

In The Small Catechism, Martin Luther says, “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.” So, this is an incredibly important day in the lives of Aidan, Solomon, Jack, Matt, Alex, Thomas, Emma, and Andrew!

Luther (S.C.) also says, “Confirmation provides an opportunity for the individual Christian, relying on God’s promise given in Holy Baptism, to make a personal public confession of faith and a lifelong pledge of fidelity to Christ.” For them, Confirmation is personal. Confirmation is public. Confirmation is a lifelong pledge of fidelity to Christ.

So, what are we “confirming”? Luke 9:18-26 spells it out. First, we believe Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the Living God. Second, we believe in the death and resurrection of Jesus. Third, we believe in Jesus’ expectation of us in Luke 9:23 (ESV), “If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me.”

You see. Confirmation is a confession of faith and a calling to fruitfulness. In Ephesians 2:10 (ESV), Paul says, “We are God’s workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works.” In Galatians 5:22-23a (ESV), Paul also says, “The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.”

But, everyone, please know. I’m also speaking to us all today! In Matthew 10:32-33 (ESV), Jesus says, “Everyone who acknowledges me before men, I also will acknowledge before my Father who is in heaven, but whoever denies me before men, I also will deny before my Father who is in heaven.” Today, may we all meditate on this eternal truth!

Let’s pray. Gracious Lord, we thank You today for the gift of Your Holy Spirit that inspires us all to publicly confess our faith in You. Please hold us fast in Your Word, that we might always continue to grow and mature in faith. May we daily die to sin and rise to new life with You in Baptism, comforted by Your forgiveness and promise of eternal life.