

Confirmation

Therefore, brothers and sisters, be all the more eager to confirm your call and election, for if you do this, you will never stumble.

2 Peter 1:10 (NRSV)



Confirmation simply is a time of confirming.

- confirming the baptism made on our behalf
- confirming our acceptance of Christ in our lives
- confirming our willingness to witness to the love of God
- confirming our desire to serve Christ in the world

What has brought you to the point of taking this course of studies?

If you were to be confirmed what would you want to say to God through such a service?

What would you want to say to the congregation?

Confirmation marks the point of your full participation within the life and work of the church.

What responsibilities do you believe this now brings?

Do you believe that this is the time you wish to be confirmed?

Your minister will share with you how the service will be organized. You should think about what would make this a special day for you – it may be a particular song or hymn, a poem or other words, or maybe someone you need to invite to come.

Being Part of the Story



Unit 7 The Story of God and us

A resource in preparation for confirmation

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Grace

*The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ
be with you all. Amen.*

Revelation 22:21



I have talked of the grace of God before in this series.
What images does the word grace bring to you?

Leonardo Boff in his book “Liberating Grace” likens grace to a train journey where all travel free. The destination is God and so is the route. “Grace carries all, giving all the opportunity to have a good trip.”

Talk about this image.

What other images of the grace of God can you think of?

Another way of looking at the grace of God is the making of God present with us.

What signs do you see of God being with us?

In the liturgy I use for the baptism of infants there are the words:

*God does not wait for a response from children before they
become the focus of this love. God makes the first move.*

For me this is grace - God makes the first move.

How in your life have you been aware of God “making a move”?

The grace of God is seen particularly at times such as sharing in Holy Communion or at our baptism.

Baptism

*As they were going along the road, they came to a
place where there was some water. The official said,
"Look! Here is some water. Why can't I be baptized?"*

Acts 8:37

We have only one Lord, one faith, and one baptism. Ephesians 4:5

Were you baptized? If so talk about this event.

Why do you think baptism is so important in the Church's life?
Some people are baptized as babies and some as adults, how do you think this affects the service and what it means?

Baptism comes from the Greek word to dip, or immerse. It is the word used for a ship sinking. Our Churches use water in different ways. Some dip, some immerse, some sprinkle. But for all water is important.

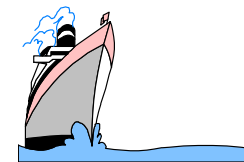
Here are some uses we have for water.



Washing



Generating power



Journeying



Drinking



Burial
at sea



Life
giving rain

Can you think of other uses?

How could these help us understand baptism?