

May 10, 2026
Confirmation of Cathrine Vaheer



8470 Landen Drive
Maineville, Ohio

*At Abiding Word
We gather around the Word (worship),
We grow in the Word (education),
And we share the Word with the world (outreach).*



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Welcome!

To all who have gathered here this morning we welcome you in the name of Christ our Lord. Through him we have access to God in boldness and confidence. (Ephesians 3:12) Join us for a meal after the service to celebrate the confirmation of Cathrine Vaher.

HOLY COMMUNION

Our worship service is open to all. The forgiveness received in the Lord's Supper is proclaimed to all throughout the service. However, the Bible teaches that the Lord's Supper is to be received by those who have been instructed about its meaning and the unity it expresses.

*For this reason, we ask that guests speak with the Pastor
before partaking of the Holy Supper.*

So that you can be sure that unity of faith and teaching exists we invite you to participate in a Bible Information Course. This class will prepare you to receive the Lord's Supper with us. Please contact Pastor about class times.

Rite of Confirmation

Confirmation is intended to give those who have received basic instruction in the truths of God's Word the opportunity publicly to confess their faith before the church. The rite informs the congregation that the catechumen has sufficient scriptural understanding and spiritual maturity to partake of the Lord's Supper. Today Cathrine will confess her faith and join us at the Lord's Supper.

Confirmation is an important milestone, but not as important as what comes before it and after it. Having been brought to faith in Holy Baptism and strengthened through God's Word, our confirmand realizes that God's Word and the Lord's Supper are a never-ending source of strength, courage, and comfort. May God keep her in His care, and bring her at last, with all believers, to the never-ending joys of heaven.

Stand

In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Let us confess our sins to God and ask for his forgiveness.

**Almighty God, merciful Father,
I confess to you that I have not loved you with all my heart.
In what I have done and left undone,
I have pursued my ways instead of your ways.
I have not loved my brothers and sisters as myself.
For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity.
I am truly sorry for my sins.
I repent of them.
I beg for your mercy, O Lord.**

Silence for meditation

Forgive us for the sake of Jesus Christ who suffered and died for us.

**Cleanse me from my sins.
Release me from my guilt.
Grant me your Holy Spirit to amend my sinful life.**

The almighty God has been merciful to us and has sent his Son to die for all. For his sake, God forgives our sins and calls us from darkness to his marvelous light.

Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son † and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

THE WORD

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

O God, your Holy Spirit grows and governs the whole body of the church. Sanctify and keep those who dedicate themselves to your service. Renew them in body and mind that they may eagerly serve you in the unity of the faith; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Be seated

FIRST READING

Joshua 1:6–9

⁶Be strong and courageous, because you will lead these people to inherit the land I swore to their ancestors to give them.

⁷“Be strong and very courageous. Be careful to obey all the law my servant Moses gave you; do not turn from it to the right or to the left, that you may be successful wherever you go.

⁸Keep this Book of the Law always on your lips; meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do everything written in it. Then you will be prosperous and successful. ⁹Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the LORD your God will be with you wherever you go.”

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 119

⁹⁷Oh, how I love your law!

I meditate on it all day long.

⁹⁸Your commands are always with me

and make me wiser than my enemies.

⁹⁹I have more insight than all my teachers,

for I meditate on your statutes.

¹⁰⁰I have more understanding than the elders,

for I obey your precepts.

¹⁰¹I have kept my feet from every evil path

so that I might obey your word.

¹⁰²I have not departed from your laws,

for you yourself have taught me.

¹⁰³How sweet are your words to my taste,

sweeter than honey to my mouth!

¹⁰⁴I gain understanding from your precepts;

therefore I hate every wrong path.

HYMN: HE WILL HOLD ME FAST

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SECOND READING

2 Thessalonians 2:13–17

¹³But we ought always to thank God for you, brothers and sisters loved by the Lord, because God chose you as firstfruits to be saved through the sanctifying work of the Spirit and through belief in the truth. ¹⁴He called you to this through our gospel, that you might share in the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.

¹⁵So then, brothers and sisters, stand firm and hold fast to the teachings we passed on to you, whether by word of mouth or by letter.

¹⁶May our Lord Jesus Christ himself and God our Father, who loved us and by his grace gave us eternal encouragement and good hope, ¹⁷encourage your hearts and strengthen you in every good deed and word.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

VERSE OF THE DAY

Be faithful, even to the point of death, and I will give you the crown of life. (Revelation 2:10)

GOSPEL

Luke 14:25–35

²⁵Large crowds were traveling with Jesus, and turning to them he said: ²⁶“If anyone comes to me and does not hate father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters—yes, even their own life—such a person cannot be my disciple. ²⁷And whoever does not carry their cross and follow me cannot be my disciple.

²⁸“Suppose one of you wants to build a tower. Won’t you first sit down and estimate the cost to see if you have enough money to complete it? ²⁹For if you lay the foundation and are not able to finish it, everyone who sees it will ridicule you, ³⁰saying, ‘This person began to build and wasn’t able to finish.’

³¹“Or suppose a king is about to go to war against another king. Won’t he first sit down and consider whether he is able with ten thousand men to oppose the one coming against him with twenty thousand? ³²If he is not able, he will send a delegation while the other is still a long way off and will ask for terms of peace. ³³In the same way, those of you who do not give up everything you have cannot be my disciples.

³⁴“Salt is good, but if it loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again? ³⁵It is fit neither for the soil nor for the manure pile; it is thrown out.

“Whoever has ears to hear, let them hear.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

CATHRINE'S CONFIRMATION VERSE**Matthew 6:34**

Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.

NICENE CREED

C: We believe in one God,	<i>Dt. 6:4</i>
the Father, the Almighty,	<i>2 Cor. 6:18</i>
maker of heaven and earth,	<i>Is. 51:13</i>
of all that is, seen and unseen.	<i>Col. 1:16</i>
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,	<i>1 Cor. 8:6</i>
the only Son of God,	<i>Jn. 3:18</i>
eternally begotten of the Father,	<i>Heb. 1:2,5</i>
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,	<i>Jn. 1</i>
begotten, not made, of one being with the Father.	<i>Jn. 10:30</i>
Through him all things were made.	<i>Jn. 1:3</i>
For us and for our salvation,	<i>1 Th. 5:9</i>
he came down from heaven,	<i>Jn. 6:38</i>
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary,	<i>Lk. 1:35</i>
and became truly human.	<i>Gal. 4:4</i>
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate.	<i>Mk. 15:15</i>
He suffered death and was buried.	<i>1 Cor. 15:3-4a</i>
On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures.	<i>1 Cor. 15:4b</i>
He ascended into heaven	<i>Ac. 2:33-34</i>
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.	<i>Heb. 1:13</i>
He will come again in glory	<i>Mt. 25:31</i>
to judge the living and the dead,	<i>2 Tim. 4:1</i>
and his kingdom will have no end.	<i>Lk. 1:33</i>
We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,	<i>Job 33:4</i>
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,	<i>Jn. 15:26</i>
who in unity with the Father and the Son	<i>Jn. 4:24</i>
is worshiped and glorified,	
who has spoken through the prophets.	<i>2 Pet. 1:25</i>
We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church.	<i>Mt. 16:18; Eph. 2:19-20</i>
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.	<i>Eph. 4:5; Ac. 2:38</i>
We look for the resurrection of the dead	<i>1 Cor. 15:21-22</i>
and the life of the world to come. Amen.	<i>Rev. 22</i>

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Gracious Lord, on this day we give you thanks for the gift of motherhood. You formed us in our mothers' wombs and knew us before we drew our first breath. For every mother who has carried, borne, and raised a child in this world, we praise your name.

Lord, receive our thanks.

We pray for the mothers among us — those with young children in their arms, those whose children are grown, and those whose children now live with you. Strengthen them with patience, refresh them with rest, and fill them with the joy that comes from knowing you.

Lord, hear our prayer.

We pray for women who long to be mothers but have not received that gift — those who grieve empty arms, those who have endured miscarriage or loss, and those for whom the hope of children remains uncertain. Comfort them with the knowledge that they are fully known, fully loved, and held in the hands of the One who numbers every tear.

Lord, hear our prayer.

We pray for women who have not married or borne children, yet who pour out their lives in faithful service — as daughters, sisters, aunts, mentors, teachers, and friends. You have placed them in this body to reflect your love in countless ways. Grant them joy in their calling and the peace of knowing they are treasured members of your family.

Lord, hear our prayer.

We pray for women who serve as spiritual mothers in this congregation — who disciple the young, encourage the weary, welcome the stranger, and point all to Christ. May their example bear fruit that lasts into eternity.

Lord, hear our prayer.

We remember mothers and women who are ill, grieving, lonely, or struggling. You are near to the brokenhearted. Send the comfort of your Word and our support to all who are in need.

Lord, hear our prayer.

We give thanks for our own mothers and the women who have shaped our faith — for grandmothers, godmothers, Sunday school teachers, and all who first spoke your name to us. Though some are still with us and others rest in your peace, we are grateful for every grace you showed us through them.

Lord, receive our thanks.

Above all, Lord, remind every woman in this place that her truest identity is not found in any earthly role, but in this: she is baptized. She is forgiven. She is your own. In Christ there is no condemnation — only grace, adoption, and a place at your table forever.

Lord, receive our thanks.

Hear these prayers, gracious Father, for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, who gave himself for all people and who intercedes for us even now at your right hand. **AMEN.**

RITE OF CONFIRMATION

Brothers and Sisters in Christ, our Lord Jesus said to his disciples: “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”

In obedience to the Lord’s command, you have been baptized in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. You have been taught the precious truths of the Christian faith as confessed by the Evangelical Lutheran Church. You know what God has given you by his grace and what he expects of you as his dear child. You now have the privilege of receiving the Lord’s body and blood in the Sacrament of Holy Communion.

You are here to make a public profession of your Christian faith. The apostle Paul, writing to the Romans, said: “If you confess with your mouth, ‘Jesus is Lord’ and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you confess and are saved. Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.”

Therefore, lift up your heart to the God of all grace and joyfully answer these questions.

Do you this day, in the presence of God and of this congregation, acknowledge that in Baptism, God gave you forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation? *I do.*

Do you reject the devil along with all his lies and empty promises? *I do.*

Do you believe in God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit? *I do.*

Do you believe all the books of the Bible to be the inspired Word of God? *I do.*

Do you believe that the teaching of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, as you have learned to know it from Luther’s Small Catechism, is faithful and true to the Word of God? *I do.*

Do you intend to continue steadfast in this teaching and to endure all things, even death, rather than fall away from it? *I do, and I ask God to help me.*

Do you intend faithfully to conform all your life to the teachings of God’s Word, to be faithful in the use of the Word and sacrament, and in faith and action remain true to God—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—as long as you live? *I do, and I ask God to help me.*

Since it is God alone who enables us both to will and to do his good pleasure, it is right for us, dear friends in Christ, to call on him for our confirmand, that he would graciously complete the good work which he has begun in her. Let us, therefore, bow our heads and pray.

BLESSING OF THE CONFIRMAND

THE SACRAMENT

Stand

PREFACE

CW 165

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give him thanks and praise.

It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who by his willing sacrifice on the cross took away the sins of the world and by his glorious resurrection restored everlasting life. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

♪ HOLY, HOLY, HOLY ♪

CW 167

Holy, holy, holy Lord God of heavenly hosts:

heav'n and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he, blessed is he, blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

We give thanks to you, O God, through your dear Son, Jesus Christ, whom you sent to be our Savior, our Redeemer, and the messenger of your grace. Through him you made all things; in him you are well pleased. He is the incarnate Word, conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. To fulfill your promises, he stretched out his hands on the cross and released from eternal death all who believe in you.

As we remember Jesus' death and resurrection, we thank you that you have gathered us together to receive your Son's body and blood. Send us your Spirit, unite us as one, and strengthen our faith so that we may praise you in your Son, Jesus Christ. Through him, we glorify and honor you, O God our Father, with the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven,

hallowed be thy name,

thy kingdom come,

thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread;

and forgive us our trespasses,

as we forgive those who trespass against us;

and lead us not into temptation,

but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

Amen.

♪ O CHRIST, LAMB OF GOD ♪

CW 169

O Christ, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

O Christ, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

O Christ, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us your peace.

Amen.

DISTRIBUTION

HYMN: AT THE LAMB'S HIGH FEAST WE SING

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Stand

951 Lord, Now You Let Your Servant

**Lord, now you let your servant
depart in peace according to your word.
For my eyes have seen your salvation,
which you have prepared before the face of all people,
a light to lighten the Gentiles
and the glory of your people Israel.**

Text: The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, rev.

Text: Public domain

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;
his mercy endures forever.

Whenever we eat this bread and drink this cup,
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

We give you thanks, O Lord, for the foretaste of the heavenly banquet you have given us in this Sacrament. Through this gift you have fed our faith, nourished our hope, and strengthened our love. By your Spirit, help us to live as your holy people until that day when you will receive us as your guests at the wedding supper of the Lamb, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Blessing

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and + give you peace.

Amen.

HYMN: TAKE MY LIFE AND LET IT BE

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Acknowledgments

Setting One from Christian Worship

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