

**SALEM REFORMED CHURCH**

Menno, South Dakota

Rev. Michael Hecht

Pastor

Joan Nusz

Pianist

10:00 AM – Worship Service

April 16, 2023

Confirmation Sunday

**Meditation:** *"These are the commands, decrees and laws the LORD your God directed me to teach you to observe in the land that you are crossing the Jordan to possess, so that you, your children and their children after them may fear the LORD your God as long as you live by keeping all His decrees and commands that I give you, and so that you may enjoy long life. Hear, O Israel, and be careful to obey so that it may go well with you and that you may increase greatly in a land flowing with milk and honey, just as the LORD, the God of your fathers, promised you. . . . These commandments that I give you today are to be upon your hearts. Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road,"* Deut. 6:1–3,6,7 NIV

**Praise Music:** #29, #36, #132, #134, #24

**Ringing of the Bell / Announcements / Opening Prayer**

\***Hymn:** #3 "Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty"

**Reading of Faith Statements by:**

Elly Fischer, Ashlynn Fergen, Micah Goehring

**Kingdom Kids:** "Hiding God's Word in Your Heart"

**Reading of Faith Statements by:**

Ethan McCoy, Zoe Schaeffer, Austen Soukup

**Our Time of Offering**

**Invitation to Give**

Proverbs 22:6 NIV

**Special Music:** "The Goodness of God" by Mia Kadi

\***Doxology and Lord's Prayer** (debts and debtors)

**Reading of Faith Statements by:**

Jaxon Stoebner and Jayden Zeeb

**Exhortation:** "Teach Them to Your Children"

**ORDER OF CONFIRMATION**

**Preliminary Questions to Candidates**

**Recitation of Heidelberg Catechism**

**Address:** by Pastor

**Questions:** to Candidates

**Prayer: (unison – pastor & candidates)**

"O God, my God, known to me in Jesus Christ, I am not my own, but Yours. I give myself to You, as Your own, to love and serve You faithfully, all the days of my life. Thank You for saving me and making me a new creation in Jesus Christ. Amen."

**Prayer of the Congregation: (unison)**

"Almighty God, who in Jesus Christ has made salvation a free gift of grace to all who will believe, empower by Your Spirit these young adults to continue to grow and develop their daily walk with You. Give to them the gift of power to love others, have joy in serving You, seek peace above dissension, and show patience in suffering. Help them to display kindness toward all people, goodness in evil times, faithfulness in temptation, gentleness in the face of opposition, and self-control in all things. This we ask in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. Amen."

**Act of Confirmation:** (laying on of hands)

**Prayer of Confirmation:**

**Welcome:** by Ken Stepanek, Consistory Chairman

"In the name of Jesus Christ and on behalf of Salem Reformed Church, I extend the hand of Christian love, welcoming you into the company of this congregation."

**Presentation of Bibles:** by Ken Stepanek

**Sacrament of the Lord's Supper:**

(for confirmands and their parents)

\***Hymn:** #56 "To God Be the Glory"

\***Benediction:**

**Postlude** (\*denotes standing for those able)

The congregation will be ushered out after the Benediction.

**Opportunities**

Greeter Today: Shirley Mettler

Sunday Prayer Time: 8:30 a.m.

Sunday School Classes: 9:15 a.m.

Praise Music: 10:15 a.m.

Worship Service: 10:30 a.m.

**Welcome:** We extend a warm welcome to our visiting guests this morning. Thank you for coming to support our Confirmands on such an important day! Please sign our guest registry in the narthex. We ask God's blessing upon you and we pray that you will return and worship with us again soon.