



LORD OF LIFE
LUTHERAN CHURCH

*GIVING THANKS,
AFFIRMING ALL WE BELIEVE AND SEE,
IN GOD'S GLORY AND GRACE!*

THE RITE OF CONFIRMATION 
THE TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
NOVEMBER 14, 2021

LORD OF LIFE LUTHERAN CHURCH
“MAKING GOD FIRST THROUGH HOPE, GROWTH & TOGETHERNESS”

Sunday Worship: 9:30 a.m.-16200 Dodd Lane, Lakeville, MN 55044-(952)-953-4484
Pastor Jamie Thompson Email: info@lordoflifemn.org Website: www.lordoflifemn.org

**“GIVING THANKS, AFFIRMING ALL WE BELIEVE AND SEE
IN GOD’S GLORY AND GRACE!”**



The Twenty-Fifth Sunday After Pentecost
The Affirmation of Baptism – The Rite of Confirmation

November 14, 2021

Extended Prelude & Words of Greeting

Gathering In Glory & Grace “Holy Spirit”

Torwalt

(All are invited to join the Worship Leaders in singing each song in our service today!)

**There’s nothing worth more that will ever come close.
No thing can compare; You’re our living hope.
Your Presence, Lord.**

**I’ve tasted and seen of the sweetest of loves,
Where my heart becomes free and my shame is undone,
In Your Presence, Lord.**

**Holy Spirit, You are welcome here;
Come flood this place and fill the atmosphere;
Your glory, God, is what our hearts long for,
To be overcome by Your presence, Lord. Your presence, Lord.**

bridge: **Let us become more aware of Your Presence;
Let us experience the glory of Your goodness.**
(repeat bridge 3x)

**Holy Spirit, You are welcome here;
Come flood this place and fill the atmosphere;
Your glory, God, is what our hearts long for,
To be overcome by Your presence, Lord. Your presence, Lord.**

Litany Thanking God for All His Glory & Grace, based on Psalm 145

Pastor: Today we give thanks and believe and affirm anew, Holy Spirit, you are forever welcome here, every detail is confirmed and in the best hands of all, so we worship in the name of The Father, and of The Son, and of The Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

Pastor: People of God: The Lord is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. Let us take a moment of silence to confess our sins and those times we have failed to confirm the glory and grace of our merciful Lord. (*silence for reflection*)
Friends in Christ: Thanks be to God for his gifts of glory and grace in these words: Jesus saves; Jesus forgives you all your sins. The Lord is good, his compassion is affirmed in every detail. Sing and live anew! Affirm again and again, the Spirit of the living God!

Song of Renewal “Spirit of The Living God” *Iverson*
Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.
Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.
Melt me. Mold me. Fill me. Use me.
Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Pastor: Friends in Christ: One generation shall confirm and pass on the Lord’s works to another. Let us be ready for Christ himself, as we declare every detail of his splendor and majesty, as we affirm for one and all, the Spirit of the living God!

Song of Renewal “Spirit of The Living God” *Iverson*
Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.
Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.
Melt me. Mold me. Fill me. Use me.
Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Prayer of the Day

All: Loving God, you are the source of every blessing; your glory and grace come to us every day. Stir us up each day to affirm you, to thank you and praise you for your faithfulness. By your Spirit, confirm every detail in our lives. Increase our faith to believe and to see anew, to affirm your greatness provides us with all we need, for all good gifts are sent from heaven above. In Jesus’ name, we pray. Amen.

Hearing The Word of God

Gospel **Mark 13:1-8** **(all read bold print)**

As Jesus came out of the temple, one of his disciples said to him, “Look, Teacher, what large stones and what large buildings!” Then Jesus asked him, “Do you see these great buildings? Not one stone will be left here upon another; all will be thrown down.” When he was sitting on the Mount of Olives opposite the temple, Peter, James, John, and Andrew asked him privately, “Tell us, when will this be, and what will be the sign that all these things are about to be accomplished?” Then Jesus began to say to them, “**Beware that no one leads you astray. Many will come in my name and say, ‘I am he!’ and they will lead many astray.** When you hear of wars and rumors of wars, do not be alarmed; this must take place, but the end is still to come. For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom; there will be earthquakes in various places; there will be famines. This is but the beginning of the birth pangs.” (NRSV)

Stating Our Faith In God's Glory & Grace, Hebrews 11-12:2

Pastor: God has blessed God's people with faith from the beginning of time. Long ago witnesses affirmed and confirmed all good gifts sent in Jesus' glory and grace were sufficient for the Hebrew Christians considering returning to Judaism. Let us share our faith using these same words.

All: **Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. Indeed, by faith our ancestors received approval. By faith we understand that the worlds were prepared by the word of God, so that what is seen was made from things that are not visible. ...Without faith it is impossible to please God, for whoever would approach him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him. ...Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who for the sake of the joy that was set before him endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God. Amen.**

Sermon “ ... Confirmed In Every Detail!”

Pastor Jamie Thompson

Song Confirming Glory & Grace “This Little Light of Mine”

African American Spiritual

vs. 1 **This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine;
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine;
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine;
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.**

vs. 2 **Ev'rywhere I go, I'm gonna let it shine;
Ev'rywhere I go, I'm gonna let it shine;
Ev'rywhere I go, I'm gonna let it shine;
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.**

vs. 3 **Jesus gave it to me, I'm gonna let it shine;
Jesus gave it to me, I'm gonna let it shine;
Jesus gave it to me, I'm gonna let it shine;
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine. *(repeat first verse)***

Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Affirmation of Baptism-The Rite of Confirmation- The Apostles' Creed

Pastor: Do you believe in God The Father?

Candidates: *I believe in God, The Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.*

Pastor: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, The Son of God?

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

Pastor: Do you believe in God The Holy Spirit?

Candidates: *I believe in The Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body and the life everlasting. Amen.*

Prayers for Those Affirming Their Baptism

Pastor: ...Lord, in your mercy, **All: Hear our prayer.**

The Affirmation Blessing On Those Confirming Their Faith & Baptism

Pastor: Father in heaven, for Jesus' sake, stir up in (*name*) the gift of your Holy Spirit; confirm his/her faith, guide his/her life, empower him/her in his/her serving, give him/her patience in suffering, and bring him/her to everlasting life.

Candidate: *Amen.*

Sharing & Affirming The Peace of The Lord

Pastor: The peace of The Lord be with you always.

All: And also with you.

Sharing Our Needs And Joy With God In Prayer

Pastor: ... As we pray, Jesus, ...

All: Affirm us in your Spirit and grace.

Pastor: Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

We Receive the Gifts of Life from God in Holy Communion

The Words of Institution & The Lord's Prayer

**All: 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 and ever. Amen.**

Songs During Holy Communion "People Get Ready"

Mayfield

vs. 1 **People get ready, there's a train a-comin'
You don't need no baggage, you just get on board
All you need is faith, to hear the diesels hummin'
You don't need no ticket; you just thank the Lord.**

vs. 2 **So people get ready for the train to Jordan
Picking up passengers coast to coast
Faith is the key, open the doors and board them
There's hope for all among those loved the most**

ref: **Thank the Lord, thank the Lord, thank the Lord, ooh (*repeat*)**

vs. 3 **There ain't no room, for the hopeless sinner
Who would hurt all mankind, just to save his own
Have pity on those whose chances grow thinner
For there's no hiding place against the Kingdom's throne**

ending: **Thank the Lord, thank the Lord,
Thank the Lord, thank the Lord** *(repeat 2x)*

“What a Beautiful Name”

Fielding

**You were the Word at the beginning,
One with God the Lord Most High.
Your hidden glory in creation, now revealed in You, our Christ.
What a beautiful Name it is, what a beautiful Name it is,
The Name of Jesus Christ, my King.
What a beautiful Name it is, nothing compares to this.
What a beautiful Name it is, the Name of Jesus.**

**You didn't want heaven without us,
So Jesus, You brought heaven down.
My sin was great, Your love was greater;
What could separate us now?
What a wonderful Name it is, what a wonderful Name it is,
The Name of Jesus Christ, my King.
What a wonderful Name it is, nothing compares to this.
What a wonderful Name it is, the Name of Jesus.
What a wonderful Name it is, the Name of Jesus.**

**Death could not hold You, the veil tore before You.
You silence the boast of sin and grave.
The heavens are roaring the praise of Your glory
For You are raised to life again.**

**You have no rival, You have no equal.
Now and forever God, You reign.
Yours is the Kingdom, Yours is the glory,
Yours is the Name above all names.**

**What a powerful Name it is, what a powerful Name it is,
The Name of Jesus Christ, my King.
What a powerful Name it is, nothing can stand against
What a powerful Name it is, the Name of Jesus.**

**What a powerful Name it is, the Name of Jesus.
What a powerful Name it is, the Name of Jesus.**

Strengthened to Live Today, and All Our Days, In The Grace of Christ

Pastor: The body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, strengthen you and keep you in his grace, this day, and on into life everlasting.

All: Amen.

Pastor: Let us pray.

All: Almighty God, you gave your Son both as a sacrifice for sin and a model of the godly life. Enable us to receive him always with thanksgiving, and to conform our lives to his, through Jesus Christ, the Lord of life. Amen.

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace, as you give thanks and affirm all of God's glory and grace! In the name of The Father, and of The Son, and of The Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

Pastor: Let us go in the peace of Christ, celebrating and confirming the love of God, and serving the Lord of life.

All: Thanks be to God!

Going Anew in Spirit & Grace "Everywhere I Go"

Timmons

ref: **Ev'rywhere I go, On this road high and low
Where I go, I go with You.
So I won't be afraid, This is my hope, come what may
Where I go I go with You. Where I go I go with You.**

vs. 1 **There's a city that calls me by name
There's a city that calls me by name
Yes as I run this race I am cheered by the saints
There's a city that calls me by name**

vs. 2 **There's a future that runs through my veins
There's a future that runs through my veins
And there's nothing on earth That can stand in the way
There's a future that runs through my veins (*refrain*)**

bridge: **Your breath upon these bones Your fire in my soul
Your Kingdom is my home, And I don't walk alone.**

**Ev'rywhere I go, On this road high and low
Where I go, I go with You.
So I won't be afraid, This is my hope, come what may
Where I go I go with You.**

**Ev'rywhere I go, On this road high and low
Where I go, I go with You.
So I won't be afraid, This is my hope, come what may
Where I go I go with You. Where I go I go with You.**

Postlude

***Today we celebrate The Affirmation of Baptism, The Rite of Confirmation!
Faith Quest Sunday School meets today!***

**Today we share The Affirmation of Baptism, The Rite of Confirmation!
We pray God's blessings on these friends in faith and their families!**

**Kimberly Pearl Anderson – Mark 4:1-8
Levi Michael Blaha – Psalm 116:1-9
Allison Nicole Boche – Joshua 1:9
Daniella Salome Eads – Psalm 40:1-3
Ella Lynn Henderson – Joshua 1:9
Mackenzie Cae Lassen – John 3:16
Jada Marie Lindell – Matthew 17:20
Quintin Richard Morrissey – Proverbs 30:5
Addison Joy Sohre – 1 Corinthians 13:4-7**

***Join us next Sunday, November 21,
Christ The King Sunday!
“Forever Confirmed In The King Of Glory And Grace!”***

***As we share worship in this way, we are seeking volunteers to assist with greeting, ushering, serving communion, live streaming, AV ministry, set up, clean up, worship leaders, and more!
You can access details and ways to sign up on our website and Facebook page! Thank you!***

All who proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior, are welcome to God's table of grace as we share Holy Communion. Communion is now offered once again during worship, as we share pre-packaged single servings of communion, including a wafer and grape juice.

***Carefully pull back the first tab to expose the host, the body of Christ, given for you;
then pull back the second tab to expose the blood of Christ, shed for you!***

Please ask for assistance or clarification as you are served!

For those who are not able to join us for worship, you are invited to receive drive-through communion, available Sundays, 10:15-10:30 a.m. at the front curb near the church entrance.

For those sharing their generosity today, we thank you for your faithful giving!

Please contact Pastor Jamie if he can serve you in any way: jamie.thompson@lordoflifemn.org

***We pray The Holy Spirit breathes anew on us to be God's people and to be God's Church,
as together we make known and we trust anew***

***God's gifts of hope, peace, justice, clarity, calm, and comfort forever break forth in new ways
for you and your loved ones, today, and as we share every gift of God's light, love, and grace!***

Acknowledgments for today's service include: Litany Thanking God for All His Glory and Grace, written based on Psalm 145. "Prayer of The Day," "Lord's Prayer," "Post-Communion Blessing, Prayer, & Benediction," based on the LBW. © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship (LBW) and With One Voice Hymnal Supplement © 1995 Augsburg Publishing House, Minneapolis & Board of Publication, Lutheran Church In America, Philadelphia; and Evangelical Lutheran Worship © 2006 Augsburg Fortress, Minneapolis, MN. Used with permission. "Holy Spirit" © 2011 Jesus Culture, CCLI #6087919 "Spirit of The Living God" © 1935, 1963 Moody Press CCLI #2151368 "This Little Light of Mine" © Words and Music Public Domain, this arr. © Horace Clarence Boyer, OL #01998 "People Get Ready" © 1964 Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp CCLI #1155812 "What a Beautiful Name" © 2016 Hillsong Music Publishing CCLI #1380826 "Everywhere I Go" © All Essential Music, CCLI #7050066 All rights reserved. All songs used with permission. CCLI License #1380826 & OneLicense #A-724016.

**“GLORY AND GRACE, CONFIRMED IN EVERY DETAIL!” - NOVEMBER 14, 2021
THE TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
THE AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM – THE RITE OF CONFIRMATION
DANIEL 12:1-3; HEBREWS 10:11-18; MARK 13:1-8
Promises for your pocket or purse - Take notes and carry them with you.**

Details, details, details. Do you have enough to take care of, these days? Would you like a few more? How does your `to do' list look? Would you like to trade with someone? Would you like to give all those details to someone else to take care of? How would you feel if someone stepped in, thinking they can handle the details more efficiently than you? That they could get it organized, in order, accomplished better than you? As we reflect on Mark's gospel, concerning the end times, how many of us would like to know all the details, want to make sure God has it all taken care of, would like to know more, or step in a little, or think we know how God will handle it all? As we celebrate and share The Rite of Confirmation, we give thanks for all God's glory and grace affirms in each of us and every detail. Thanks be to God, Jesus and God's Word remind, empower, fill, command, surrender, calm each of us again today, to trust our true net worth is in God's grace alone; there is no detail too small, that the Lord is not aware of, that God is not in control of, that God will not confirm and affirm, that God in glory and grace will not satisfy in God's way in God's time!

1. How are you at taking care of all the details?
 - A. Life is full of details. Can you keep up? God can!!
 - B. How are you at getting it all organized? Keeping it all straight? Does it ever feel overwhelming?
 - C. How are you at letting others take care of some of the details? How about those details you feel are most important?
2. How are you at trusting God; the details he is in charge of and oversees?
 - A. With regard to the end times, there are so many details that we do not know about, that we will never know.
 - i. Here are just a few of the details.
 - a. Mark 13:2 - Every stone will be cast down. Like the Temple, every foundation we build up for ourselves alone, will one day be destroyed.
 - b. Mark 13:3-4 - In Zechariah 14:1-4, the prophet predicts one day from the Mount Of Olives, from which its high slopes Jerusalem and the Temple can be seen, one day the Messiah will come and return to establish his eternal kingdom.
 - c. Mark 13:5-6 - If you try to be in charge of every detail others may lead you astray. Likewise, if you do not follow Jesus with great detail, others might slip in. Make no mistake, if Jesus appears in your midst, you will know!
 - d. Mark 13:7-8 - If you are trying to count the days based upon `nation rising up against nation' and `rumors of war,' you might be led to believe the end times have been near for a long, long time.

- e. Mark 13:8 - If you prefer to keep your eyes on other details, like earthquakes and famines, you too, might feel like the end is in sight.
 - f. Daniel 12:1-3 - There might be anguish, but we will also be delivered.
 - g. Hebrews 10:11-18 - Jesus has sat down at the right hand of God; he is waiting, waiting for you, for the end times, for that day when forgiveness is needed no more, when all will be perfect!
- ii. If we trust God has a plan for us; if we trust God is active in our lives; let us trust God has the end times in control.
 - iii. Thanks be to God, God has a plan, and a watchful hand, confirming every detail, even if at times that does not feel like enough for now.
- B. Thanks be to God, our true net worth is in God's grace alone; every day, for all time, when it comes to the end times, when it comes to the now times, when it comes to each of us, God in glory and grace is in control of every last detail!
 - C. Thanks be to God, as we share and celebrate The Rite of Confirmation, we believe and see anew, we give thanks, for God's glory and grace are confirmed and affirmed in each of us, and in every detail that God alone blesses and oversees!

**A Few Affirming And Confirming Thoughts From Those
God Confirms Each & Every Day – Sunday, November 14, 2021
Lord Of Life Lutheran Church - Lakeville, Minnesota**

Kimberly – No story is more personal to me than the parable of the growing seed in Mark 4. In this story Jesus teaches his disciples about the importance of balance between your life and faith. He spread mustard seeds in different environments with different conditions. While most were eaten by birds, scorched by the sun, or choked away by thorns. Only the seeds with the right balance of exposure to all the elements grew to yield a good crop. ... This story is important to me because of the balance in life and faith it suggests. Claiming how too much or too little faith could be a downfall. This level of balance is different for everyone. I feel like these past years in confirmation class have helped me find the perfect balance in my faith and I trust that today will immortalize my faith and connection to God.

Levi – Jesus matters to me because he died for my sins. He lifts me when I am weak. It is difficult to put into words that I matter most to Jesus, but it makes me want to always put him first and to make sure he knows he matters most to me, too. If I did not have Jesus in my life, I would be missing a love that only he can provide to me. If someone asked me about Jesus, I would describe Jesus as awesome, loving, selfless, uplifting. Having a relationship with Jesus, knowing Jesus wants to have a relationship with me forever, means I have the support of Jesus. What a friend I have found in Jesus. Before my accident, I had never experienced the power of Jesus and the power of prayer like I did those critical days. It was an overwhelming feeling that I will hold on to forever. I will always be grateful for that love and support only he can provide through my belief.

Allison – What would be missing in my heart if Jesus wasn't there? I would be missing my purpose and faith in life. I would be lost, sad, depressed, and gloomy all the time. I would be missing a purpose in life and like Joshua 1:9 says "I hereby command you: Be strong and courageous..." this encourages you to be as mentally strong and courageous as you are physically. The Lord will guide you; he will give you an amount of strength you never knew was possible, use that strength to overcome weakness. The second part of the verse says "...do not be frightened or dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go." you have to have no fear, fear is a mind killer, and knowing Jesus is right there at every step of the way can help eliminate that fear, you are not walking alone in this journey he will always be there to guide you.

Daniella – Personally, I find comfort and strength that Jesus loves me and that He died on the cross for the forgiveness of my sins. His love is the purest and He wills for us to open our hearts and spread it to others. Being a Christian influences me in my daily life by giving me a conscience to be kind and respectful of others. ... I let His power of patience and forgiveness run through me. When I find myself in moments of hopelessness and doubt, I know that Jesus will always be with me. Thus, I depend on the strength of my faith to carry me forward. Jesus' love is like my safety net that I am not afraid to fall into. Through being a Christian, I have learned that loving God is the foundation to fully getting to know Him and myself. Weakness means nothing because I know that the Lord is always with me and that His love endures forever.

Ella – Being a Christian and a follower of Christ and knowing that he loves me and saves me helps me There were times during school that I was so stressed from all the homework ... I would leave what I was doing and go to my room and I would pray. I would just talk to Jesus for a few minutes then return back to my homework feeling recharged and know I am not alone while taking on something tough. ... I know God has time for me to reflect with Him and I know that I don't need to take on my school work alone. I know He is always there for me also when it involves sports. ... He helps me not get down on myself ... Being able to reflect with God has also helped me in my life in general, too, because if I wasn't able to talk to Him I would've kept getting more and more stressed ... I know Jesus loves me and will go out of His way for me and I love Him back for that. ... I know Jesus is there for me whenever I need Him to be.

Mackenzie – Jesus has transformed the lives of many, including me. To some people, he is a story, just a legend. But to me, he's more of a friend. People seem to talk about him like he's a made up story, but what they don't seem to realize is that he's as real as the person sitting next to you. I can talk to him and explain my day to him, even if I may not be speaking directly to him, and what's great is, he's never too busy to listen, he's available twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week. When I have had a bad day and it feels like the whole world is crashing down, or even a great day, afterwards everything seems a little better, my feet a little lighter. So to me, he's more than a story, more than sitting in a church half paying attention. He is real, he is alive, and he loves me. Life won't always be easy, but he will always be there to wipe away my tears, to be a shoulder to cry on, and give me the strength to carry on when things aren't going my way.

Jada – Without Jesus I would feel like something is missing. The saying “Jesus saves, Jesus forgives” is a prime example of how important he is to all of us. Knowing there is someone who will love you unconditionally and not judge you for a simple mistake helps me push through life. Being a follower in Christ is a transformation in yourself and the world around you. ... We need to know that someone is looking out for us, even with all the destruction that's been going on. Miracles happen every day. We are all miracles in God's eyes. I choose to be a Christian not just because my parents are, but because having that unconditional love has brought me closer to my friends and family. Being a Christian has helped me find the brightness in the midst of darkness, the joy in a world full of hate, and most importantly to love everyone no matter how different. ... I thank him for giving me something to put my heart and soul into.

Quintin – God is always watching over me, whether I do good or bad. The particular reason that Christ matters to me is that he allows me to know that he is caring for me and loves me unconditionally. ... He talks to me and helps me with my problems and gives me a purpose. God shows me directions to the right path and helps me make the right choices. The benefit of putting God first is that he is the definition of peace, persuading me to do good, and calming my soul. I believe in God because I know that he is always there for me, and that he is putting me first. God provides wisdom for me and comfort. ... God cherishes me and shows love beyond what I can see. God loves me with all his heart and makes my day better every second I think of him. If I'm ever in trouble, I know that I can turn to God for help. ... Knowing that I have someone that is always there for me and on my side matter to me because I know that I will always be loved.

Addison – Since the day I was born, I know God has been in my life watching over me. He has been with me as I have grown up and I know he will continue to be with me throughout my life. I am human, and just like all humans, I have made lots of mistakes in my life. God has seen all those mistakes and forgiven me for them. He forgives me and will always love me even on my toughest days ... He challenges me to be a better person every day. I can accept that challenge by choosing to love others and accept that they too have flaws. I can forgive and I can spread the love of Jesus Christ, by choosing kindness and opting to spread joy throughout the world. It is through the love of God that I can continue to grow and be a better person. ... Even on those days when I feel alone, am overcome with emotions, or just struggling to know what to do next, I know that I can always trust that God will be there to listen.