

# Confirmation Handbook

## 2020-2021

We thank you for working with us in the faith formation of your youth. If at any time you have questions or concerns regarding the Confirmation Ministry, please contact Pastor Will Johnson, Pastor Kathleen Armstrong, or Laura Anderson.



CROSS OF CHRIST  
Lutheran Church

EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA

## Confirmation Directory

Cross of Christ Lutheran Church  
12099 Lowell Blvd.  
Broomfield, CO 80020  
303.469.4004 www.cross-of-christ.org

Pastor Will Johnson

Pastor Kathleen Armstrong

Laura Anderson

## Small Group Guides

[Sixth Grade Guides](#)

[Seventh Grade Guides](#)

Mindy Paddock  
Sean Connolly

[Eighth Grade Guides](#)

Connor Headrick  
Shelby Larson

[Substitute Guides](#)

Kerri Kraft

## Covid-19 Update

Life is different than a year ago. Confirmation must adapt as well. We are committed to accompanying your students in their faith journey with life-giving faith formation. Everything we do in Confirmation at Cross of Christ is purposeful. At least this fall, we are forgoing the large-group format for the sake of safety. While this will change how we do things, it does not change the importance of the time of Confirmation. This is a holy time, where our youth have a chance to learn, question, contemplate, and grow.

## High School Service Trip (8th Grade Only)

Current Eighth Graders are encouraged to attend the yearly summer High School Service Trip. Our summer service trips have been some of the most spiritually meaningful experiences for our youth. These trips empower youth to live out their faith while being surrounded by other high school students.

This usually happens in July. More information will be given out at a meeting in September. Look for information about the meeting in emails and the newsletter.

## Youth Scholarships

Scholarships are available for anyone going to any Cross of Christ Ministry Activity. This includes: Rainbow Trail Lutheran Camp, Sky Ranch Lutheran Camp, all youth retreats and activities. Cross of Christ plans summer camp scholarships into our annual budgeting. Fundraising for additional retreats and activity scholarships happen throughout the year.

**Please don't hesitate to ask for help with paying for activities.**

Forms for scholarships are available on the youth board. Summer Camp Scholarships are due by **March 15, 2021**.

# Retreats & Summer Camp

## Rainbow Trail Lutheran Camp (RTLCL)

Cross of Christ supports this vital ministry in many ways. Rainbow Trail Lutheran Camp is an ELCA Summer Camp located in the Sangre De Christo Mountains in Southern Colorado.

### RTLCL Confirmation Retreat

Get away to Rainbow Trail Lutheran Camp for a weekend retreat during the fall, where we'll spend time in fellowship and learning with extraordinary RTLCL staff. Join us for crafts, team building, activities, outdoor games, and worship. This is tentative, due to Covid-19.

**October 16-18, 2020**  
**COST: \$100**

### RTLCL Confirmation and High School Week

During this week long ministry, youth will get a chance at low ropes, high ropes, white-water rafting and hiking. They will experience Bible Studies, arts & crafts, archery, woodcarving and more. We hope that youth go to camp at least once out of the three years of confirmation. Registration opens **November 1** and fills up fast.

Register online at [www.rainbowtrail.org](http://www.rainbowtrail.org); tentative dates for 2021 are:

**June 20—June 26 Confirmation week #1 (current 5th—8th)**

**July 4—10 High School week #2 (current 8th Graders)**

**Approximate Cost: \$460**

### Rocky Mountain Synod Youth Gathering

Join youth from Wyoming, Colorado, Utah, New Mexico, and Texas for music, games, inspirational messages, and service at the Youth Gathering in Estes Park, Colorado!

Information on dates and cost will come out Fall 2020.

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## Purpose & Mission

At Cross of Christ, confirmation ministry is a time to learn, grow, and explore life in Christian community. This journey is an intentional time to question, grow, and seek transformation. Confirmation is not a graduation, but one more step in the life of faith.

We involve 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students in this ministry, with the service of Affirmation of Baptism taking place in the fall of their 9<sup>th</sup> grade year. In our confirmation ministry, our youth learn what it means to be a Christian, a Lutheran, and an adult member of the church.

When infants and children are brought to be baptized, parents and sponsors make faith promises for them:

*“You are entrusted with responsibilities, ‘to live with them among God’s faithful people, bring them to the word of God and the holy supper, teach them the Lord’s Prayer, the Creed, and the Ten Commandments, place in their hands the holy scriptures, and nurture them in faith and prayer, so that your children may learn to trust God, proclaim Christ through word and deed, care for the world God made, and work for justice and peace.’”*

In the service of Affirmation of Baptism, confirmands “confirm”/”affirm” these baptismal promises, taking them on as their own.

Confirmation is a time together, not a time apart. Throughout the confirmation ministry we seek to build relationships between students and the rest of the congregation. We hope to build such strong connections between life and faith that there is no separation, and every moment becomes a “life of faith”.

We strive to partner with parents and family members in this ministry – the “church” cannot do this without you. We are together in this ministry, as we set aside intentional time to guide our youth into a deeper relationship with Jesus.

## Confirmation Schedule

January 6	Subject 4
January 13	Subject 4
January 16-18	Rocky Mountain Synod Youth Gathering
January 20	Subject 4
January 24	Church Visit
January 27	Subject 5
February 3	Subject 5
February 10	Subject 5
February 17	Ash Wednesday Worship

## Lenten Mentoring/ Worship (February 17—April 4)

April 7, 14, 21, 28 Extra dates if needed to complete any subjects or the Spring Service Project (will be determined by each grade group)

### SUMMER

June 20—June 26	RTLCL Confirmation Camp
July 4—July 10	RTLCL High School Week (8th Graders)
TBD	High School Mission Trip (8th Graders)
TBD (June)	Eighth Grade Confirmation Retreat

## Confirmation Schedule

(2020- 2021)

September 16	Christianity, Lutheranism, Confirmation Intro
September 23	Subject 1
September 30	Subject 1
October 7	Subject 1
October 11	Church Visit
October 14	Subject 2
October 16-18	RTLCL Confirmation Retreat
October 21	Subject 2
October 28	Subject 2
November 4	Subject 3
November 11	Subject 3
November 18	Subject 3
November 25	Extra date if needed to complete subjects or the Fall Service Project (will be determined by each grade group)
November 26– December 30	Thanksgiving/Christmas Break

## Confirmation Curriculum & Format

Our confirmation curriculum is a three-year rotation. Youth learn about the groundings of our faith, including: the Small Catechism (Apostles' Creed, Ten Commandments, Lord's Prayer), the Sacraments (Holy Baptism and Holy Communion), Church History, and Bible Stories.

2020– 2021 Vocation & Life (Focus: 10 Commandments, Apostles' Creed, Sacraments)

2021—2022 Vocation & Society (Focus: Bible Stories)

2022– 2023 Vocation & the Church (Focus: Lord's Prayer, Worship)

*\*Vocation is central to Christian life—it is "how God calls us to live".*

### LEARNING

Confirmation students will engage in learning in a small group of same grade level students. Each small group will meet weekly online, at least for the Fall semester.

Each small group will complete five subjects. Three of these subjects are required in 2020-2021: 10 Commandments, the Apostles' Creed, the Sacraments. Each small group decides which other two courses they will take as electives. A list of elective courses will be provided on September 16.

Each student will watch a 10-15 video during the small group time. The small group time will be approximately an hour for community building, discussion, and activities. Videos are created by staff and members of ELCA churches in our area. We are partnering together to strengthen our Confirmation ministry in this time, in an initiative called "ConfirmU".

### COMMUNITY SERVICE

Each small group will plan and implement a service project in both the Fall and Spring semesters. Small Group leaders will help facilitate this. Groups can seek guidance from Laura Anderson or Pastor Will.

## Mid-week Confirmation Schedule

7pm on Wednesdays—Small Group Time (in person or online)

(If you are regularly unable to make the 7pm time, please contact Pastor Will)

## Expectations

The following requirements help guide the youth through the confirmation journey. If there are any concerns about the following requirements please contact Pastor Will.

### Bring Confirmation Bag

- \* All youth need to bring their confirmation bags with Bible, Small Catechism, and a writing utensil with them every week.

### Attendance:

- \* Youth need to be present at Confirmation Class.
- \* Make-up work needs to be emailed to the small group guides after missed classes, within a month of missing the lesson.
- \* Make-Up lessons for 2020-2021 involve watching the video for the week and completing the discussion guide with a caring adult.

### Worship Notes: 15 Worship Notes per Year - 45 total

- \* Worship notes will be carried over year to year. This is a running tally over 3 years of confirmation.
- \* A student can have 5 extra worship notes per year that will be counted towards the next year's total.
- \* Double Sunday will be **October 25, 2020** at the Affirmation of Baptism 11:15 a.m. service. Students will get credit if a parent also turns in a worship note with their student.
- \* Parents must review and sign each worship note.
- \* Turn completed worship notes into the hanging folder on the youth board by the kitchen, or email a picture to Pastor Will.

### Church Visits: Attend 2 church visits per year. Church visits will be on **October 4, 2020** and **January 24, 2021**.

- \* Students will be able to make-up church visits by attending the same or a similar church with their family. Please talk with Pastor Will if you cannot make a church visit.
- \* Youth will turn in a family worship note after each church visit.
- \* After each visit we will take time together to reflect on the worship.

### Mentoring: Youth will participate in Lenten mentoring (*Page 10*).

## Mentoring/ Lenten Worship

Mentoring helps build meaningful relationship between the mentor and youth, where both can grow and learn spiritually from each other. Mentoring sessions are designed to give students another adult member in their life who will pray for them and share in their faith development.

Each student is responsible for finding their own mentor by **January 13, 2021**. They should be a adult member of Cross of Christ. There will be a Parent/Mentor meeting on **Wednesday, February 12 at 7:00 p.m.** The mentoring sessions will take place during Lent: **February 17 - April 4, 2021**.

After the Lenten season there will be a follow-up meeting for mentors to debrief and gather feedback.

There will be no class during the season of Lent. We hope students and families attend midweek Lenten worship services.

## Stay Connected

There is a lot that happens in our Confirmation Ministry. Here are a few ways that you can stay connected.

**Website:** [www.cross-of-christ.org](http://www.cross-of-christ.org) (Learn/Youth/Confirmation)

**Facebook:** CrossOfChristChurch

**Electronic Weekly Newsletter:** Subscribe on CCLC Website

**Electronic Biweekly Youth Blast:** Pastor Will adds individuals to the list

**Email:** Pastor Will, Pastor Kathy, and Laura Anderson can be reached over email. If you have not received any emails from Pastor Will, or your email address changes, please email Pastor Will letting him know you are not on an email list.

**Remind App:** Enter this number: 81010 and text "@cclcyo". You do not need the Remind App.

## 8th Grade Expectations

**Faith Statement/Personal Bible Verse:** Youth write a personal statement of faith. In this faith statement youth will answer the question, “What does it mean to me to be a Christian?” They also will choose a Bible Verse to go with their faith statement that has a personal meaning.

**Fall Retreat:** There will be a beginning of summer retreat for all 8th grade youth. The youth will review the 5 promises that they will make during the Affirmation of Baptism Service. As these 8th graders transition to 9th grade and high school, we start connecting them with the youth group.

**Interviews:** Youth will meet individually with either Pastor Kathy, Pastor Will, or Laura Anderson to talk about faith statements, memory work, and the confirmation class. This is done in the fall of their ninth grade year.

**Council Meeting:** The youth are invited to **Church Council (October 12, 2021)** to share their faith statements. After all the readings the council votes to affirm the youth as adult members of Cross of Christ.

**Affirmation of Baptism Service** Will be on **Sunday, October 31, 2021 at 11:15 a.m.**

**Memory Work:** Youth will be asked to remember (be able to recognize and say with other people) two of the following:

- \* Books of the Bible
- \* 10 Commandments, and their meaning
- \* Apostles’ Creed
- \* Lord’s Prayer

**Seder Meal:** Passover is the ancient Jewish festival of Israel’s deliverance from slavery in Egypt. For many, many generations, it has been observed with a feast called the Seder, which was once a family meal and a worship service with much praying and much eating. The 8th Grade confirmation students and their parents are invited for a special evening celebrating this festival on **March 23, 2021.**

## Expectations Cont.

### Worship Leadership:

Youth are asked to participate in worship leadership at least 4 times a year—12 total. We encourage and hope youth will participate in more. Please sign up online at [www.cross-of-christ.org](http://www.cross-of-christ.org), under “Serve”. Youth will write on worship notes what part of worship they led.

### Leadership Opportunities: (some are not available for online worship)

- \* Lector (Reader)
- \* Assisting Minister (Assist with Worship by reading the prayers and helping with communion. 8th Grade Only. Talk with Pastor Will or Pastor Kathy)
- \* Acolyte (Light candles for worship)
- \* Communion Assistant (Help serve bread or wine)
- \* Usher (Hand out bulletins, pass offering plates, Communion directions)
- \* Music Ministry (Proclaim, special music, and youth choir)
- \* Altar Guild (Set up/ Clean up for communion)
- \* Greeters (Welcome people as they come for worship)
- \* Slides/ Sound Board (help make everyone sound good.)

## Hopes

The following are opportunities we hope your family will participate in during this confirmation journey, and beyond.

### Sunday Faith Formation:

Sunday Faith Formation starts at 11 a.m. online. Check-in, devotions, and building relationships are core to this time. Email Laura Anderson for the Zoom link.

### Faith Conversations at Home:

We encourage families to talk about the lesson after each class. We also hope all families pray or talk about faith on a daily basis. If you would like help in starting these conversations, please let us know!

### Retreats:

We hope youth attend one of these three retreats each year. (see pages 13 & 14 for more info about retreats.)

- \* Rocky Mountain Synod Youth Gathering
- \* Rainbow Trail Lutheran Camp Confirmation Retreat
- \* Rainbow Trail Lutheran Camp Summer Camp

Name: Katarina von Bora Date: 9/13/2020

Grade: 6th 7th **8th** Service: **online** in person

Preacher: Pastor Will  
(Person who gave the sermon)

Color of Church Season: Green

### Worship Leadership

I Volunteered with: Example: Greeter, Reader, Worshiper

### Word

Reading:

**Acts 1:1-11**

Gospel:

**Luke 24:44-53**

What text was used in the Sermon?

**Luke 24:44-53**

List Main Points of the sermon?

- **Jesus cares about everyone**
- **We should act like Jesus did to our neighbor, even when it's hard**
- **Being fair is not always easy**
- **Sometimes being fair is not what we're called to, but it can be more important to be filled with mercy for others**

Check the  
bulletin for the  
readings

What was the main  
message/ Good news of  
the sermon?

**Jesus wants us to be Jesus  
to our neighbors**

How is the Good News/  
message connected to  
your daily life?

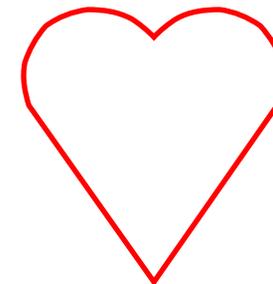
**Jesus wants us to show his  
Love to others.**

My Prayers for the week:

- **Grandma /Grandpa**
- **Math test this week**
- **My Family**

Listen  
Carefully to  
the prayers in  
church for  
ideas

For doodles  
or  
thoughts  
(optional)



If you were to # the sermon  
what would you hashtag it?



**GODLOVESYOU**

My Favorite Hymn/ Song today

**MIGHTY FORTRESS**

Questions  
from the  
sermon?

How can I welcome more of the  
Holy Spirit into my live?

What was something new you  
learned today?

**Jesus wants us to do more than  
worship. He wants us to get out  
and help our neighbor.**

Parents/ Adult Signature:

**Parents Must sign for  
youth to get credit**

Date: