

CELEBRATION OF CONFIRMATION

May 19, 2019



*Calling all
Confirmands*

Emmett MikAl Drone

Clara Barbara Shannon

Julianna Emilie Shannon

Talena Mae Sprecher

Teige William Perkins

Zada Rose Ludwig

CELEBRATION OF CONFIRMATION

May 19, 2019

INTRODUCTION

Brothers and sisters in Christ, through the sacrament of baptism, we are initiated into Christ's holy church. We are initiated into Christ's mighty acts of salvation and given new birth through water and the Spirit. All this is God's gift, offered to us without price.

Through confirmation and through the reaffirmation of our faith, we renew the covenant declared at our baptism, acknowledge what God is doing for us, and affirm our commitment to Christ's holy church.

PRESENTATION OF CANDIDATES

(Candidates will rise, move to the front, and stand before the congregation.)

I present these individuals to you for confirmation:

Emmett MikAl Drone	Talena Mae Sprecher
Clara Barbara Shannon	Teige William Perkins
Julianna Emilie Shannon	Zada Rose Ludwig

Then on behalf of the whole church, I ask you, Do you renounce the spiritual forces of wickedness, reject the evil powers of this world, and repent of your sin?

I do.

Do you accept the freedom and power God gives you to resist evil, injustice, and oppression in whatever forms they present themselves?

I do.

Do you confess Jesus Christ as your Savior, put your whole trust in His grace, and promise to serve Him as your Lord, in union with the church, which Christ has opened to all people of all ages, nations, and races?

I do.

According to the grace given to you, will you remain a faithful member of Christ's holy church and serve as Christ's representatives in the world?

I will.

TO PARENTS OR SPONSORS

Will you support and encourage these Confirmands in their Christian life?

I will.

TO THE CONGREGATION

Do you, as Christ's body, the church, reaffirm both your rejection of sin and your commitment to Christ?

We do.

Will you nurture one another in the Christian faith and life and include these individuals now before you in your care?

With God's help, we will proclaim the good news and live according to the example of Christ. We will surround these individuals with a community of love and forgiveness that they may grow in their trust of God and be found faithful in their service to others. We will pray for them that they may be a true disciple who may walk in the way that leads to life.

TO CANDIDATES, SPONSORS, AND THE CONGREGATION

Let us join together in professing the Christian faith as contained in the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments.

Do you believe in God the Father?

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

Do you believe in Jesus Christ?

I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; He descended to the dead. On the third day He rose again; He ascended into heaven, is seated at the right hand of the Father, and will come again to judge the living and the dead.

Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy universal church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.

(Candidates will return to seats.)

RITE OF CONFIRMATION

(Candidates will be called by name; rise; kneel; and Pastor G. Wiley Gladney will touch the water, and mark each candidate on the forehead with the sign of the cross.)

Remember your baptism and be thankful. **Amen.**

May the Holy Spirit work within you, that having been born through water and the Spirit; you may live as a faithful disciple of Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

(New Professing Member will rise, face the congregation, receive a gift, and return to seat.)

COMMENDATION AND WELCOME

(New Professing Members will rise from seat, and face the congregation.)

Members of the household of God, I commend these new Professing Members to your love and care. Do all in your power to increase their faith, confirm their hope, and perfect them in love.

We give thanks for all that God has already given you, and we welcome you in Christian love. As members together with you in the body of Christ and in this congregation of the United Methodist Church, we renew our covenant faithfully to participate in the ministries of the Church by our prayers, our presence, our gifts, our service, and our witness that in everything, God may be glorified through Jesus Christ.

May the God of all grace, who has called us to eternal glory in Christ, establish you and strengthen you by the power of the Holy Spirit that you may live in grace and peace. **Amen.**

(New Professing Members will sit.)

***A special welcome and gift dedication by
Paul Murphey, Trinity UMC Membership Secretary,
to the congregation, families, and friends of our new Professing
Members.***

***“Hold on to instruction, do not let it go; guard it well, for it is your life.”
- - Proverbs 4:13***

New Professing Member Faith Statements Appear on the Following Pages.

Emmett Mikal Drone. I believe that Jesus is the foundation of my faith; and that through him I can seek forgiveness of my sins, and the promise of life everlasting. I believe that God sent Jesus to us as a human to walk this earth and share His teachings. I believe these teachings inspired the writing of the Bible that is the map of our religion, and how we continue to pass our faith on from generation to generation. I believe that my family dedicated my life to the Lord through my baptism, and that today, I reaffirm that commitment of my own will and desire.

Clara Barbara Shannon. I believe in God, and that there is only one God. He is all-holy, and we were made in the image and likeness of Him. He made us unique and special in our own way. He created us to stand out from everyone, not to blend in. God made everything on the earth, it took Him six days, and He rested on the seventh day. God gave us the right to choose what is right and wrong. God helps us in our everyday life. He guided the people to write the Bible. God sent Jesus to save us from our sins. If Jesus didn't come, then nobody would have gone to heaven. God's only son is Jesus.

I believe that there is a Holy Trinity. The Holy Trinity consists of the father, son, and Holy Spirit. God is every part of the Holy Trinity.

- The "Father" part of the Trinity is representing God in heaven. God is looking over us in heaven. The "Father" part of the Holy Trinity is also representing that God sent Jesus, and that Jesus is his only son.
- The "Son" part of the Holy Trinity is representing Jesus on earth. I truly believe that Jesus came to save us from our sins. He was born of the Virgin Mary. He died and was crucified under the command of Pontius Pilate. He opens the gates of heaven, so we could all enter. Jesus is going to come again and judge living and the dead, so one day heaven will come to earth.
- The "Holy Spirit" part of the Holy Trinity represents what is all around us. The Holy Spirit is what spoke through the prophets to write the Bible. The Holy Spirit is also the giver of life.

God sent Jesus because Adam and Eve sinned. Adam and Eve were the first people that God made. They said because a serpent told them if they eat a fruit, then they would be like God. God told them not to eat the fruit. That is why God sent Jesus. He sent Jesus to be the new Adam.

I believe in all of this, and I believe this because I've been going to church my whole life. I have grown up knowing these things about God. Confirmation has helped me learn so much more than I had already known. I feel like I am in a great place to get comfort, and I'm really excited to get confirmed.

Julianna Emilie Shannon. I believe that God is the one and only God. That He is always there for us, with us at all times, always looking out for us, constantly wishing the best for us, and hearing all of our prayers and answering them as fast as He possibly can. I believe that He created the heavens and the earth and created everything in the universe. I believe that He sent us Jesus Christ, his only son, to save us. I believe that Jesus was born of the Virgin Mary and spread the word of God during His time on earth. I believe that Jesus performed many miracles and did everything in His power to have people believe in God. I believe that God sent Him to die on the cross to save us from our sins. I believe that He is our savior and that He will come again one day to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Trinity. That He is the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. What this means to me is that God will always be there for me whenever I need Him and that I can go to Him during a hard time. This also means that God loves all of us and cares about everyone. Why I believe all of this is because I have been going to Trinity for my whole life. I have grown up with these beliefs, and they have been passed on from earlier generations.

Talena Mae Sprecher. Sin and the Ten Commandments are a huge part of the Christian faith and the Bible. They affect our everyday life from decision making to what we do to help others. They affect my everyday life by reminding me to make good choices and to work hard to become a respected disciple of God. For example, if I had to make the decision about going to church Sunday morning or doing some activity that is unimportant or can be put off until a later day, I would remember Commandment Number 4: "Keep the Sabbath Day Holy." This is merely an everyday example. There might be times in my life where I

have to choose between living in poverty or stealing. Although I hope that never becomes a choice I have to make, I shouldn't choose to steal because of Commandment Number 8. Whether or not I steal also includes sin because stealing something is a very bad sin. I know I can always ask for forgiveness if I do happen to sin, but that is still not an excuse to "miss the mark." Sin and the Ten Commandments also decide how I help others.

In the Methodist church and other churches derived from Wesleyan theology, we believe in the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Our Father is our one true God and we must, and willingly do so, worship Him and no other Gods or idols. He is our one true God that created this place we call our universe and our world, and He has done many miraculous acts to help humanity. One of these acts is sending his only Son, Jesus, to make the greatest sacrifice for us by dying on the cross to forgive our sins. The Holy Spirit and God granting us grace is another way God helps us out and a way He shows He cares for us. His grace is always there when we need it most and is there to lift us up into it.

A great aspect of being a Christian is that we can reach out to God through prayer. Prayer affects each and every one of the brothers and sisters in the body of Christ. It affects me by allowing me to reach out to Him to ask for help, forgiveness, or to thank Him for a blessing He gave me or someone around me. I know I can always give thanks and ask for help through, what I believe is a Christian's most important tool, prayer.

Teige William Perkins. (God) I believe that God is the one and only God. I believe that God made the heavens and the earth. I also believe that God made and created everything on the earth. I believe that God watches over us and protects us. I believe that God listens to our prayers, and He tries His best to make them come true. I believe that God sends angels down from heaven to watch over us. I believe that God helps us make the right decisions. This makes a difference in my life because I know that God will always be with me. I also know that God will "have my back" and watch over me when I am going through hard times.

(Jesus) I believe that Jesus was born of the Virgin Mary. I believe that Jesus helped spread the word of God. I believe that Jesus was our savior. I believe that Jesus is the Son of our God. I believe that Jesus made miracles come true with the power of God. I believe that Jesus died on the cross for us. I believe that Jesus is seated at the right hand of the Father. I believe that Jesus will come again and judge the living and the dead.

This makes a difference in my life because I can trust in the Bible with all the stories of Jesus performing His miracles, and I can apply them to my life. This also makes a difference in my life because I can use Jesus as an example of how to be a good Christian.

(Holy Spirit) I believe that the Holy Spirit is a part of the Trinity. I believe that the Holy Spirit lives within us. I believe that the Holy Spirit is there for us when we are in need. I believe that the Holy Spirit helps us make the right decisions. I believe that you have to be a Christian for the Holy Spirit's help. This makes a difference in my life because the Holy Spirit will be there for me whenever I need it.

Zada Rose Ludwig. I have been going to church for a little over a year now and have learned about many ideas but still do not understand other topics as much. Therefore, I still have a lot more to learn, so I might not believe as much as my peers. Before I started going to church, I still believed in God, Jesus, and the resurrection of Jesus because of other family members and my parents. I believe that God is real because we would not have anything, as God created everything. If it were not for Him, miracles would not happen. God makes us look for the good and feel hopeful in bad situations. Another idea I have always believed and still do is Jesus. I believe everything I have learned about Him, such as the resurrection, when Mary had him, and Jesus being the only son of God. Jesus is very important to us because our sins would not be forgiven if He did not die on the cross for us. He brought us closer to God by being a sacrifice for us. The only way that this happened is because Mary was pledged to have Jesus. She could not have had done this because she was a virgin. God did this so that Jesus was human. He could not have died on the cross if He had not been human. Therefore, Jesus became the only Son of God. There is still more for me to learn, but right now, those are the ideas that I really believe and that are important to my faith and to me.

