

Affirmation of Baptism Final Expectations 2023

This is an informational packet with upcoming dates and expectations for the end of the Confirmation journey and the beginning of the confirmand's life of faith as an adult in the church.

You may email picture and drafts of faith statements to the Pastors at
confirmation@cross-of-christ.org

Expectations – Due by September 17

- 15 worship notes/year (If you need an update of where your child stands, please email the pastors.)
- All Lessons need to be made up
- Be familiar with:
 - Books of Bible
 - 10 Commandments and explanations to each
 - Apostles' Creed
 - Lord's Prayer

If a student is concerned about fulfilling any of these requirements, please contact the pastors.

Personal Statement of Faith

Each student will write their own personal statement of faith. See Pages 4 and 5.

Confirmation Retreat

August 20, 2022 (Sunday 10:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.)- Details coming soon

All confirmands are expected to attend.

The Retreat will cover:

- The five promises the confirmands will make when they affirm their Baptism
- Introduction and team building for High School youth group
- Confirmation Reflection
- Planning the Confirmation Service in October
- Questions/Reflection for Faith Statements - Each student will meet with one of the pastors to discuss Faith Statements

Students who do not attend will need to work individually with one of the pastors on their faith statement and review the retreat workbook that covers the promises. Students will need to schedule a time to meet with one of the pastors to review the rough draft of their faith statement.

Confirmation Bible Verse – Due August 1, 2023 with First Rough Draft of Faith Statement

Each student will choose a personal Confirmation Bible verse that is meaningful to them. **On Page 6 - 12 are suggestions of confirmation verses.** Students do not have to pick from this list. Parents, mentors, or church staff are great resources if students are having difficulty picking a Bible verse. All verses will be from the NRSV unless otherwise requested. This will be included at the top of your faith statement.

Picture – Due September 17

A picture of each confirmand is needed by **September 17**.

(Please let Pastor Kathy or Pastor Aly know if you are waiting for current year school pictures and we can make arrangements to get the picture later than September 10)

Robes

The cost for robes is \$25.

A form will be sent out early September where you can fill out height/weight information for your students. It will also have a link to pay online.

The robes will be given to families at the confirmation rehearsal on **Wednesday, October 25** and will need to be turned back into the church after pictures on Confirmation Sunday. **Sunday, October 29**

Affirmation by Church Council

All students will need to be affirmed by the church Council. **Students will need to attend the Council Meeting on October 10 (Tuesday) at 6:30 p.m.** Confirmation Faith Statements will be the first part of the agenda for the meeting; students need to stay for the reading of ALL faith statements and the affirmation. Plan for an hour. Students will be asked to introduce themselves and read their faith statement. Parents, Sponsors, and Mentors are invited to this meeting as well. Please bring a copy of your confirmand's faith statement.

Rehearsal

The confirmation rehearsal will be on **Wednesday, October 25 at 7:15 p.m.** in the sanctuary. **All Confirmands need to attend.**

Confirmation Sunday - October 29, 2023 at 11:15 a.m.

Confirmation students will help plan and lead the worship service. At the retreat, we will assign worship leaders for the service. All students will participate. This includes reading, serving communion, singing or playing in the Praise Band.

This is a very important day in your faith journey and it would not have been possible without the support of your family and friends. Please remember to invite these special people to share in this day with you; your baptismal sponsors, small group leaders, and your mentors.

Arrive at CCLC by **10:15 a.m. on October 29**. At about 10:45 a.m. students will robe, receive a flower, and line up.

- **Parents will need to help with this process.**
- **Pictures will be taken immediately following the service.**
- **A parent with a good camera will be needed.**

Reminder Parents:

This is a worship service, please no flash photography or video cameras during the service.

Parents

If your student is having difficulty in any way with what they believe or if they want to be confirmed, please contact Pastor Kathy or Pastor Aly immediately. Let us help you and your student with their faith discernment. Affirmation of Baptism is not a sacrament, a requirement, or a graduation. It is a choice, one that your student will have to make for themselves.

Dates to Mark on Calendar

- August 1** First rough draft of Faith statement including confirmation information and verse is due: confirmation@cross-of-christ.org
- August 20** Confirmation Retreat (10:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.)
- September 3** Second Draft of Faith Statement is due.
- September 17** **Final Draft of Faith Statement is due.**
Pictures are due.
Worship Notes are done
Make up work is done
- October 10** Church Council Meeting at 6:30 p.m. **Attendance Mandatory**
- October 25** Confirmation Rehearsal at 7:15 p.m. **Attendance Mandatory**
- October 29** **Confirmation Sunday.** Be at CCLC by 10:15 a.m.
Pictures following the service.

FAITH STATEMENT

The Faith Statement is a chance for you to share your faith and to state your Christian beliefs with the congregation. During baptism, your parents and sponsors made promises to teach you about the Christian faith and to bring you up in the church. Now that you have been through your confirmation instruction, you will make promises of your own. This faith statement is one way to help you articulate your own faith and beliefs. The theme of the faith statement is:

“This is what my faith means to me...”

Keep in mind:

- * Be yourself - this is NOT a research paper. We want to know what you think and what you believe.
- * Be honest – do not say things that you think we want to hear, but what you actually believe.

Pastor Kathy and Pastor Aly will read these faith statements, ask questions, and may request edits and additions. Your faith statement should cover most if not all the following questions, but you are not limited to these questions.

What does it mean to me to be a Christian?

Who is God to you? Who is Jesus Christ to you? How do you see the Holy Spirit working in your life and in the world?

Tell us about your faith journey...

How have I grown in my Faith through confirmation?

What adults had an impact on my faith development so far? How?

What significant events have shaped my faith life so far? How?

What is your Bible verse and why did you pick it? Why is it significant in your faith journey?

How does my Faith affect the rest of my life? (example: in school, at home, with friends)

How do you see your faith at work in your life today? What does it mean to you?

Where do you see your faith leading you in the future?

How do you intend to fulfill the promises you will make in your Affirmation of Baptism Service?

...to live among God's faithful people,

... to hear his word and share in his supper,

... to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed,

...to serve all people in the example of our Lord Jesus,

...and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth.

Parents, please read through your confirmand's paper. It is okay to help them with grammar and the development/expression of their ideas and thoughts. Use this opportunity to talk to your students about your own faith. When they turn in their final paper, we will assume the parents have read it and approve it. These papers will be printed for the whole congregation to see and the confirmands will read them to the church Council. Please encourage your confirmand to start early, take their time, and think about what they want to write and express.

Format of Final Draft

All Faith Statements should have the following format.

1. Typed, Double Space, 12-point font, Times New Roman
2. Name and Confirmation Information at the top left
3. Bible Verse – italics and centered Bible Reference including version (NRSV, KJV, NIV, etc.)
4. Faith Statement (body of text)

Confirmation Information & Verse

This should be added to the top left of your faith statement

1. Full Name (First, Middle and Last)
2. Parent’s Names
3. Baptismal Date
4. Baptismal Sponsors
5. Confirmation Mentor

Example:

MARTIN NOTHING LUTHER

Parents: Hans and Margarethe Luther

Baptismal Date: November 10, 1483

Baptismal Sponsors: Uncle Jimbo and Aunt Jombi

Mentor: Saint Augustine

“Ask, and it will be given you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened for you.”
Matthew 7:7 (NRSV)

This Is What My Faith Means to Me
(Body of Text)

**When E-mailing please label your paper as...
“Name, Faith Statement, Draft # (1, 2 or Final)”**

Example: Martin Luther Faith Statement Draft #1
Please share this as a google doc – it is easier to write suggestions.
Please make sure we have editing privileges

Due Dates:

- | | |
|--------------|-------------------------------------|
| August 1 | Email Rough Draft #1 |
| September 3 | Email Rough Draft #2 |
| September 17 | Final Faith Statements and Pictures |

Confirmation Verses - Old Testament

Genesis 1:1

In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth.

Genesis 1:31

God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.

Genesis 12:1–3

Now the Lord said to Abram, ‘Go from your country and your kindred and your father’s house to the land that I will show you. ²I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great so that you will be a blessing. ³I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse, and in you, all the families of the earth shall be blessed.’

Deuteronomy 32:4

The Rock, his work is perfect, and all his ways are just. A faithful God, without deceit, just and upright is he.

Psalm 18:1–2

¹I love you, O Lord, my strength. ²The Lord is my rock, my fortress, and my deliverer, my God, my rock in whom I take refuge, my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold.

Psalm 23:1–3a

¹The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want. ²He makes me lie down in green pastures; he leads me beside still waters; he restores my soul.

Psalm 27:1

¹The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The Lord is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

Psalm 27:4

⁴One thing I asked of the Lord, that will I seek after: to live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the Lord, and to inquire in his temple.

Psalm 34:1

I will bless the Lord at all times; his praise shall continually be in my mouth.

Psalm 42:1–2a

¹As a deer longs for flowing streams, so my soul longs for you, O God. ²My soul thirsts for God, for the living God.

Psalm 46:1

¹God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

Psalm 47:1–2

Clap your hands, all you peoples; shout to God with loud songs of joy. ²For the Lord, the Most High, is awesome, a great king over all the earth.

Psalm 51:1–2

¹Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions. ²Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin.

Psalm 95:1-2

O come, let us sing to the Lord; let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation! ²Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise!

Psalm 100:1-3

¹Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth. ²Worship the Lord with gladness; come into his presence with singing. ³Know that the Lord is God. It is he that made us, and we are his; we are his people and the sheep of his pasture.

Psalm 103:1

¹Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me bless his holy name.

Psalm 106:1

¹Praise the Lord! O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; for his steadfast love endures forever.

Psalm 119:105

⁵Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.

Proverbs 3:5

⁵Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not rely on your own insight.

Isaiah 40:31

³¹ But those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.

Confirmation Verses -New Testament

Matthew 5:16

¹⁶*In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.*

Matthew 7:7

⁷*“Ask, and it will be given you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened for you.*

Matthew 11:28

²⁸*“Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest.*

Matthew 22:37-39

³⁷*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.’* ³⁸*This is the greatest and first commandment.* ³⁹*And a second is like it: ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’*

Matthew 28:19-20

¹⁹*Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,* ²⁰*and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”*

Mark 10: 45

⁴⁵*For the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life a ransom for many.”*

Mark 16: 16

⁶*The one who believes and is baptized will be saved; but the one who does not believe will be condemned.*

Luke 11:28

²⁸*But he said, “Blessed rather are those who hear the word of God and obey it!”*

John 1:12

¹²*But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God,*

John 3:3

³*Jesus answered him, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.”*

John 3:16

¹⁶*“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.*

John 11:25-26

²⁵*Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live,* ²⁶*and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?”*

John 14:6

⁶*Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.*

John 15:12

¹²*“This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you.*

John 20:31

³¹*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.*

Romans 1:16

¹⁶*For I am not ashamed of the gospel; it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who has faith, to the Jew first and also to the Greek.*

Romans 3:23-24

²³*Since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God; ²⁴they are now justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus,*

Romans 6:23

²³*For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.*

Romans 8:28

²⁸*We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose.*

Romans 8:38-39

⁸*For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, ³⁹nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.*

Romans 10:9

⁹*Because if you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.*

Romans 12:1

I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship.

Romans 13:9-10

⁹*The commandments, “You shall not commit adultery; You shall not murder; You shall not steal; You shall not covet”; and any other commandment, are summed up in this word, “Love your neighbor as yourself.” ¹⁰Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law.*

Romans 15:13

¹³*May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.*

1 Corinthians 13:4-8a

⁴*Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant ⁵or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; ⁶it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. ⁷It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. ⁸Love never ends.*

1 Corinthians 15:3-4

³*For I handed on to you as of first importance what I in turn had received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures, ⁴and that he was buried, and that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the scriptures,*

2 Corinthians 5:17

¹⁷So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!

2 Corinthians 5:19

¹⁹That is, in Christ, God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us.

2 Corinthians 12:9

⁹But he said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for power is made perfect in weakness.” So, I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may dwell in me.

Galatians 3:26

⁶For in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith.

Galatians 5:1

For freedom Christ has set us free. Stand firm, therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery.

Galatians 5:22-23a

²²By contrast, the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, ²³gentleness, and self-control.

Ephesians 2:4-5

⁴But God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us ⁵even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved.

Ephesians 2:8

⁸For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God.

Ephesians 2:10

⁰For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life.

Ephesians 4:4-6

⁴There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling, ⁵one Lord, one faith, one baptism, ⁶one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all.

Ephesians 4:32

³²And be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ has forgiven you.

Philippians 4:4

⁴Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice.

Philippians 4:6-7

⁶Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. ⁷And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Philippians 4:13

³I can do all things through him who strengthens me.

Colossians 1:13

¹³*He has rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son,*

Colossians 2:6

⁶*As you therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord, continue to live your lives in him,*

Colossians 3:12

¹²*As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience.*

1 Timothy 2:3-4

This is right and is acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, who desires everyone to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.

2 Timothy 1:8b-9

But join with me in suffering for the gospel, relying on the power of God,⁹ who saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works but according to his own purpose and grace. This grace was given to us in Christ Jesus before the ages began,

2 Timothy 3:16

⁶*All scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness,*

2 Timothy 4:18

⁸*The Lord will rescue me from every evil attack and save me for his heavenly kingdom. To him be the glory forever and ever. Amen.*

Hebrews 10:23

²³*Let us hold fast to the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who has promised is faithful.*

Hebrews 11:1

Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.

Hebrews 12:1 – 2

Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, ²looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who for the sake of the joy that was set before him endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God.

James 1:22

But be doers of the word, and not merely hearers who deceive themselves.

1 Peter 1:3

³*Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,*

1 Peter 2:9

⁹*But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.*

1 Peter 2:24

²⁴*He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that, free from sins, we might live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed.*

1 Peter 5:7

⁷*Cast all your anxiety on him, because he cares for you.*

1 Peter 5:10

And after you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, support, strengthen, and establish you.

2 Peter 3:9

The Lord is not slow about his promise, as some think of slowness, but is patient with you, not wanting any to perish, but all to come to repentance.

1 John 1:7

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.

1 John 2:2

^{2A}*nd he is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.*

1 John 3:16

⁶*We know love by this, that he laid down his life for us—and we ought to lay down our lives for one another.*

1 John 4:7

⁷*Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God.*

1 John 4:10

¹⁰*In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins.*

1 John 4:16

¹⁶*So we have known and believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them.*

Revelation 2:10

¹⁰*Do not fear what you are about to suffer. Beware, the devil is about to throw some of you into prison so that you may be tested, and for ten days you will have affliction. Be faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life.*

Revelation 3:20

²⁰*Listen! I am standing at the door, knocking; if you hear my voice and open the door, I will come in to you and eat with you, and you with me.*