast down are being raised up, and things which had grown old are being made new, and that all things are being brought to their perfection by him through whom all things were made, your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Please stand for the reading of the Gospel.

Reader: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ
according to St. Luke.

People: *Glory be to thee, O Lord.*

The Gospel: Luke 24:36-53

Reader: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: *Praise be to thee, O Christ.*

Homily

The Rt. Rev. Mark J. Lawrence

THE PRESENTATION, EXHORTATION AND EXAMINATION

Only a Bishop may confirm. The Bishop customarily sits in a chair in front of the Altar Table. The Candidates and Presenters stand facing the Bishop as their Presenters say:

Presenters: *Reverend Father in God, we present these persons to receive the laying on of hands.*

Bishop: Have they been adequately prepared?

Presenters: *They have.*

The Bishop then says:

Dearly beloved, it is essential that those who wish to be Confirmed or Received in this Church publicly confess Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior; become his disciples; know and affirm the Nicene Creed, the Lord's Prayer, and the Ten Commandments; and have received instruction in the Holy Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments and the Catechism of the Church. God's grace is imparted in Baptism, through which we are made God's children by adoption and given the Holy Spirit. By the power of the Spirit, manifested in gifts and fruit, we are enabled to be God's people for the sake of the world.

Now, these Candidates desire publicly to confess their faith in Jesus Christ as Savior and their commitment to follow him as Lord. They also desire the strengthening of grace through the laying on of hands, that the Holy Spirit may fill them more and more for their ministry in the Church and in the world.

The Bishop then addresses the Candidates:

Bishop: Do you, here in the presence of God and the Church, renew the solemn promises and vows made at your Baptism and commit to keep them?

Candidates: I do.

Bishop: Do you renounce the devil and all the spiritual forces of wickedness that rebel against God?

Candidates: I renounce them.

Bishop: Do you renounce the empty promises and deadly deceits of this world that corrupt and destroy the creatures of God?

Candidates: I renounce them.

Bishop: Do you renounce the sinful desires of the flesh that draw you from the love of God?

Candidates: I renounce them.

Bishop: Do you turn to Jesus Christ and confess him as your Lord and Savior?

Candidates: I do.

Bishop: Do you joyfully receive the Christian Faith, as revealed in the Holy Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments?

Candidates: I do.

Bishop: Will you obediently keep God's holy will and commandments, and walk in them all the days of your life?

Candidates: I will, the Lord being my helper.

The Bishop addresses the Congregation, saying:

Bishop: Will you who witness these vows do all in your power to support these persons in their life in Christ?

People: We will.

PRAYER AND THE LAYING ON OF HANDS

The Bishop stands and says:

Let us pray.

Almighty and everliving God, we beseech you to strengthen these your servants for witness and ministry through the power of your Holy Spirit. Daily increase in them your manifold virtues of grace: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and true godliness, and the spirit of holy fear, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Each Confirmand kneels in front of the Bishop. The Bishop then lays his hands upon the person's head.

CONCLUDING PRAYER AFTER THE LAYING ON OF HANDS

The Bishop then says:

Almighty and everliving God, let your fatherly hand ever be upon these your servants; let your Holy Spirit ever be with them; and so lead them in the knowledge and obedience of your Holy Word, that they may faithfully serve you in this life, and joyfully dwell with you in the life to come; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

The Peace

Bishop: The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: ***And with your spirit.***

Go forth into the world in peace, be of good courage, and fight the good fight of faith, that you may finish your course with joy; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

God of grace and God of glory,
on thy people pour thy pow'r;
crown thine ancient Church's story;
bring her bud to glorious flow'r.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
for the facing of this hour,
for the facing of this hour.

Lo! the hosts of evil round us
scorn thy Christ, assail his ways!
From the fears that long have bound us
free our hearts to faith and praise.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
for the living of these days,
for the living of these days.

Cure thy children's warring madness;
bend our pride to thy control;
shame our wanton, selfish gladness,
rich in things and poor in soul.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
lest we miss thy kingdom's goal,
lest we miss thy kingdom's goal.

Set our feet on lofty places;
gird our lives that they may be
armored with all Christ-like graces
in the fight to set men free.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
that we fail not man nor thee,
that we fail not man nor thee.

The Dismissal

2021 CONFIRMANDS

FOR CONFIRMATION

Christine Cashion Assaf
Karen Lynn Benson
Alexis Ann Flippen
Samuel Deepack Hammer
Cynthia Mildred Hutcherson
Charles Edward Kaylor
Gretchen Schuler Kaylor
Joette Beth Lawrence
Debra Ann Reich
Michael Lewis Reich
Laura Kessler Schuler
Michael Graham Stokke
William James Truax, Jr.
Kelly Lavender Windham

Letha Marie Bozard
Frances Bland Calvert
Vivian Elizabeth Calvert
Amelia Elaine Flake
Samantha JoAnn Lawrence
Sophia Allison Lawrence
Zayda Anne Pruit
Jakob Riley Stepp
Hayden Anne Strawn

FOR RECEPTION

Jonathan Patrick Levelle
Cynthia McVicker Levelle

FOR REAFFIRMATION

Virginia Alexis Flippen
Sara Madison Steen
Heidi Jean Stokke
Pamela Jane Truax

The Parish Church of St. Helena

AN ANGLICAN CONGREGATION

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