

CONFIRMATION MINISTRY COVENANT



"In baptism our gracious heavenly Father frees us from sin and death by joining us to the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. We are born children of a fallen humanity; by water and the Holy Spirit we are reborn children of God and made members of the church, the body of Christ. Living with Christ and in the communion of saints, we grow in faith, love and obedience to the will of God."

Liturgy for Holy Baptism, page 227, Evangelical Lutheran Worship

"As you bring your children to receive the gift of baptism, 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 others and the word God made, and work for justice and peace."

Liturgy for Holy Baptism, page 228, Evangelical Lutheran Worship

The above two paragraphs provide a moving and graphic summary of God's infinite, unconditional and life transforming love which embraces us in Baptism and draws us into the daily rhythm of dying to our old sinful self and our being raised to New Life in Jesus Christ. In Baptism, we are called into a life long pilgrimage of discipleship and faithfulness.

Luther reminds us that as Christians we have been freed from self centered concerns about our salvation, destiny and worth and can now devote our whole life to giving thanks and praise to God and in serving others.



By the Grace of God, we, as parents have been blessed with the gift of children and called to nurture them in the Christian Faith. Both the Holy Scriptures and Martin Luther remind us that we, as parents, are the ones who bear the primary responsibility for nurturing our children in the faith. Confirmation Ministry is a creative and supportive partnership between parents, the home and the local congregation which seeks to facilitate spiritual nurture and faith formation. The *Evangelical Lutheran Church in America*, the local

Lutheran congregations and the area pastors have made a significant investment of time, talent and resources in an effort to develop and foster this Confirmation Ministry partnership. However, for this ministry to yield its best fruits we will also need the following:

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A commitment to our parental responsibilities in Baptism

Cooperation and support from parents and students

Faithful attendance

Participation in all learning activities

Sharing in class discussions

Regular Bible study

An openness to God's presence

Respect for parents, pastors and fellow students

Faithful involvement in Worship and Church life

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After having prayed and reflected upon *God's Amazing Grace*, the significance of Baptism, and our call into ministry, we affirm our desire to continue in the Covenant God established with us in Baptism.

Confirmand: _____
Parents: _____
Pastor: _____
Date: _____

*"Train children in the right way, and when old, they will not stray."
Proverbs 22:6*