***St. John Lutheran Church***

**Confirmation Celebration**

April 28, 2024                                                                                       9:30 a.m.

*Christ the vine and we the branches are alive in each other. Baptism makes us a part of Christ's living and life-giving self and makes us alive with Christ's life. Affirmation of Baptism (Confirmation) may be done publicly once in our lifetime, but we are called to affirm our baptism daily, as we are sent out to bear fruit for the life of the world.*

**GATHERING**

PRELUDE

RINGING OF THE BELL

CALL TO WORSHIP

OPENING REFLECTION          Praise Worship Intro                 Shift Worship

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

OPENING HYMN  ***Great Is Thy Faithfulness***  ***#733***

GREETING, LITANY & PRAYER OF THE DAY

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

**HEARING GOD’S WORD**

FIRST READING                                Acts 8:26-40

The Word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God!**

PSALM Psalm 22:25-31

SECOND READING                     1 John 4:7-21

The Word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God!**

SPECIAL MUSIC *God Really Loves Us* Worship Choir, Solo Denise Nienow

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION  ***(tune #380)***

***Hallelujah! Jesus lives! Christ is risen from the grave!***

***He who died this comfort gives: Lo, he lives, his own to save!***

***Hallelujah! Praises be to our Lord eternally!***

The Gospel According to John

**Glory to You, O Lord.**

GOSPEL LESSON                    John 15:1-8

      The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to You, O Christ.**

***Jesus lives! Behold the sign: We are grafted to his side;***

***Fruitful branches of the Vine, by his mercy we abide.***

***Pruned and nurture by his care, precious fruit for him we bear.***

MESSAGE                               A Spiritual Census                     Pastor Steve

**OUR RESPONSE**

HYMN OF THE DAY      ***All People That on Earth Do Dwell*** (vss 1,2,4,5) ***#883***

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

THE LORD’S PRAYER

OFFERING

OFFERTORY                 ***Accept O Lord, the Gifts We Bring*** (vss 1,3) ***#691***

***Accept, O Lord, the gifts we bring to place upon your table.***

***We do not worship as we ought but only as we’re able.***

***Our hopes and dreams, our toils and cares we lift in prayer before you.***

***Lord, by your grace now come to us, as humbly we adore you.***

OFFERING PRAYER

**SENDING**

SENDING REFLECTION Go! Shift Worship

SENDING PRAYER

BENEDICTION

DISMISSAL

HYMN ***Go, My Children, with My Blessing*      *#543***

POSTLUDE