



Trinitarian Congregational Church
United Church of Christ
Concord, Massachusetts
Confirmation Sunday
May 20, 2018

Celebrating Community

“There is something in every one of you that waits and listens for the sound of the genuine in yourself. It is the only true guide you will ever have. And if you cannot hear it, you will all of your life spend your days on the ends of strings that somebody else pulls.”

— Howard Thurman

SILENT PRAYER

God of truth and holy mystery, send your Holy Spirit upon us this morning. We wait with open hearts for your guiding presence to transform our lives through the surprise of your grace and the radical power of unconditional love. AMEN

INTROIT *Come, Holy Spirit, Our Souls Inspire* 9th c. plainchant

PRELUDE *Little Partita for Pentecost* James Woodman (b. 1958)

WORDS OF WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP Carson Detweiler

One: In the last days, says God,
 I will pour out my Spirit upon all people.
 Your sons and daughters shall prophesy.
 Your young people shall see visions,
 and your old people shall dream dreams.

People of God, we have been baptized
 into **one** Spirit
 and **one** body through Jesus Christ.
 Let us worship God with joy.

The Spirit descends like a dove,
 bringing peace to unite the world
 in a just and caring community.

Many: The Divine Spirit comes like a breath,
 bringing life to renew the people of God.

One: The Spirit spreads like fire,
 bringing the boldness and creativity
 to walk in the Way of Jesus

All: Spirit of the living God,
 Breathe into us renewed life
 And awaken us to Your presence in all things.

***HYMN #398** There's a Sweet, Sweet Spirit *Sweet, Sweet Spirit*
 *Hymns, Psalms & Spiritual Songs*

***INVOCATION** A Prayer by Thomas Merton
 Charlie Hutchinson & Riley Honan

OUR MISSION AND MINISTRY

MESSAGE FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

***HYMN #304** Jesus Loves Me! *Jesus Loves Me*
 *Hymns, Psalms & Spiritual Songs*

READING FROM THE SCRIPTURES Romans 8:31-39 (p. 158 in the pew Bible)
 Lucas Wilbur & Elizabeth Rennert

STATEMENTS OF FAITH
 Charlie Hutchinson
 Elizabeth Rennert
 Lucas Wilbur

HYMN #314 Like the Murmur of the Dove's Song *Bridegroom*
 *Hymns, Psalms & Spiritual Songs*

THE RITE OF CONFIRMATION

Presentation of The Confirmation Class

Confirmands

Carson Sean Detweiler
Edward Whitfield Feather II*
Clifford Daniel Freund*
David Riley Honan
Charles George Hutchinson
Sarah Jane McMorrow*
Elizabeth Lea Rennert
Nicholas Morrill Rye
Lucas Wilbur

*Indicates that the individual has chosen not to be confirmed at this time.

Heartfelt thanks to our Confirmation mentors:

David Kolstad, Ruth Piper, Tom Piper, Cheryl Shea, Woody Woodman

And special appreciation for Confirmation Class leaders, **David Hart and Suzanne Giles**, whose wisdom, insight, experience, caring, and companionship strengthens all of us.

INVITATION TO THE COVENANT TO THOSE WHO WILL BE CONFIRMED

Questions to the Confirmands

Do you affirm your faith in God as known in Jesus Christ, and as God comes to us today through the power of the Holy Spirit?

I do, with the help of God.

Do you promise to participate in the life and mission of this family of God's people, sharing in the worship of God and joining in the work of this congregation as it seeks to serve the community and the world in faithfulness to Christ?

I do, with the help of God.

Do you accept the challenge of living a Christian life to the best of your ability and understanding, using your individual gifts to grow and to serve in the spirit of Jesus Christ?

I do, with the help of God.

Do you promise to resist oppression and evil, to show love, justice and mercy, and to witness to the work and word of Jesus Christ as best you are able?

I do, with the help of God

Do you intend to continue your search for faith, for meaning, and for truth in your life?

I do, with the help of God

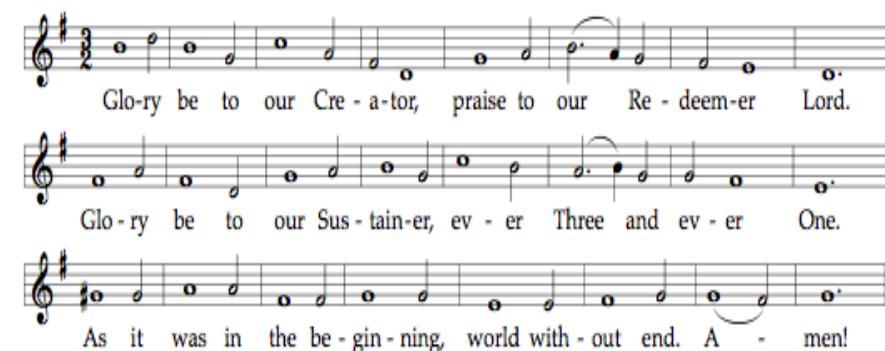
Promise of The Congregation

One: Trinitarian Congregational Church, do you promise your continuing friendship and prayers as we share the hopes and labors of the church of Jesus Christ. And through the power of the Holy Spirit do you pledge to grow together with these students in God's knowledge and love living the witness of our risen Savior?

All: **We do, with the help of God.**

*Gloria

Westminster Abbey



Glo-ry be to our Cre - a - tor, praise to our Re - deem - er Lord.
Glo - ry be to our Sus - tain - er, ev - er Three and ev - er One.
As it was in the be - gin - ning, world with - out end. A - men!

Act of Confirmation

(Family members are invited to stand as their Confirmand is called.)

The Prayer and Blessing of Confirmation

CHORAL RESPONSE

Seven-fold Amen

John Stainer (1840-1901)

SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Silent Prayer, Pastoral Prayer and The Prayer of Our Savior

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. Amen.

OFFERING OF GIFTS

Call to Stewardship

Nicholas Rye

Offertory

Alleluia

Ralph Manuel

*Hymn of Praise

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host,
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Old Hundredth

A prayer by Thomas Merton

My Lord God:

I have no idea where I am going.

I do not see the road ahead of me.

I cannot know for certain where it will lead
in the end.

Nor do I really know myself,

and the fact that I think

that I am following your way

does not mean that I am actually doing so.

But I do believe that the desire to please you
does in fact please you.

And I hope I have that desire in all
that I am doing.

I hope that I will never do anything apart
from that desire.

And I know that if I do this,

you will lead me by the right road

though I may know nothing about it.

Therefore, will I trust you always

though I may seem to be lost

and in the shadow of death.

I will not fear, for you are ever with me,

and will not leave me to face my perils alone.

*HYMN #145

Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart!

Marion

 *Hymns, Psalms & Spiritual Songs*

BENEDICTION

One: May God bless us with discomfort...

All: at easy answers, half-truths
and superficial relationships,
so that we will live deeply in our hearts.

One: May God bless us with anger...

All: at injustice, oppression and exploitation of people and the earth,
so that we will work for justice,
equity and peace.

One:: May God bless us with tears...

All: to shed for those who suffer,
so that we will reach out our hands
to comfort them and change their pain to joy.

One: And may God bless us with the foolishness to think...

All: that we can make a difference in our world...
So that we will do the things which others say cannot be done.

One: The peace of Christ be with you all...

POSTLUDE

Little Partita for Pentecost

Woodman

*The congregation is invited to stand.

† Go Forth and Serve †

Leading Worship: Rev. Robert Brown, Acting Senior Minister; Rev. Dr. Jean Vandergrift, Interim Minister for Spiritual Development and Congregational Life; Victoria Wagner, Music Director.

The flowers are given in celebration of the Confirmation Class, their mentors and leaders.

2017-2018 CONFIRMATION CLASS

Carson Sean Detweiler, son of Sean and Kristi Detweiler and big brother of Alexa, has lived in Concord his entire life. Carson is on the CCHS Fencing team, and his weapon of choice is Foil. He is also active in the Rotary Interact club at the high school, has been on two TriCon mission trips and is looking forward to the next two!

Edward "Whit" Feather, son of Ed Feather and Susan Mlodozieniec, is a sophomore honors student at CCHS. He's on the swim team and plays volleyball, likes skiing, rip-sticking, and consuming massive amounts of queso.. He is interested in snarky memes and video creation and editing. You can pick Whit out of the crowd by his galaxy-themed clothing. Whit is excited to be a junior counselor at Camp Thoreau this summer.

Cliff Freund, son of Rob and Sandy Freund, lives in Concord with his two siblings Drew (17) and Evelyn (13). Cliff is a junior at CCHS. His many interests include sports (and basketball in particular), fishing, and spending time with friends.

David Riley Honan is the son of Chrissy and David Honan and brother to Kayleen and Ellie. Riley was baptized at TriCon with his Aunt Kate Bird and Uncle Stephen Honan as his Godparents. His grandparents,, Fran and Steve Honan, have been long time, devoted TriCon members. Baseball is Riley's passion and his focus is on pitching and playing first base. Riley is a sophomore at CCHS.

Charles George Hutchinson was baptized at TriCon and is the son of Hunter and John Hutchinson and brother to Lowell and Sally. He is a sophomore at CCHS and lives in Carlisle. Charlie loves hiking, skiing, camping and being outdoors. He recently earned the Eagle Scout award in Boy Scouts, and he looks forward to spending a month this summer backpacking in Alaska with NOLS.

Sarah McMorrow, daughter of Margaret and Rob McMorrow of Concord, is a sophomore at CCHS. She is the youngest of three, with older siblings, Katie (20) and Alex (17). Sarah is a Company Dancer and Student Demonstrator at the West Concord Dance Academy where she has danced for 12+ years. She is active in Dance Crew and Student Government at CCHS and enjoys reading and spending time with close friends.

Elizabeth Rennert is the "lower middle" of Dawn and Jon Rennert's four children, and appreciates how special that makes her. She is a sophomore at CCHS, and enjoys track, band, WIQH and especially Weather Club. She is a devoted member of the TriCon Youth Group, and serves as the perpetual calendar counting down the days until the next Mission trip.

Nicholas Rye was baptized at TriCon. He is the son of Katie Rye and Steve Rye. He lives in Concord and has siblings, William (14) and Charlotte (11). A member of the CCHS class of 2020, Nicholas loves playing tennis, discussing current events, studying history, traveling to other countries, and learning world geography. He is looking forward to continuing his participation in the TriCon community through Confirmation.

Lucas Gray Wilbur is the son of Bonny Wilbur and younger brother of Nicholas. Luke is a sophomore at CCHS where he hosts a radio show each week. His interests include backpacking and camping, as well as running. He also works part-time at a law firm in Concord. Luke enjoys youth group and discussion group, and is excited to continue attending both.