

# Faith Statements Preparation

## *Your personal proclamation of faith!*

***Congratulations!*** You are nearing the end of your Confirmation preparation and the ***beginning*** of a new life in Christ as a confirmed member of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod (LCMS)! To assist you in “confirming” your baptismal faith in God, the following help is offered.

You are to write a 2-3 page essay, (typed, 14 pt., double space) that expresses your faith in our **Triune God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit**. The following suggestions will greatly assist you in prayerfully pondering and formulating your statement of faith (*consider this an outline*):

- Your name, Confirmation Verse and briefly describe its context.
- Express your belief in the Triune God (Father, Son, Holy Spirit).
- Express how your verse relates to Jesus and what He has done for you.
- Incorporate an aspect(s) about your life, your faith and your future as a child of God.

Write it in a way that helps you *know* it/perhaps you’ll even memorize it. ☺ It won’t be easy, but it will be worth it. Write it in a way that flows smoothly, conversationally, etc. Use the above outline to help you get started. You will speak this essay and record yourself doing so, dressed nicely with a nice background. You may be nervous. That’s OK. There are details about the recording of your video in this packet, but for now, don’t worry about that. Focus on the development of your Faith Statement now. Therefore, the first thing to do is *prayerfully* consider a Confirmation Verse. Take your time. Ask God to guide you.

The following are *possible* Scripture verses for you to consider. You need to choose only one. There are *many* good and appropriate Scripture verses; certainly, this list does not contain all of them! You can choose a different verse if you want. Make it personal! You will have to tell Pastor Doria what verse you want and why you want it. Pray for guidance and then choose from the following or come up with another one and submit it for approval. Discuss with your parents and ask for their help too!

Genesis 1:1	Psalms 130:3-4	John 6:68	Roman 8:28	Ephesians 2:8-10
Exodus 15:2	Matt 1:21	John 11:25-26	Romans 8:38-39	Philippians 4:8
Joshua 1:7	Matt 11:28	John 15:5	Romans 10:10	Colossians 2:6-9
Job 19:25-26	Mark 10:45	John 17:3	1 Corinthians 6:11	2 Timothy 3:16-17
Isaiah 9:6	John 1:1-2	Acts 4:12	1 Corinthians 10:16	Titus 3:5
Isaiah 40:31	John 3:16-17	Romans 1:16	2 Corinthians 5:15	1 John 1:7
Psalms 23:1	John 3:36	Romans 6:4	Galatians 2:20	Revelation 2:10b

Choose your Confirmation verse by **Feb 27** and **notify Pastor Doria of your choice**. You then have the month of March to write your Faith Statement. You should have a decent rough draft by the beginning of the retreat, **March 31**. *May the Lord guide and bless you!*

## Faith Statement Interview Process

The following explains the Faith Statement Interview process for Confirmation 2023 as well as an overview of the video recording process. See Faith Statement Video handout for more details.

- 1) Confirmands should have picked their Confirmation verse by end of Feb and written their final rough draft by the end of the Retreat (or the next day, April 2).
- 2) The Faith Statement Interviews will occur in person the week of April 12 - 19.
- 3) Confirmands will share their Faith Statements during the Faith Statement Interviews. These interviews are 30-minute time slots set aside where Confirmand, parents and congregational representative(s) meet to hear from the Confirmand about their Confirmation experience, what they've learned, liked, and even struggled with. Most importantly, these times are set aside for the Confirmand to share their Faith Statement verbally. The congregational reps will ask questions and give feedback on the Faith Statement.
- 4) An online Sign-Up will be made; and each student/family can choose their preferred date and time from the options given. The link to the Sign-Up will be emailed out.
- 5) The Faith Statement Interviews will be held at Church. The on-campus location will be determined by the date/time as there are other classes/activities that occur throughout the week.
- 6) Taking to heart the feedback regarding their Faith Statement, Confirmands will tweak their Faith Statement as appropriate. This final version will be emailed to Pastor Doria [JDoria@stjohn.tv](mailto:JDoria@stjohn.tv) in a Word doc.
- 7) These Faith Statements will then be spoken in the Worship Center on **Saturday, May 6**, in front of the class, your families, relatives and any church members who want to witness your proclamation of faith.

## Faith Statement Video Preparation

**It's video time!** Once you have had your Faith Statement Interview and have tweaked your Faith Statement, you now get to make a nice video. It will be shared with the rest of your class as well as all the members of St. John and even the world! This becomes a great online keepsake which can be shared with family and friends. You will want to have good lighting, good sound, nice dress/appearance, both of yourself and your surroundings. You can view last year's Faith Statement videos at their playlist at our St. John YouTube Channel.

[Click HERE to view](#)

You'll see a wide variety of clarity of speech, lighting, appearance, etc. Make it the best you can. If you want some tips, let Pastor Jeff know.

Here's a few tips to get you started:

- Start with a smile!
- Use your cell phone in landscape mode for good viewing on TV's and computers.
- Use a tripod (or prop it up so it won't shake during recording).
- You don't need your full body in the video, but you can. The farther away your cell phone is, the more difficult it is to hear what you are saying. Video a couple test runs to make sure you can hear well.
- Have good lighting on your face. Don't stand in front of a window where there is bright light behind you.
- Be sure your sound is good & clear (without background noise).
- Record a portion of your Faith Statement and then check your video. How does it look? How does it sound? What can you do to make it look/sound better?
- Be sure to smile!
- Look at the lens through which your camera is actually recording. This will make your video look much better, like you're making eye contact with the viewer. If you're looking at your own image on the screen, you're not looking at the lens which is doing the recording. ☺ This looks weird to the viewer.
- Have a nice background.
- Record yourself several times and then watch them. Choose the best one or record again until you get a good video you're happy with.
- Did I mention to smile? ☺

**UPLOAD** your video by **Saturday, April 29** to [THIS LINK](#) on Google Drive.