



CONFIRMATION  
JOURNAL

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# DEVOTIONS & REFLECTIONS

*Spend two minutes in silence before God.*

*Make the sign of the cross, in remembrance of your Baptism, and say:*

In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.  
**Amen.**

*Read the Catechism reading.*

*Share and reflect on the reflection and application questions*

*Share and reflect on the worship reflection*

*Share and reflect on the missional living reflection*

*Read the Scripture reading.*

*Share and reflect on the reflection questions*

*Share and reflect on God's Action in your day.*

*Share and reflect on the prayers for the week.*

*Pray the prayer of the season.*

**Pray together the Lord's Prayer**

**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.**

*Pray together the Jesus Creed*

**Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God, the Lord is one. You shall love the Lord your God with all of your heart, with all of your soul, with all your mind, with all of your strength. And you shall love your neighbor as yourself. Amen.**

*Say together the Apostles' Creed*

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth. And 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 into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life + everlasting. Amen.**

*Pray Luther's Morning or Evening Prayer*

**Morning Prayer**

I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have kept me this night from all harm and danger; and I pray that You would keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings and life may please You. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. **Amen.**

**Evening Prayer**

I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have graciously kept me this day; and I pray that You would forgive me all my sins where I have done wrong, and graciously keep me this night. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. **Amen.**

*Bless one another by making the sign of the cross on each other's forehead and saying:*

[Name], + child of God, Jesus bless you and keep you safe today.

*Say together,*

Go in peace, serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

*Close with a time of silence before God and then go to your day (or to sleep).*

# PRAYERS FOR THE SEASON

## PRAYER FOR THE SEASON AFTER PENTECOST

Loving and Gracious God, you have gathered us together to be your people in this world. You give us your Holy Spirit, your word, and the sacraments. Through your means of grace, transform our lives, so that they would always show your love and forgiveness and grace. **Amen.**



## PRAYER FOR THE SEASON OF ADVENT

Visiting God, as your people of old waited for the coming of your son, so we too are waiting for him to come back. Through your Holy Spirit, prepare us for his return, and enable us to boldly proclaim with our lives and words that your kingdom has come among us. **Amen.**



## PRAYER FOR THE SEASON OF CHRISTMAS

Incarnate God, you loved us so much that you became a human being. You became one of us so that we could live life with you. Transform us, so that we may show others your love and grace through our lives. **Amen.**



## PRAYER FOR THE SEASON OF EPIPHANY

Revealing God, You have made yourself known among your disciples, and so we ask that you would also continue to make yourself known among us. Let your light shine through us, that others may also see you and know you. **Amen.**



## PRAYER FOR THE SEASON OF LENT

O Lord, our God, take from us the sin that we commit in our lives. And give to us new hearts that love and serve you, and the people around us. As we walk with Jesus to the cross, enable us to deny ourselves, take up our cross and follow you. **Amen.**



## PRAYER FOR THE SEASON OF EASTER

Victorious God, because you have defeated death, we know that it will never defeat us. Enable us to live lives that share this hope with those around us, and to follow you. For you are the one who gives to us life; life that is full and abundant. **Amen.**





# THE TEN COMMANDMENTS - INTRODUCTION

*What does God say to us about all these commandments?*

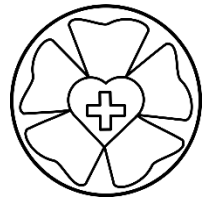
This is what He says: **“I, the LORD, your God, am a jealous God, responding to the transgression of fathers by dealing with children to the third and fourth generations of those who reject me, and showing covenant faithfulness to a thousand generations of those who love me and keep my commandments.”**

*What does it mean?*

God threatens to punish everyone who breaks these commandments. We should be afraid of His anger because of this and not violate such commandments. But He promises grace and all good things to those who keep such commandments. Because of this, we, too, should love Him, trust Him, and willingly do what His commandments require.

## CATECHISM REFLECTION

What is something that this reading teaches us?



What is something related to this reading, for which we can give thanks?

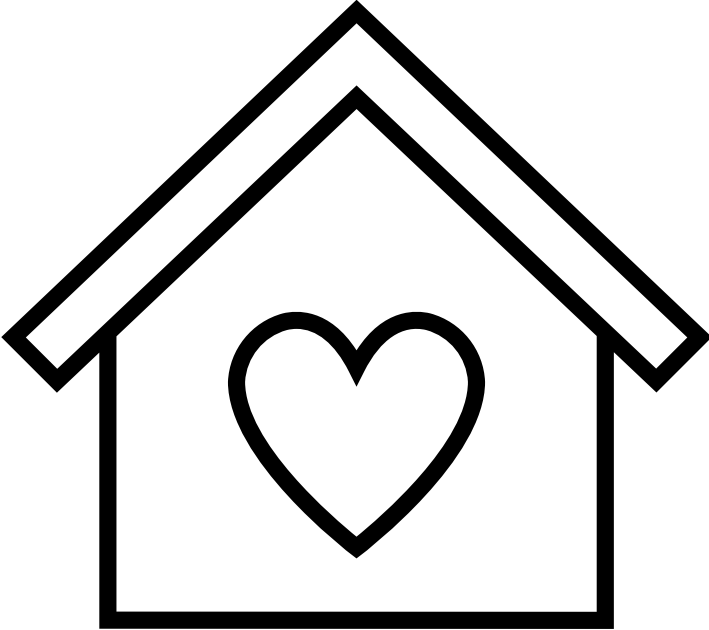
What is something that this reading tells us about living as God’s people in this world?

# CATECHISM NOTES

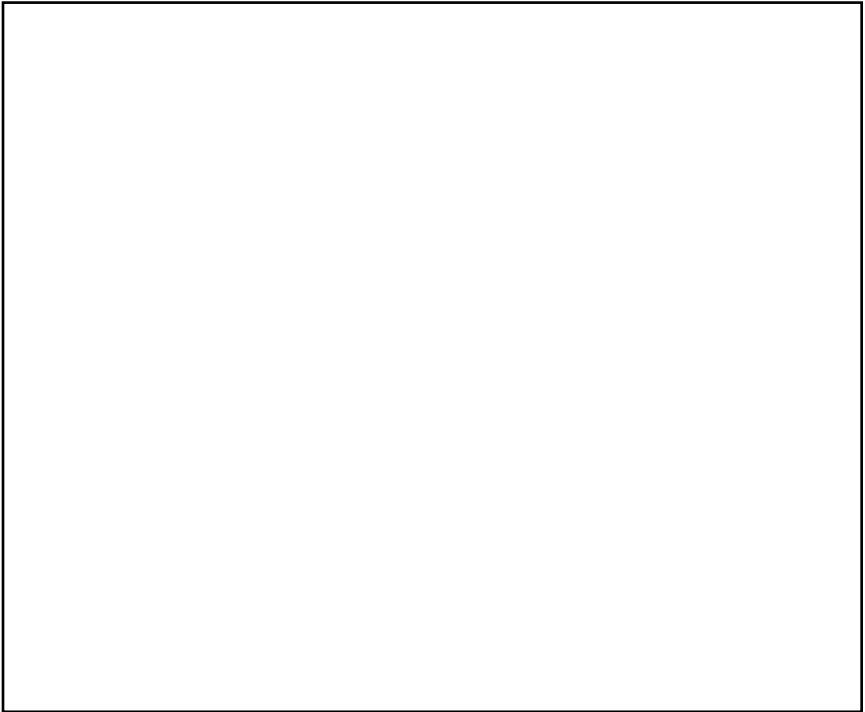
- ☞ The summary of the commandments is love. Loving God and loving our neighbors is keeping the commandments. The commandments are about living in a relationship with God and others.
- ☞ The commandments have two tables. The first table is commandments 1-3. These deal with our relationship with God. The second table is commandments 4-10. These deal with our relationship with our neighbors.
- ☞ Each commandment has a positive aspect, “Do this,” and a negative aspect, “Don’t do this.”
- ☞ The law functions in three ways. The first way is as a curb. This is the law written on people’s hearts. It is how we know right from wrong. The first use of the law is a curb.
- ☞ The second use of the law is a mirror. This is when the law shows us our sin. When we look into the law, we see that we have not kept it, and that we cannot keep it and we understand that we are sinners. S.O.S. (**S**hows **O**ur **S**in). The gospel shows us our savior. (**S**hows **O**ur **S**avior).
- ☞ The third use of the law is the ruler. This is the law showing us how to live our lives in ways that are pleasing to God and bring him glory. We live this way in response to what he has done for us in Jesus. It does not earn us anything from him.
- ☞ To break the law is to sin. We have all broken the law. We are all sinners. There is no one who can deny this. Since we have all broken it, then we are all in need of a savior. And that is just where Jesus comes in.
- ☞ God’s law is a good thing. Even though it cannot save us, it gives a way of living that is healthy and happy. It is important to follow this law because 1.) God told us to do it. 2.) There is great freedom, joy, and blessing in following God’s law. 3.) It bears a powerful witness to who God is and what it means to live life in relationship with him. 4.) It is one of the ways that we join God in God’s mission in the world.



# CATECHISM APPLICATION



God's law gives us the right way to live our lives with God and with our neighbors. Draw or paste a picture that shows people living good lives with their neighbors.



God tells us how to live a full and happy life. Draw a picture or write a word to describe what this means to you.

# WORSHIP REFLECTION

How did the service show God's great love, grace, and mercy in Jesus?



What is something the sermon tells me about who Jesus is or what he does?

What does this sermon tell me I should know or do as God's child?

# MISSIONAL LIVING REFLECTION

What did I say about Jesus this week? To whom did I say this?



Whom did I bless this week? How were they blessed?

What good can I do in this next week?

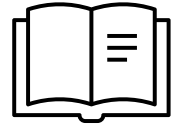
For what will I pray for my neighbors this week?

What is God sending me to do this week?

# SCRIPTURE READING

# SCRIPTURE REFLECTIONS

What is God saying to me in these verses?

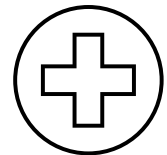


What do these verses tell me about Jesus?

How do these verses encourage me to share God's love with others?

# GOD ACTION REFLECTION

What is something good that happened this week?



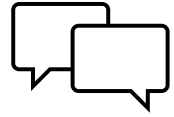
What is something not so good that happened this week?

Where did you see God's presence or action this week? How did that show you God?

What are you thankful for today?

# WEEKLY PRAYERS

I am thankful for:



Lord, please have mercy on my family, friends, neighbors, enemies:

Please help me with:

Lord you are...



# THE TEN COMMANDMENTS - THE FIRST COMMANDMENT

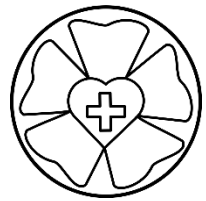
**You shall have no other gods before me.**

*What does this mean?*

We must fear, love, and trust God more than anything else.

## CATECHISM REFLECTION


What is something that this reading teaches us?





What is something related to this reading, for which we can give thanks?


What is something that this reading tells us about living as God's people in this world?


# CATECHISM NOTES


 The fear of the Lord is understanding that God is God, and we are not. So, we take him seriously and obey him above all others.

 We love God in many ways. When we do the things he tells us to do, we are loving him. When we believe the things he tells us, we are loving him. When we love the things that he loves, we are loving him.

 Trusting in God is believing that he is who he says he is, and that he does what he says he will do. We do not just trust God because he tells us to, but we trust him because he never fails, and because he always keeps his promises. God is worthy of our trust. When we trust in him, our trust is well placed.

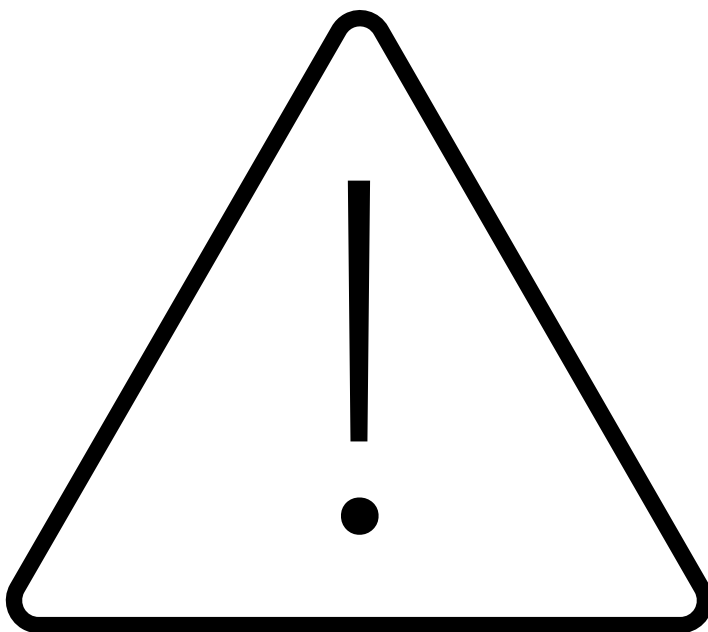
 We do not fear, love, and trust in many gods, but in the one God, who alone is God. He is the one who created everything. He is the one who saved Israel. He is the one who made himself known in Jesus.

 The one God we fear, love, and trust in above all things has revealed himself to us in three persons. He is one God, but also Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. This means that we know him in relationship. He is our creator, redeemer, and the one who makes us holy (our sanctifier).

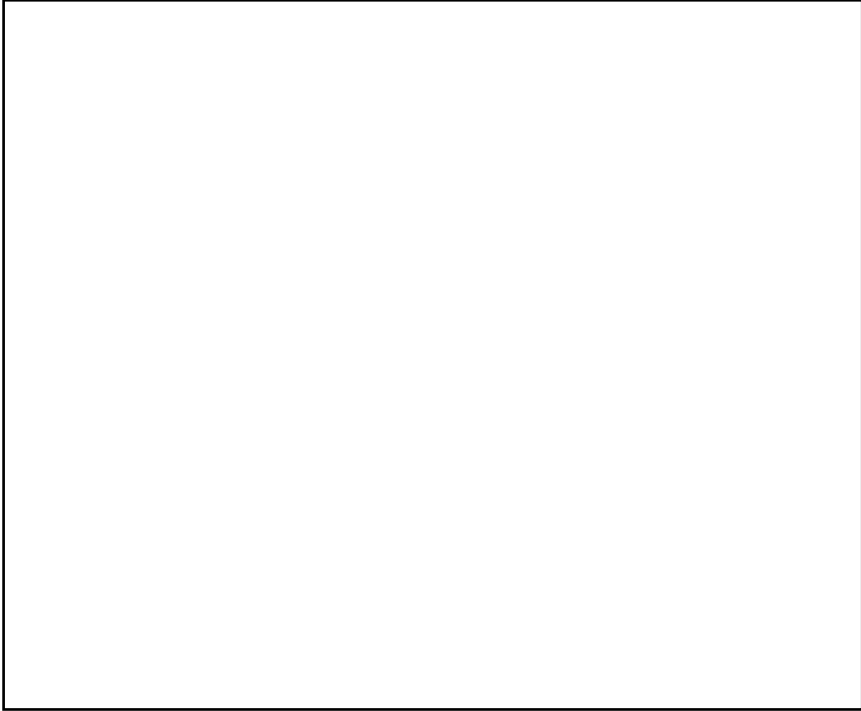
 An idol is anything that we fear, love, and trust more than God. The reason why we are not to fear, love, and trust an idol is because an idol is not able to help us or do anything for us. Therefore, they are not worthy of our fear, love, or trust. Only God is worthy of those things. Besides, he will never fail us.



# CATECHISM APPLICATION



We can trust in God above all things and for all things that we need. Draw or paste a picture that shows the things that we can trust God to give us.



God loves you and cares about you more than anything else in all of creation. Draw a picture or write a word to describe what this means to you.

# WORSHIP REFLECTION

How did the service show God's great love, grace, and mercy in Jesus?



What is something the sermon tells me about who Jesus is or what he does?

What does this sermon tell me I should know or do as God's child?

# MISSIONAL LIVING REFLECTION

What did I say about Jesus this week? To whom did I say this?



Whom did I bless this week? How were they blessed?

What good can I do in this next week?

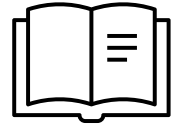
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What is God sending me to do this week?

# SCRIPTURE READING

# SCRIPTURE REFLECTIONS

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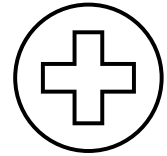


What do these verses tell me about Jesus?

How do these verses encourage me to share God's love with others?

# GOD ACTION REFLECTION

What is something good that happened this week?



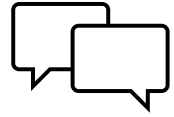
What is something not so good that happened this week?

Where did you see God's presence or action this week? How did that show you God?

What are you thankful for today?

# WEEKLY PRAYERS

I am thankful for:



Lord, please have mercy on my family, friends, neighbors, enemies:

Please help me with:

Lord you are...



# THE TEN COMMANDMENTS - THE SECOND COMMANDMENT

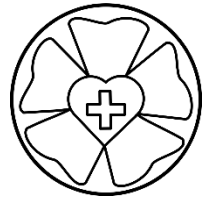
**You shall not take the name of the LORD your God in vain.**

*What does this mean?*

We must fear and love God, so that we will not use His name to curse, swear, cast a spell, lie or deceive, but will use it to call upon Him, pray to Him, praise Him and thank Him in all times of trouble.

## CATECHISM REFLECTION









What is something that this reading teaches us?



What is something related to this reading, for which we can give thanks?

What is something that this reading tells us about living as God's people in this world?

# CATECHISM NOTES

-  God reveals to us his very name. This allows us to know him on a real and intimate level. It reminds us that he is unique and important. In Hebrew, it is probably pronounced as Yahweh. But we are not sure. What is most important is how we treat this name. This name becomes for us the name of the one who made us, loves us, and saves us from sin and death.
-  Joseph is told to give Jesus the name “Jesus” because Jesus will save his people from their sins. That is exactly what he has done for us. Jesus lived the perfect life that God’s law requires. He suffered and died on the cross to pay the price for our sins. He rose victoriously from the grave and defeated the power of death.
-  When Jesus answered their question, he answered them, “I am.” He is using this as a way of showing that he is God (Yahweh) in the flesh. That is why they responded the way that they did. When we see Jesus, we see God and who he is.
-  This verse assures us that Jesus is God in the flesh. We know this from the connection between Jesus and the name that is above every name (Yahweh). When we see Jesus, we see God. Because of all that God does for us, we respond by honoring his name and calling upon it in every trouble, praise, and thanksgiving.
-  One of the ways that we honor God is in the way that we live our lives. Our love and praise for God should not be limited to the things that we say but should be seen in our hearts and in the ways that we live our lives. To use God’s name in a way that is false, deceptive, or empty is misusing it, and something that we should avoid.
-  God gives us his name so that we can know him, love him, and live in relationship with him. A proper use of his name is to call upon him in our time of trial and trouble. We do this knowing that God always hears and answers us.
-  God is worthy of our praise because of all the wonderful things that he does for us. We praise God because of what he has first done for us in Jesus. Praise is the only proper response to God’s love, grace, and mercy.
-  In baptism, God gives us his Holy Spirit, and a place in his kingdom, mission, and family. The Holy Spirit is proof that we have been adopted into God’s family. This means that we can know our God as Creator, Yahweh, Savior, Jesus, and Father. Because God has placed his name on us, we can live in confidence of knowing that we are his, and we belong to him.



# CATECHISM APPLICATION

יהוה

Names are important. Do you know what your name means? Draw or paste a picture that shows what your name means or why you were given your name.



God gives you a special name. He calls you his dearly loved child. Draw a picture or write a word to describe what this means to you.

# WORSHIP REFLECTION

How did the service show God's great love, grace, and mercy in Jesus?



What is something the sermon tells me about who Jesus is or what he does?

What does this sermon tell me I should know or do as God's child?

# MISSIONAL LIVING REFLECTION

What did I say about Jesus this week? To whom did I say this?



Whom did I bless this week? How were they blessed?

What good can I do in this next week?

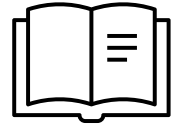
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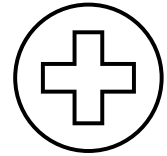


What do these verses tell me about Jesus?

How do these verses encourage me to share God's love with others?

# GOD ACTION REFLECTION

What is something good that happened this week?



What is something not so good that happened this week?

Where did you see God's presence or action this week? How did that show you God?

What are you thankful for today?

# WEEKLY PRAYERS

I am thankful for:



Lord, please have mercy on my family, friends, neighbors, enemies:

Please help me with:

Lord you are...



# THE TEN COMMANDMENTS - THE THIRD COMMANDMENT

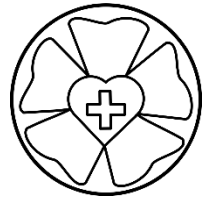
**Remember the Sabbath day to set it apart as holy.**

*What does this mean?*

We must fear and love God, so that we will not look down on preaching or God's Word, but consider it holy, listen to it willingly, and learn it.

## CATECHISM REFLECTION

What is something that this reading teaches us?



What is something related to this reading, for which we can give thanks?

What is something that this reading tells us about living as God's people in this world?

# CATECHISM NOTES

☞ God set apart the seventh day (Saturday) to be a day of rest. This was done so that God's people would not work themselves to death; remember that God rested on the seventh day; and have time to worship and be with God.

☞ The sabbath day points us to Jesus, who is the Lord of the Sabbath (Matthew 12:8) and the one who gives us rest. This means that Jesus is the fulfillment of the Sabbath. He kept it perfectly.

☞ Because Jesus fulfilled the Sabbath, we are no longer bound to Saturday as our day of rest. This does not mean that we do not have to be with God in worship or spend time in his word. It just means that those things do not have to be limited to Saturday.

☞ The third commandment tells us to set aside time to be with God in worship. When we are with God in worship, we receive the gifts that he gives to us through Word and Sacrament, we are reminded of his love for us, and that our sins are forgiven. Also, we are strengthened and sent into our neighborhoods to join God in God's mission in the world.

☞ We worship on Sunday because Sunday is the day that Jesus rose from the dead. This makes each Sunday a little Easter celebration. Easter Sunday is also known as the eighth day of the creation, because Jesus makes all things new through his death and resurrection.

☞ God's word is a great gift that he gives to his people. He works through it to give and strengthen faith. The preaching of God's word helps us to understand it correctly and helps us to know what God's word says to us. This is why it is so important.

☞ We should not be content to just hear the word of God on Sundays. But we should spend time in it daily and let God's word dwell deeply in us. God's word tells us who God is, how he sees us, what he has done for us, and how we are to live our lives.

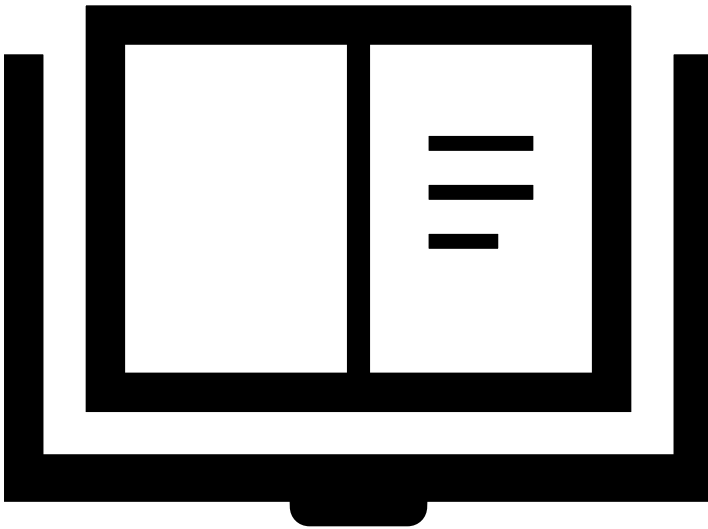
☞ In addition to working in our lives through his word, God sends us out into our neighborhoods, community, and world, to show, proclaim, and make known the good news of God's love, mercy, and grace for the world in Jesus. God's word is one of the means that we use to do this.

☞ God's word is not meant to sit on a shelf and collect dust. But it is meant to be proclaimed and shared. We share it as we tell others what it says (in a loving, grace-filled, and humble way), and as we put it into actions in our lives.

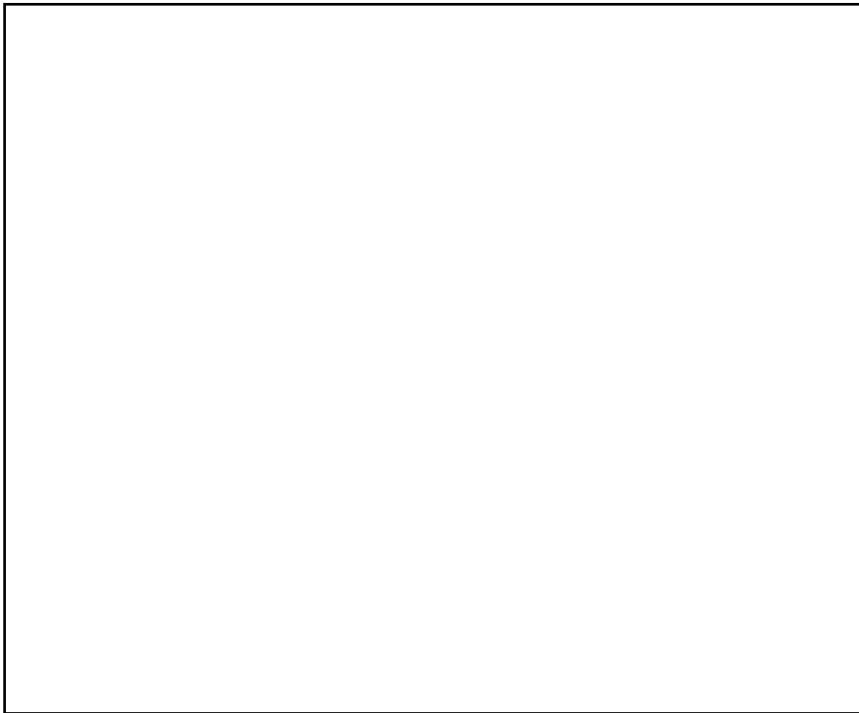
☞ God's word is not just a bunch of ink on a bunch of pages. But it is a mean through which God pours out his grace in our lives. It is living and active and an important resource in our lives. God's word shows us Jesus and helps us to know him better.



# CATECHISM APPLICATION



The preaching of God's Word helps us to know and understand it better. Draw or paste a picture that shows God's Word being proclaimed or heard.



God speaks to you through the Scripture. Draw a picture or write a word to describe what this means to you.

# WORSHIP REFLECTION

How did the service show God's great love, grace, and mercy in Jesus?



What is something the sermon tells me about who Jesus is or what he does?

What does this sermon tell me I should know or do as God's child?

# MISSIONAL LIVING REFLECTION

What did I say about Jesus this week? To whom did I say this?



Whom did I bless this week? How were they blessed?

What good can I do in this next week?

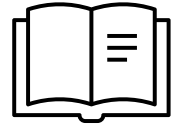
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# SCRIPTURE REFLECTIONS

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What do these verses tell me about Jesus?

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What is something not so good that happened this week?

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Please help me with:

Lord you are...



# THE TEN COMMANDMENTS - THE FOURTH COMMANDMENT

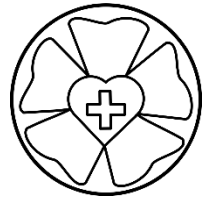
**Honor your father and your mother, that you may live a long time in the land the LORD your God is giving to you.**

*What does this mean?*

We must fear and love God, so that we will neither look down on our parents or superiors nor irritate them, but will honor them, serve them, obey them, love them, and value them.

## CATECHISM REFLECTION





What is something that this reading teaches us?



What is something related to this reading, for which we can give thanks?

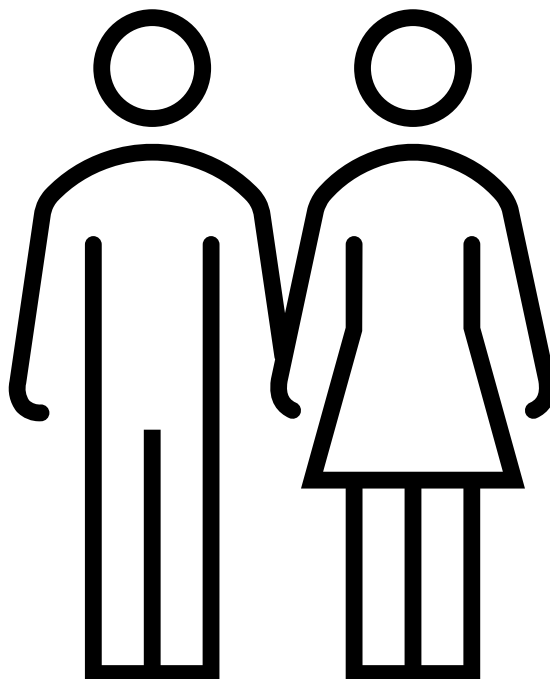
What is something that this reading tells us about living as God's people in this world?

# CATECHISM NOTES

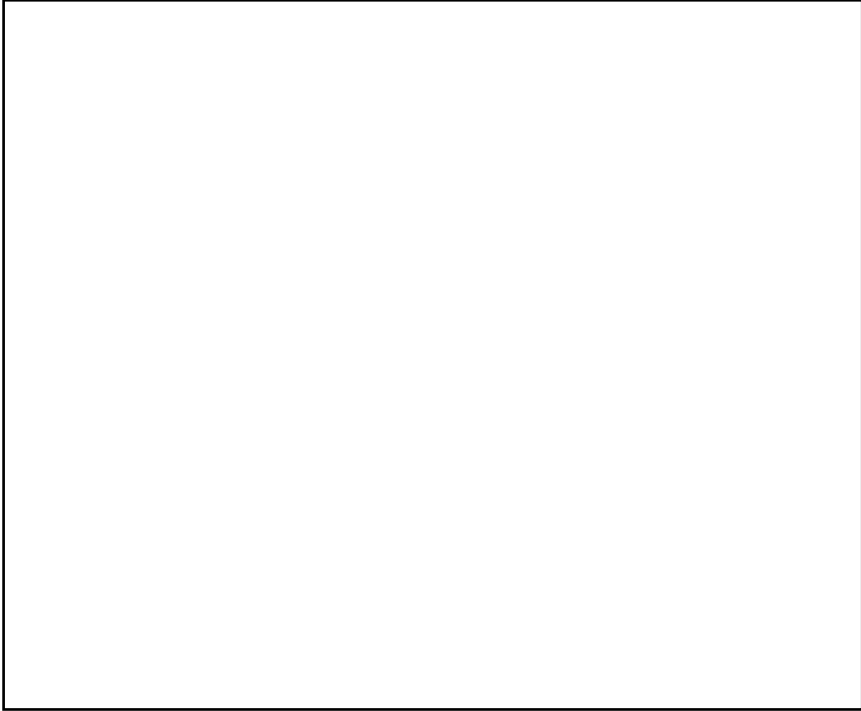
-  The fourth commandment tells us to not hate or anger our parents and others in authority. We accomplish this by listening to them and not despising them.
-  The fourth commandment is not limited to our parents. It requires that we honor and respect all those people God has placed in authority over us. This includes our elected leaders, police officers, pastors, and teachers.
-  The fourth Commandment instructs us to honor and respect our parents and others in authority over us. This is because they are God's representatives. The way that we treat them reflects how we see God.
-  The fourth commandment shows us that God is pleased when we serve our parents and others in authority. We serve them by providing the things that they need from us, and the things that they require of us.



# CATECHISM APPLICATION



God puts us in the care of people who will help us and keep us safe. Draw or paste a picture of a special parent, relative, teacher, etc. in your life.



God gives you people to care for you and protect you. Draw a picture or write a word to describe what this means to you.

# WORSHIP REFLECTION

How did the service show God's great love, grace, and mercy in Jesus?



What is something the sermon tells me about who Jesus is or what he does?

What does this sermon tell me I should know or do as God's child?

# MISSIONAL LIVING REFLECTION

What did I say about Jesus this week? To whom did I say this?



Whom did I bless this week? How were they blessed?

What good can I do in this next week?

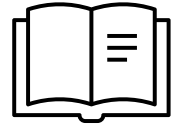
For what will I pray for my neighbors this week?

What is God sending me to do this week?

# SCRIPTURE READING

# SCRIPTURE REFLECTIONS

What is God saying to me in these verses?

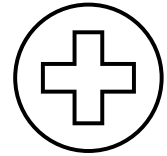


What do these verses tell me about Jesus?

How do these verses encourage me to share God's love with others?

# GOD ACTION REFLECTION

What is something good that happened this week?



What is something not so good that happened this week?

Where did you see God's presence or action this week? How did that show you God?

What are you thankful for today?

# WEEKLY PRAYERS

I am thankful for:



Lord, please have mercy on my family, friends, neighbors, enemies:

Please help me with:

Lord you are...



# THE TEN COMMANDMENTS - THE FIFTH COMMANDMENT

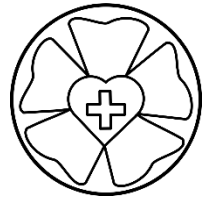
**You shall not murder.**

*What does this mean?*

We must fear and love God, so that we will neither harm nor hurt our neighbor's body but help him and care for him when he is ill.

## CATECHISM REFLECTION

What is something that this reading teaches us?



What is something related to this reading, for which we can give thanks?

What is something that this reading tells us about living as God's people in this world?

# CATECHISM NOTES

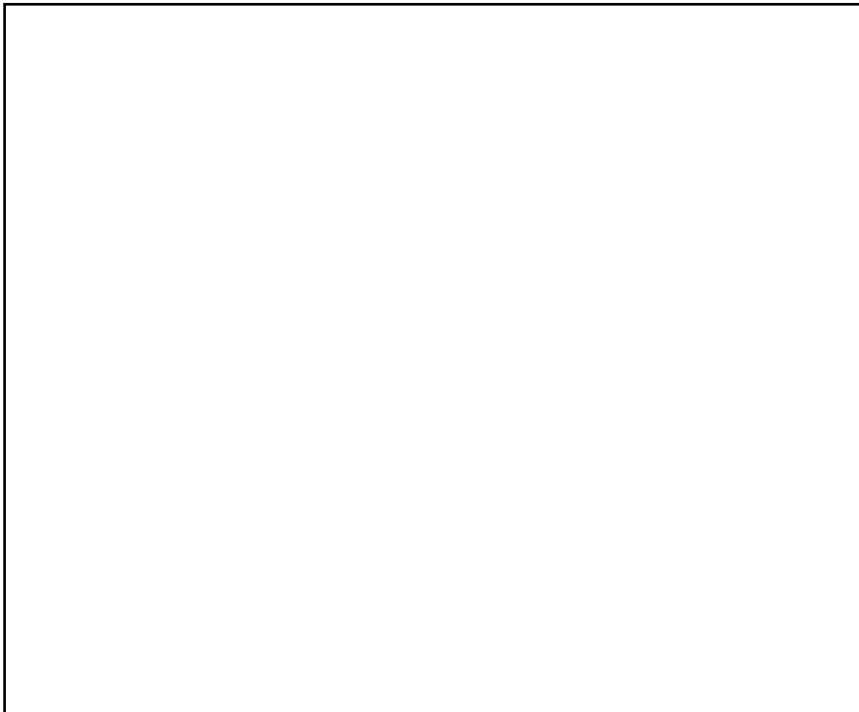
- ☞ The fifth commandment goes deep into the heart of how we see and treat other people. This commandment is more than not killing people. It teaches us that how we treat other people matters and is important. This commandment does not just tell us to not hurt our neighbors. But it tells us to help them also.
- ☞ In the Fifth Commandment, God tells us to not take the life of another, or even our own. It also tells us not to say or do anything that would hurt or harm them. Words are powerful and should be used to build up and not to tear down.
- ☞ The Fifth Commandment gives to the authorities the ability to punish criminals for crimes. However, a pro-life position should be against the use of this ability to take another's life.
- ☞ The Fifth Commandment instructs us to help and support our neighbors in every physical need. This is true for both our friends and our enemies.



# CATECHISM APPLICATION



The fifth commandment tells us to help and support our neighbors in their lives. Draw or paste a picture of neighbors helping and supporting each other.



God chooses us to be the ones who show his love and care to others. Draw a picture or write a word to describe what this means to you.

# WORSHIP REFLECTION

How did the service show God's great love, grace, and mercy in Jesus?



What is something the sermon tells me about who Jesus is or what he does?

What does this sermon tell me I should know or do as God's child?

# MISSIONAL LIVING REFLECTION

What did I say about Jesus this week? To whom did I say this?



Whom did I bless this week? How were they blessed?

What good can I do in this next week?

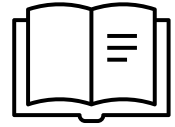
For what will I pray for my neighbors this week?

What is God sending me to do this week?

# SCRIPTURE READING

# SCRIPTURE REFLECTIONS

What is God saying to me in these verses?

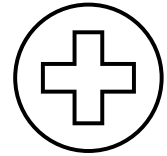


What do these verses tell me about Jesus?

How do these verses encourage me to share God's love with others?

# GOD ACTION REFLECTION

What is something good that happened this week?



What is something not so good that happened this week?

Where did you see God's presence or action this week? How did that show you God?

What are you thankful for today?

# WEEKLY PRAYERS

I am thankful for:



Lord, please have mercy on my family, friends, neighbors, enemies:

Please help me with:

Lord you are...



# THE TEN COMMANDMENTS - THE SIXTH COMMANDMENT

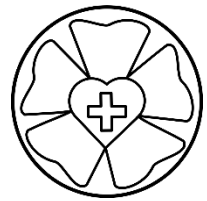
**You shall not commit adultery.**

What does this mean?

We must fear and love God, so that our words and actions will be clean and decent and so that everyone will love and honor their spouses.

## CATECHISM REFLECTION

What is something that this reading teaches us?



What is something related to this reading, for which we can give thanks?

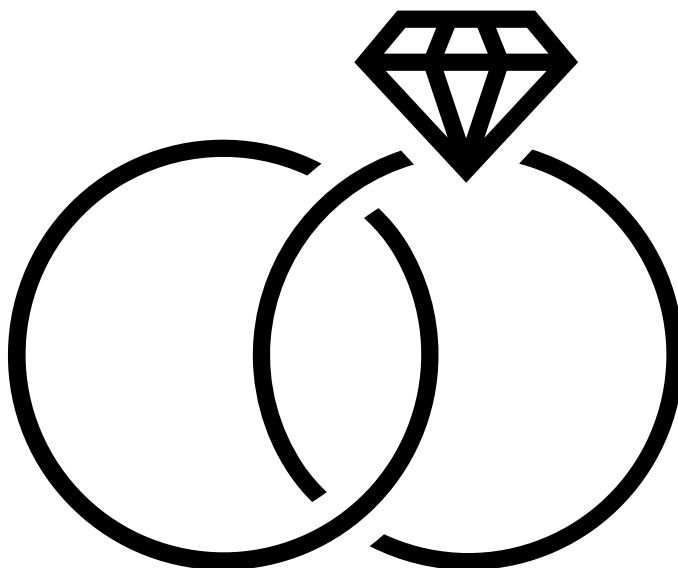
What is something that this reading tells us about living as God's people in this world?

# CATECHISM NOTES

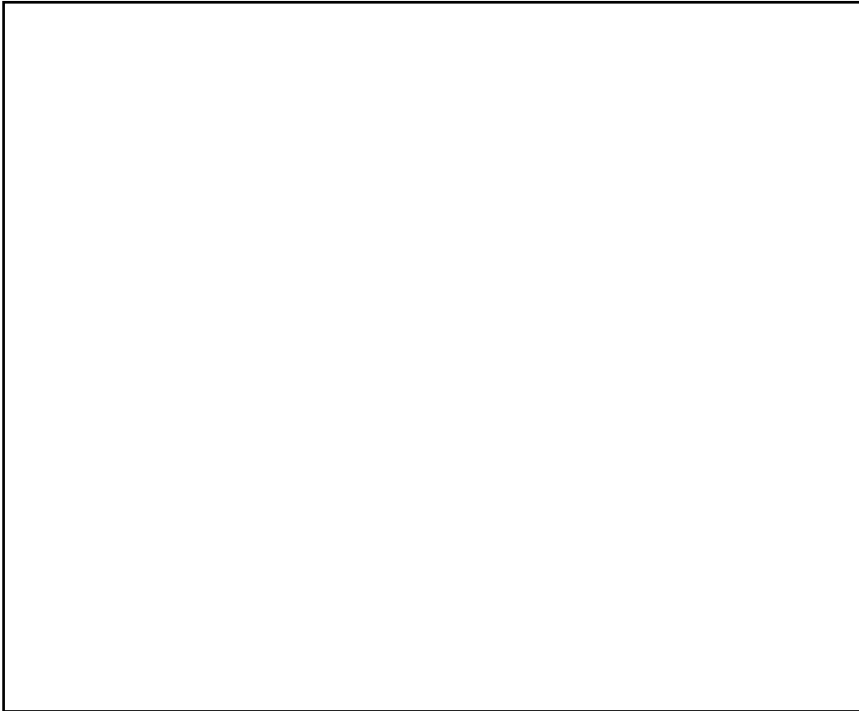
- ☞ The Sixth Commandment is about God's gift of marriage and keeping that relationship special. It is about protecting that relationship. While sex is a part of that relationship, there is much more to this relationship than sex. In marriage, God brings together a man and a woman to live together in a way that shows God's love to the world and reflects the relationship that God has with God's people.
- ☞ Lust, divorce, sex with someone outside of marriage, breaks apart what God has put together in marriage. To protect and preserve marriage, those things are to be avoided.
- ☞ The Sixth Commandment is not just limited to our actions about sex. But it gets to the heart of how we think and talk about it too. When we honor sex, we honor our spouse. We also honor the God who gave this gift to us.



# CATECHISM APPLICATION



Marriage is a wonderful and special relationship. Draw or paste a picture from a wedding or anniversary celebration.



The love and care we see in marriage reflect God's love and care for you. Draw a picture or write a word to describe what this means to you.

# WORSHIP REFLECTION

How did the service show God's great love, grace, and mercy in Jesus?



What is something the sermon tells me about who Jesus is or what he does?

What does this sermon tell me I should know or do as God's child?

# MISSIONAL LIVING REFLECTION

What did I say about Jesus this week? To whom did I say this?



Whom did I bless this week? How were they blessed?

What good can I do in this next week?

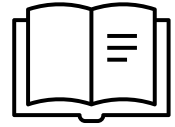
For what will I pray for my neighbors this week?

What is God sending me to do this week?

# SCRIPTURE READING

# SCRIPTURE REFLECTIONS

What is God saying to me in these verses?

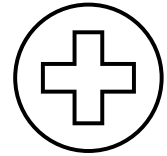


What do these verses tell me about Jesus?

How do these verses encourage me to share God's love with others?

# GOD ACTION REFLECTION

What is something good that happened this week?



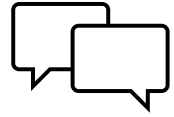
What is something not so good that happened this week?

Where did you see God's presence or action this week? How did that show you God?

What are you thankful for today?

# WEEKLY PRAYERS

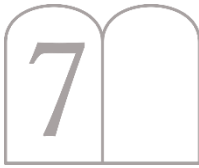
I am thankful for:



Lord, please have mercy on my family, friends, neighbors, enemies:

Please help me with:

Lord you are...



# THE TEN COMMANDMENTS - THE SEVENTH COMMANDMENT

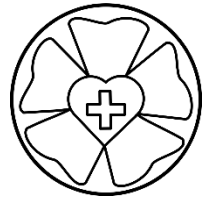
**You shall not steal.**

*What does this mean?*

We must fear and love God, so that we will neither take our neighbor's money or property, nor acquire it by fraud or by selling him poorly made products, but will help him improve and protect his property and career.

## CATECHISM REFLECTION





What is something that this reading teaches us?



What is something related to this reading, for which we can give thanks?

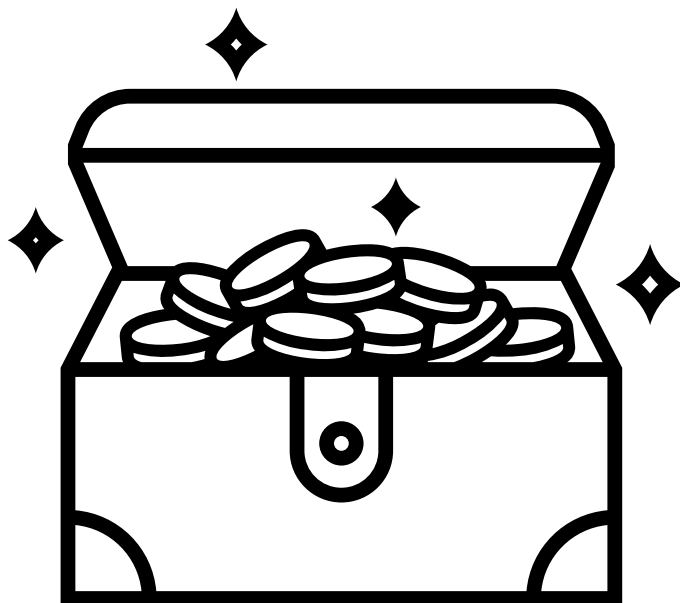
What is something that this reading tells us about living as God's people in this world?

# CATECHISM NOTES

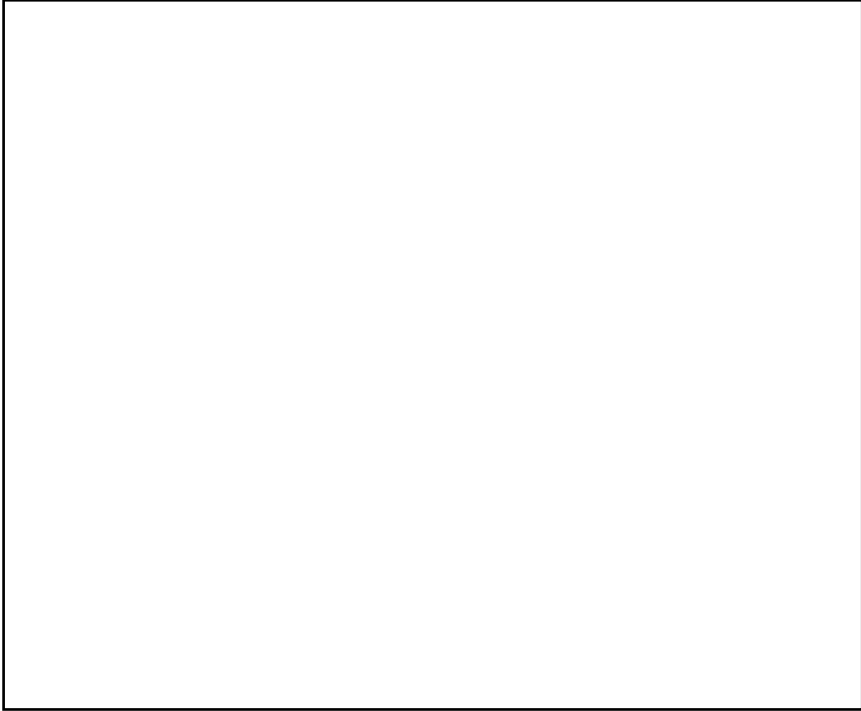
-  The seventh commandment tells us that we are not to take anything that belongs to our neighbors away from them. This includes both their money and their possessions.
  
-  In the seventh commandment, we are forbidden from taking what rightfully belongs to our neighbors. There are two main reasons for this. First, is because our neighbor's belongings are given to them by God. We do not have a right to tell God how to give his gifts or tell him what he is supposed to give to them. Second, is because God gives us everything that we need. When we try to take things that are not ours to take, that is like telling God that he cannot or will not provide for us.
  
-  The seventh commandment tells us that we are to help our neighbors to improve and protect their money and everything that belongs to them. As we help our neighbors in this way, God is working through us to show them his love and care.
  
-  Not only are we able to help our neighbors protect everything that belongs to them, but we can use what has been given to us to help our neighbors in their need. As we do this, we are bearing a powerful witness to what it means to be a follower of Jesus.



# CATECHISM APPLICATION



This commandment tells us to help our neighbor protect their possession. Draw or paste a picture that shows one way this can happen.



When we take care of each other, we are all better off. This is one of the ways that God cares for us. Draw a picture or write a word to describe what this means to you.

# WORSHIP REFLECTION

How did the service show God's great love, grace, and mercy in Jesus?



What is something the sermon tells me about who Jesus is or what he does?

What does this sermon tell me I should know or do as God's child?

# MISSIONAL LIVING REFLECTION

What did I say about Jesus this week? To whom did I say this?



Whom did I bless this week? How were they blessed?

What good can I do in this next week?

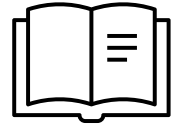
For what will I pray for my neighbors this week?

What is God sending me to do this week?

# SCRIPTURE READING

# SCRIPTURE REFLECTIONS

What is God saying to me in these verses?



What do these verses tell me about Jesus?

How do these verses encourage me to share God's love with others?

# GOD ACTION REFLECTION

What is something good that happened this week?



What is something not so good that happened this week?

Where did you see God's presence or action this week? How did that show you God?

What are you thankful for today?

# WEEKLY PRAYERS

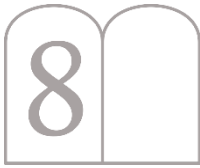
I am thankful for:



Lord, please have mercy on my family, friends, neighbors, enemies:

Please help me with:

Lord you are...



# THE TEN COMMANDMENTS - THE EIGHTH COMMANDMENT

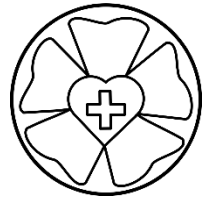
**You shall not give false testimony against your neighbor.**

*What does this mean?*

We must fear and love God, so that we will not deceive by lying, betraying, slandering, or ruining our neighbor's reputation, but will defend him, say good things about him, and see the best side of everything he does.

## CATECHISM REFLECTION

What is something that this reading teaches us?



What is something related to this reading, for which we can give thanks?

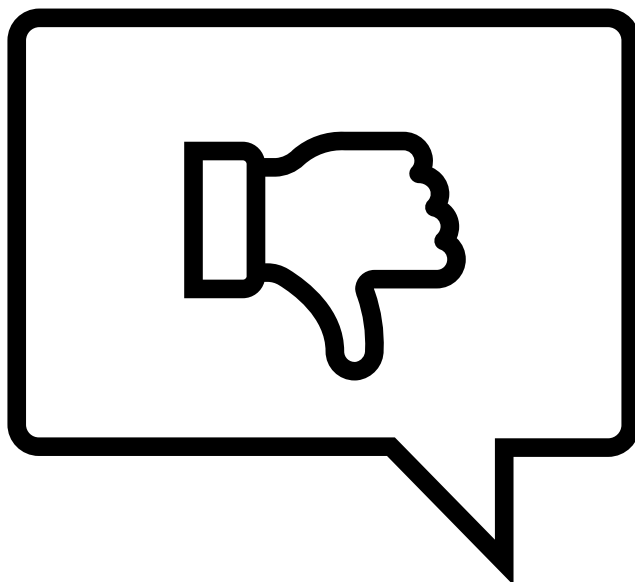
What is something that this reading tells us about living as God's people in this world?

# CATECHISM NOTES

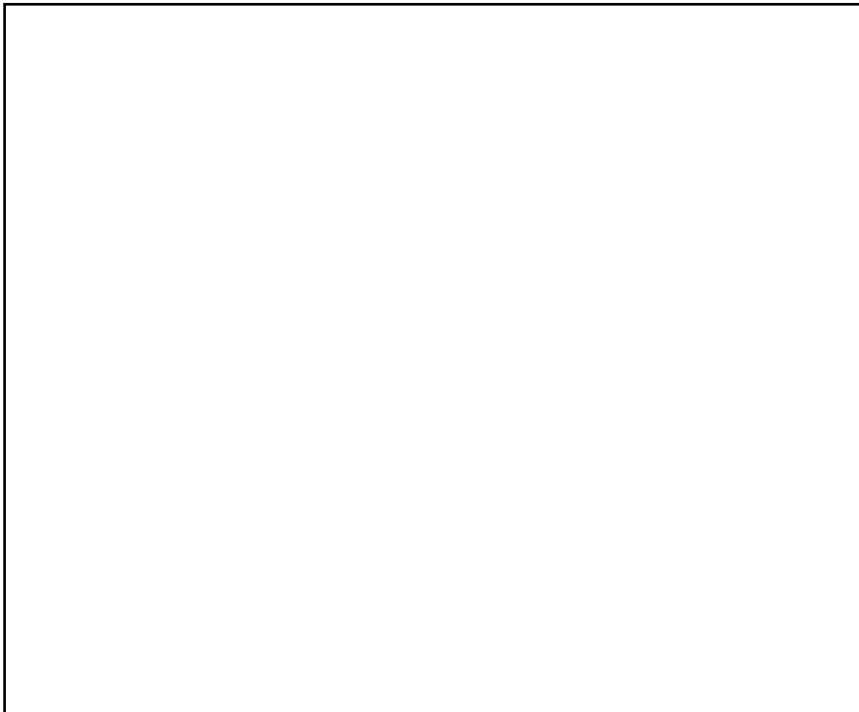
- ☒ The eighth commandment not only tells us to not lie about our neighbors. It also tells us to not lie to our neighbors. This is especially true if that neighbor is a sister or brother in Christ.
- ☒ The eighth commandment tells to not slander our neighbors. This means that we should also reject gossiping about them and speaking evil about them. Few things are as hurtful and destructive as gossip. If it is not true, then do not say anything. If it is true, and it is private, then do not broadcast it for the whole world to know.
- ☒ The eighth commandment does not just tell us what kinds of things to not say and speak. It also gives us instructions on the ways that we are supposed to speak about our neighbors. One of the ways that we can keep this commandment is by speaking on behalf of those who cannot speak for themselves, or who have no voice.
- ☒ The eighth commandment tells us that we are to put the best construction on everything our neighbors do. That means that we do not automatically assume the worst about what they are doing or saying. Instead, we try to understand where they are coming from and go and talk to them directly.
- ☒ The eighth commandment does not prevent us from speaking the truth when someone is doing wrong. But we must always speak the truth in love. That is the difference and the challenge. As God's people, we are to speak the truth in love without sacrificing truth or love.
- ☒ When our brother or sister in Christ has sinned against us, we do not gossip or slander them. We do not seek revenge on them. Instead, we are to seek reconciliation with them. So, we go to them to do just that. We do this because this is what God has done for us.



# CATECHISM APPLICATION



This commandment tells us to speak truthfully about someone. Draw or paste a picture that shows what can happen when we do not do this.



God speaks truthfully to you. There is never a need to doubt what God says. Draw a picture or write a word to describe what this means to you.

# WORSHIP REFLECTION

How did the service show God's great love, grace, and mercy in Jesus?



What is something the sermon tells me about who Jesus is or what he does?

What does this sermon tell me I should know or do as God's child?

# MISSIONAL LIVING REFLECTION

What did I say about Jesus this week? To whom did I say this?



Whom did I bless this week? How were they blessed?

What good can I do in this next week?

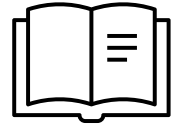
For what will I pray for my neighbors this week?

What is God sending me to do this week?

# SCRIPTURE READING

# SCRIPTURE REFLECTIONS

What is God saying to me in these verses?



What do these verses tell me about Jesus?

How do these verses encourage me to share God's love with others?

# GOD ACTION REFLECTION

What is something good that happened this week?



What is something not so good that happened this week?

Where did you see God's presence or action this week? How did that show you God?

What are you thankful for today?

# WEEKLY PRAYERS

I am thankful for:



Lord, please have mercy on my family, friends, neighbors, enemies:

Please help me with:

Lord you are...

# THE TEN COMMANDMENTS - THE NINTH AND TENTH COMMANDMENTS

9

10

**You shall not covet your neighbor's house.**

*What does this mean?*

We must fear and love God, so that we will not attempt to trick our neighbor out of his inheritance or house, take it by pretending to have a right to it, etc. but help him to keep & improve it.

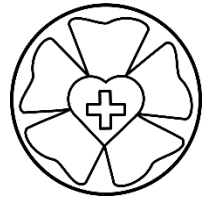
**You shall not covet your neighbor's wife, nor his male servant, nor his female servant, nor his ox, nor his donkey, nor anything that belongs to your neighbor.**

*What does this mean?*

We must fear and love God, so that we will not release his cattle, take his employees from him or seduce his wife, but urge them to stay and do what they ought to do.

## CATECHISM REFLECTION

What is something that this reading teaches us?



What is something related to this reading, for which we can give thanks?

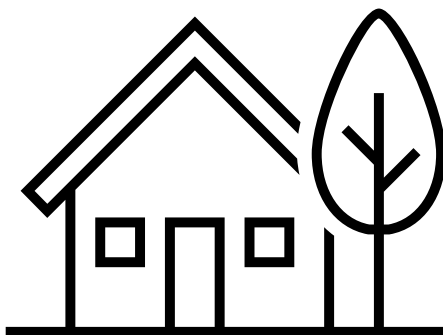
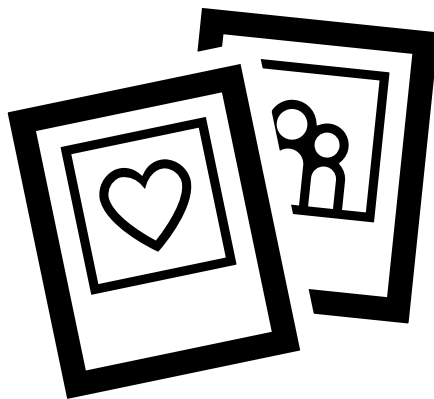
What is something that this reading tells us about living as God's people in this world?

# CATECHISM NOTES

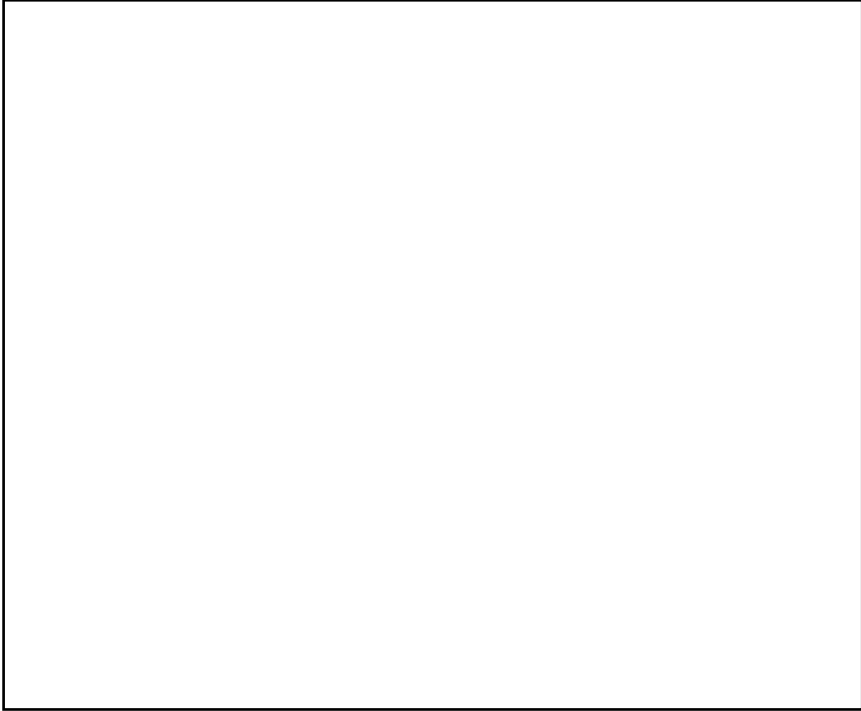
- ☒ ☒ Coveting is what we call that sinful desire in us to take what belongs to our neighbor away from them. Even if we can make it sound like it is a good thing for our neighbor, that does not make it right. The ninth commandment tells us not to covet our neighbor's house or possessions.
  
- ☒ ☒ The ninth commandment is not only kept when we do not covet our neighbor's house or possessions. It also requires us to help our neighbor protect and keep what belongs to them. Our neighbor's house and possessions are gifts to them from God. When we help them keep and protect their stuff, we are honoring God.
  
- ☒ ☒ The tenth commandment does not imply that a person's family is their possession. One person does not own another. However, this commandment tells us that we are not to try to turn our neighbor's family, household, or employees against them. Neither are we to take them for ourselves.
  
- ☒ ☒ The tenth commandment tells us to help our neighbor's household and family to stay together, and to help their employees stay with them too. In doing this, we are honoring God.
  
- ☒ ☒ At the heart of coveting is our trust in and gratitude toward God. When we covet, we are saying that what God has given to us is not good enough. It is also a way of saying that we do not believe that he will provide for us or give us what we need. But God is faithful and will never fail to give us what we need. In him, we can always be content with the things with which he has blessed us.



# CATECHISM APPLICATION



This commandment tells us to be satisfied with what we have in our lives. Draw or paste a picture that shows what can happen when we do not do this.



God gives us everything we need for our lives. Therefore, we can be content with what we have. Draw a picture or write a word to describe what this means to you.

# WORSHIP REFLECTION

How did the service show God's great love, grace, and mercy in Jesus?



What is something the sermon tells me about who Jesus is or what he does?

What does this sermon tell me I should know or do as God's child?

# MISSIONAL LIVING REFLECTION

What did I say about Jesus this week? To whom did I say this?



Whom did I bless this week? How were they blessed?

What good can I do in this next week?

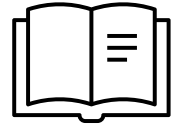
For what will I pray for my neighbors this week?

What is God sending me to do this week?

# SCRIPTURE READING

# SCRIPTURE REFLECTIONS

What is God saying to me in these verses?



What do these verses tell me about Jesus?

How do these verses encourage me to share God's love with others?

# GOD ACTION REFLECTION

What is something good that happened this week?



What is something not so good that happened this week?

Where did you see God's presence or action this week? How did that show you God?

What are you thankful for today?

# WEEKLY PRAYERS

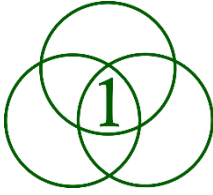
I am thankful for:



Lord, please have mercy on my family, friends, neighbors, enemies:

Please help me with:

Lord you are...



# THE APOSTLES' CREED - THE FIRST ARTICLE PT. 1

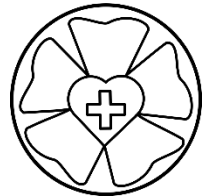
I believe in God the Almighty Father, Creator of Heaven and Earth.

*What does this mean?*

I believe that God created me, along with all creatures. He gave to me: body and soul, eyes, ears and all the other parts of my body, my mind and all my senses and preserves them as well. He gives me clothing and shoes, food and drink, house and land, wife and children, fields, animals and all I own. Every day He abundantly provides everything I need to nourish this body and life. He protects me against all danger, shields and defends me from all evil. He does all this because of His pure, fatherly and divine goodness and His mercy, not because I've earned it or deserved it. For all of this, I must thank Him, praise Him, serve Him and obey Him. Yes, this is true!

## CATECHISM REFLECTION

What is something that this reading teaches us?



What is something related to this reading, for which we can give thanks?

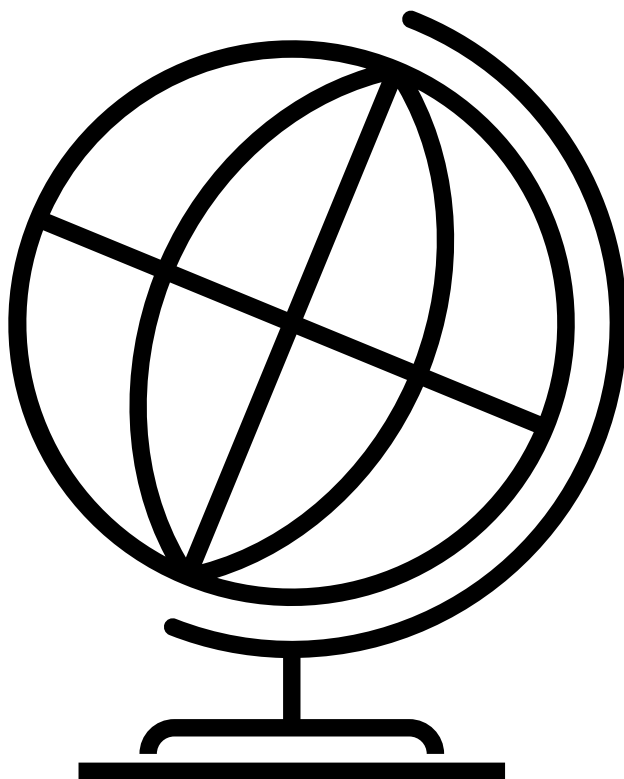
What is something that this reading tells us about living as God's people in this world?

# CATECHISM NOTES

- ④ There are three main means through which we can know that there is a God. First, is creation.
- ④ The second means through which we can know there is a God is the conscience. But creation and conscience only tell us that there is a God. They tell us nothing about him.
- ④ The third means through which we know that there is a God is through revelation (scripture). Apart from Scripture we only know that God exists. We know nothing about Him; who He is; and what He is like. Scripture shows us all these things.
- ④ Scripture tells us that God is Spirit.
- ④ Scripture tells us that God is eternal.
- ④ Scripture tells us that God is immutable. That is, He does not change.
- ④ Scripture tells us that God is omnipotent. That is, He is all-powerful.
- ④ Scripture tells us that God is omniscient. That is, He is all-knowing.
- ④ Scripture tells us that God is omnipresent. That is, He is everywhere.
- ④ Scripture tells us that God is holy.
- ④ Scripture tells us that God is just.
- ④ Scripture tells us that God is faithful.



# CATECHISM APPLICATION



God is the creator of the entire creation. Draw or paste a picture that shows your favorite part of the creation.



You are God's dearly loved creation. Draw a picture or write a word to describe what this means to you.

# WORSHIP REFLECTION

How did the service show God's great love, grace, and mercy in Jesus?



What is something the sermon tells me about who Jesus is or what he does?

What does this sermon tell me I should know or do as God's child?

# MISSIONAL LIVING REFLECTION

What did I say about Jesus this week? To whom did I say this?



Whom did I bless this week? How were they blessed?

What good can I do in this next week?

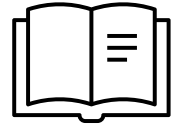
For what will I pray for my neighbors this week?

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# SCRIPTURE READING

# SCRIPTURE REFLECTIONS

What is God saying to me in these verses?

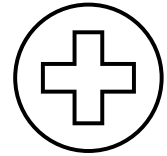


What do these verses tell me about Jesus?

How do these verses encourage me to share God's love with others?

# GOD ACTION REFLECTION

What is something good that happened this week?



What is something not so good that happened this week?

Where did you see God's presence or action this week? How did that show you God?

What are you thankful for today?

# WEEKLY PRAYERS

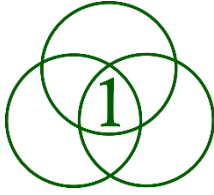
I am thankful for:



Lord, please have mercy on my family, friends, neighbors, enemies:

Please help me with:

Lord you are...



# THE APOSTLES' CREED - THE FIRST ARTICLE PT. 2

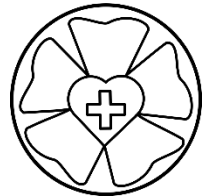
I believe in God the Almighty Father, Creator of Heaven and Earth.

*What does this mean?*

I believe that God created me, along with all creatures. He gave to me: body and soul, eyes, ears and all the other parts of my body, my mind and all my senses and preserves them as well. He gives me clothing and shoes, food and drink, house and land, wife and children, fields, animals and all I own. Every day He abundantly provides everything I need to nourish this body and life. He protects me against all danger, shields and defends me from all evil. He does all this because of His pure, fatherly and divine goodness and His mercy, not because I've earned it or deserved it. For all of this, I must thank Him, praise Him, serve Him and obey Him. Yes, this is true!

## CATECHISM REFLECTION

What is something that this reading teaches us?



What is something related to this reading, for which we can give thanks?

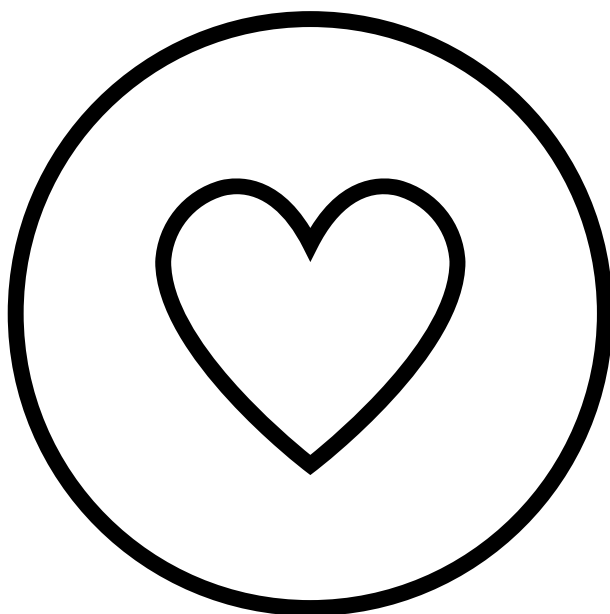
What is something that this reading tells us about living as God's people in this world?

# CATECHISM NOTES

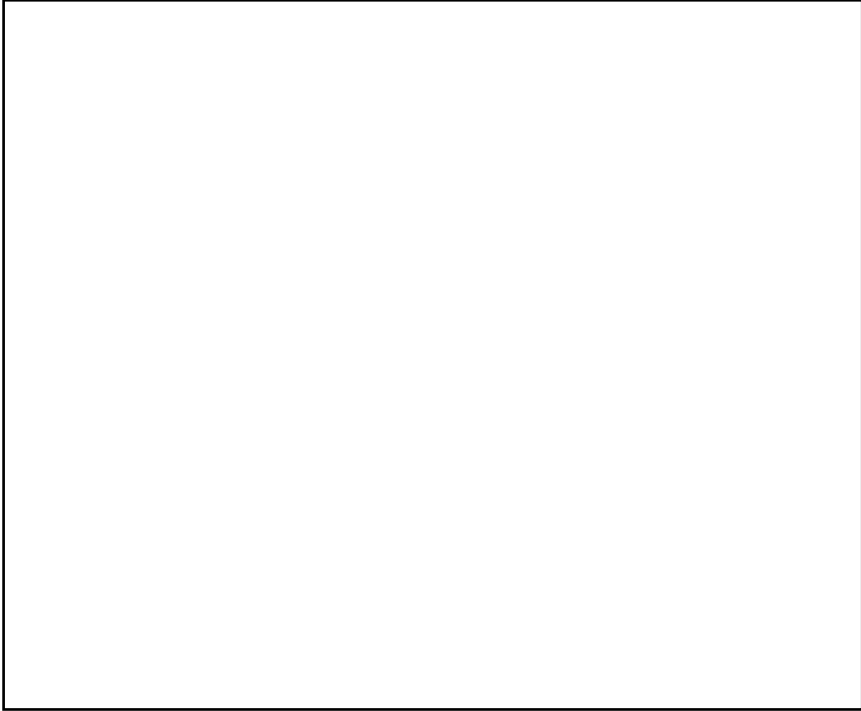
- ④ Scripture tells us that God is good.
- ④ Scripture tells us that God is merciful.
- ④ Scripture tells us that God is gracious.
- ④ Scripture tells us that God is love.
- ④ God is loving and forgiving beyond human understanding. This is a really, really big deal.
- ④ Scripture tells us that God is three persons, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Yet, He is one God.
- ④ Scripture tells us that God is three persons, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Yet, He is one God.
- ④ The Creed refers to the first person of the trinity as “Father” because He is the father of Jesus, our Savior.
- ④ The Creed refers to the first person of the trinity as “Father” because He has adopted us into His family through Jesus.
- ④ The Creed refers to the first person of the trinity as “Father” because he is the creator of the entire human race (all people).
- ④ The creed refers to the first person of the trinity as “Creator” because he made all things and brought them into existence. There is nothing that exists that is not part of his creation.



# CATECHISM APPLICATION



God is love. We love because God loved us first. Draw or paste a picture that shows what this love looks like.



God loves you very much. You are special to God. Draw a picture or write a word to describe what this means to you.

# WORSHIP REFLECTION

How did the service show God's great love, grace, and mercy in Jesus?



What is something the sermon tells me about who Jesus is or what he does?

What does this sermon tell me I should know or do as God's child?

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What good can I do in this next week?

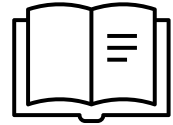
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# SCRIPTURE READING

# SCRIPTURE REFLECTIONS

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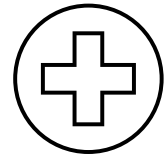


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How do these verses encourage me to share God's love with others?

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What is something good that happened this week?



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# WEEKLY PRAYERS

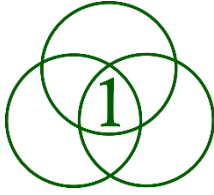
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Lord you are...



# THE APOSTLES' CREED - THE FIRST ARTICLE PT. 3

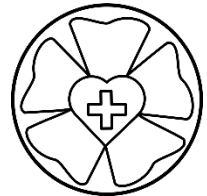
I believe in God the Almighty Father, Creator of Heaven and Earth.

*What does this mean?*

I believe that God created me, along with all creatures. He gave to me: body and soul, eyes, ears and all the other parts of my body, my mind and all my senses and preserves them as well. He gives me clothing and shoes, food and drink, house and land, wife and children, fields, animals and all I own. Every day He abundantly provides everything I need to nourish this body and life. He protects me against all danger, shields and defends me from all evil. He does all this because of His pure, fatherly and divine goodness and His mercy, not because I've earned it or deserved it. For all of this, I must thank Him, praise Him, serve Him and obey Him. Yes, this is true!

## CATECHISM REFLECTION

What is something that this reading teaches us?



What is something related to this reading, for which we can give thanks?

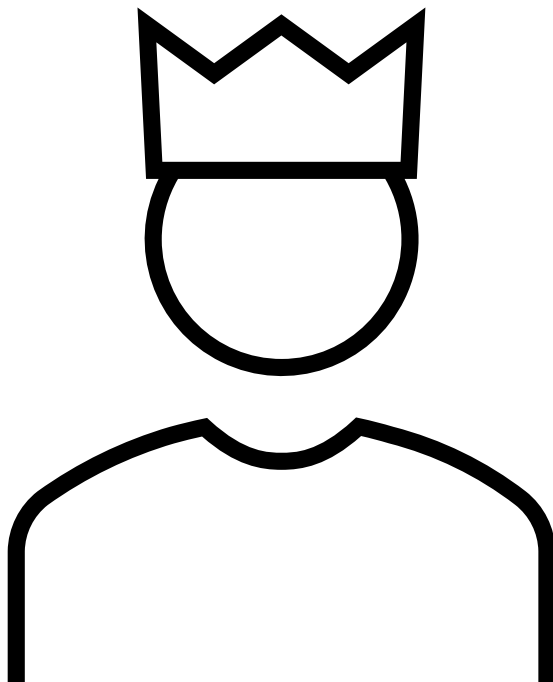
What is something that this reading tells us about living as God's people in this world?

# CATECHISM NOTES

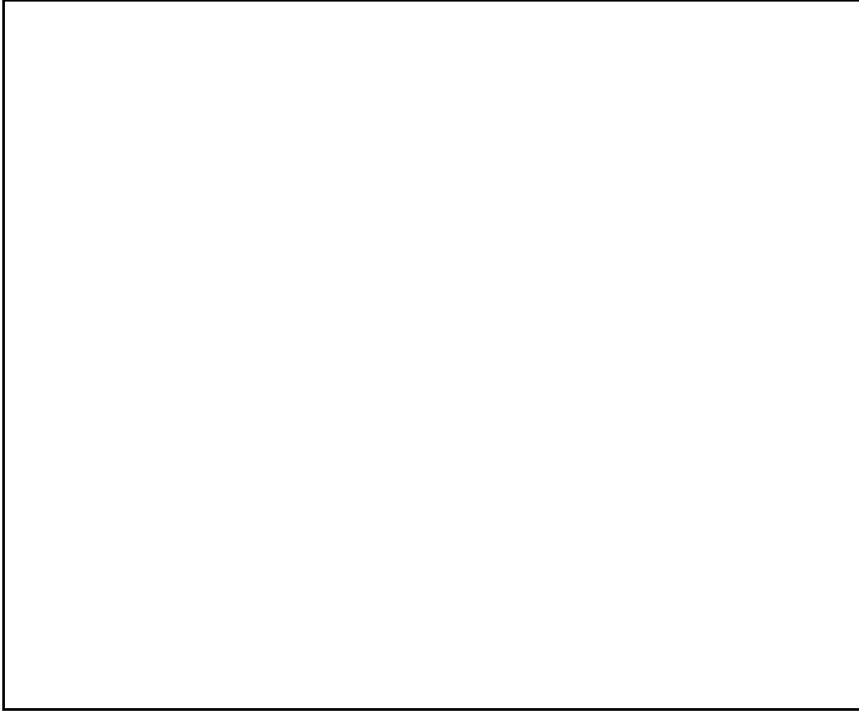
- ④ God created everything simply by speaking it into existence. This means that he is the creator and everything else is part of the creation. This simple fact establishes the very important relationship that exists between God (creator) and his creation (creation).
- ④ The creation is not limited to what we can see alone. It includes even the invisible. This could be things too small to see; things too far away to see; things that have not been discovered yet; and things that exist in the spiritual realm.
- ④ The creation of human beings is an incredibly important and special part of God's creation. People do not just randomly exist. But they are deeply loved and valued by God. He delights in living in relationship with them.
- ④ God did not just create the creation and leave it alone. He does not watch from a distance. Rather, he is actively involved in his creation. He sustains it and keeps it going.
- ④ God did not create sin or evil. Those are separate from his creation and introduced into the creation things that God never intended to be part of the creation. Because of sin, death, suffering, injustice all entered into the creation.
- ④ When bad things happen, it is not because God wants them to happen. But bad things cannot stop God from bringing about what he ultimately wants to do in and among his creation.
- ④ God is more powerful than evil. That means that no evil will be able to stop his plan or prevent his will from being done.
- ④ God gives us everything that we have and everything that we need to support our bodies and lives. This includes food, clothing, house, home, etc.
- ④ In addition to giving us everything we need for our bodies and lives, God also defends and protects us from evil, danger, and harm.
- ④ God does the things that he does for us because he loves us deeply and we are valuable and important to him.
- ④ In response to all that God has done and does do for us, we praise and serve him and live life with him in his kingdom. It is also our privilege to join him in his mission in this world.



# CATECHISM APPLICATION



Not only did God create the creation, but God continues to care for it. Draw or paste a picture that shows how God cares for the creation.



Nothing is more powerful than the God who loves and cares for you. Draw a picture or write a word to describe what this means to you.

# WORSHIP REFLECTION

How did the service show God's great love, grace, and mercy in Jesus?



What is something the sermon tells me about who Jesus is or what he does?

What does this sermon tell me I should know or do as God's child?

# MISSIONAL LIVING REFLECTION

What did I say about Jesus this week? To whom did I say this?



Whom did I bless this week? How were they blessed?

What good can I do in this next week?

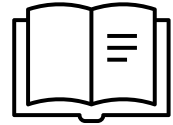
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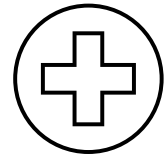


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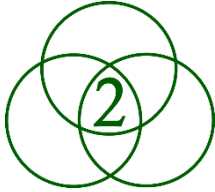
I am thankful for:



Lord, please have mercy on my family, friends, neighbors, enemies:

Please help me with:

Lord you are...



# THE APOSTLES' CREED - THE SECOND ARTICLE PT. 1

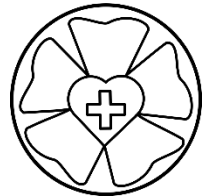
And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried, descended to Hell, on the third day rose again from the dead, ascended to Heaven and sat down at the right hand of God the Almighty Father. From there He will come to judge the living and the dead.

*What does this mean?*

I believe that Jesus Christ is truly God, born of the Father in eternity and also truly man, born of the Virgin Mary. He is my Lord! He redeemed me, a lost and condemned person, bought and won me from all sins, death and the authority of the Devil. It did not cost Him gold or silver, but His holy, precious blood, His innocent body -- His death! Because of this, I am His very own, will live under Him in His kingdom and serve Him righteously, innocently and blessedly forever, just as He is risen from death, lives and reigns forever. Yes, this is true.

## CATECHISM REFLECTION

What is something that this reading teaches us?



What is something related to this reading, for which we can give thanks?

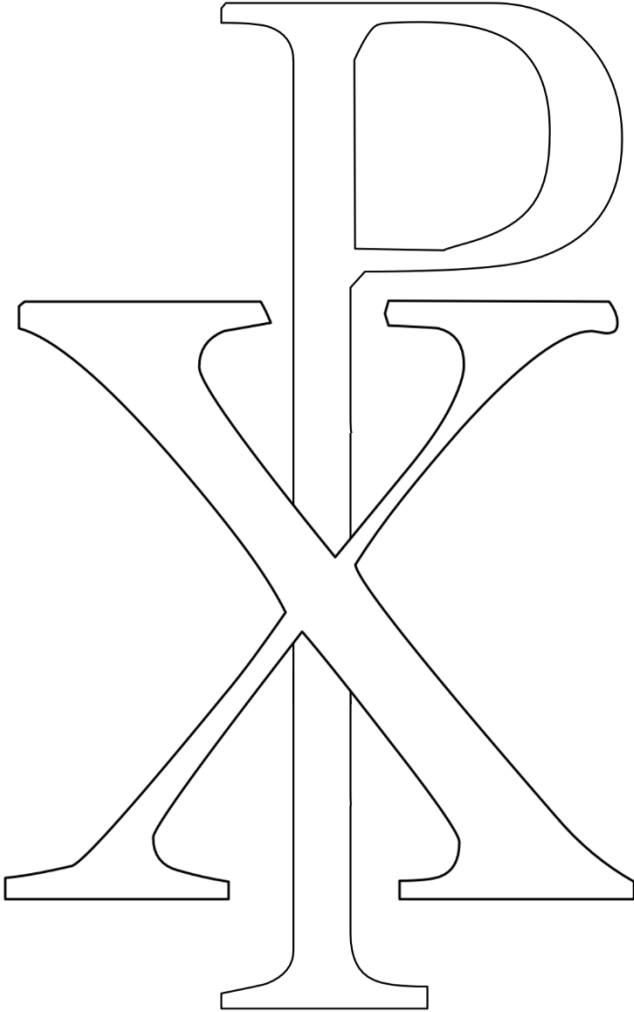
What is something that this reading tells us about living as God's people in this world?

# CATECHISM NOTES

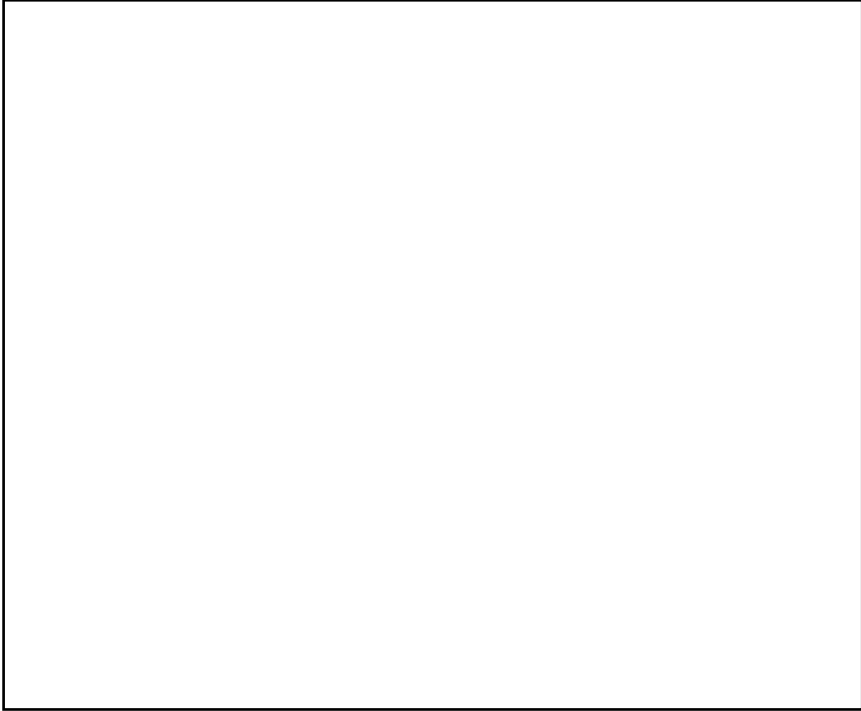
- ④ Jesus has the name that he has because he saves people from their sins.
- ④ “Christ” is not Jesus’ last name. It is his title. It means “anointed one.” This is the same thing as the Messiah. Jesus is the anointed one who comes to be our prophet, priest, and king. He comes to save us from sin, death, and the devil.
- ④ Our Savior Jesus is true God, begotten of the Father from all eternity. The scriptures clearly call him God. That is how we know he is God.
- ④ The scriptures show us that Jesus is God by showing us that he has divine attributes. That is, he has qualities that belong only to God. Some of those attributes include being eternal and being involved in the creation.
- ④ The scriptures show us that Jesus is God by showing us that he does things that only God can do. An important example of this is that Jesus forgives sins.
- ④ The scriptures show us that our Savior Jesus is also true man, born of the virgin Mary. They show us this by telling us that he is a man.
- ④ The scriptures show us that Jesus is a man by showing us that he has the experiences that human beings have. Only Jesus has them without sin.
- ④ Our Savior had to be both God and man for us to have salvation. If he were not God, then his death would not have paid the price for all our sins. If he were not a human being, then he could not have lived for us the perfect life the law requires, neither would he have been able to die for us. For us to be saved, Jesus had to be truly one hundred percent God and truly one hundred percent man. And that is exactly what he is.
- ④ The Scripture talks about Jesus as our prophet, our priest, and our king. As our prophet, Jesus himself preached the good news of the Gospel. He continues to serve in this role today as the Gospel is proclaimed through the church.



# CATECHISM APPLICATION



Jesus came to heal and restore the creation Draw or paste a picture that shows one of the ways Jesus did this.



Jesus came to save you from sin, death, and evil. Draw a picture or write a word to describe what this means to you.

# WORSHIP REFLECTION

How did the service show God's great love, grace, and mercy in Jesus?



What is something the sermon tells me about who Jesus is or what he does?

What does this sermon tell me I should know or do as God's child?

# MISSIONAL LIVING REFLECTION

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Whom did I bless this week? How were they blessed?

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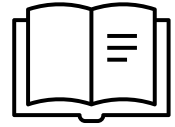
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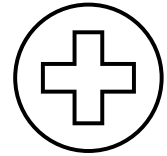


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How do these verses encourage me to share God's love with others?

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# WEEKLY PRAYERS

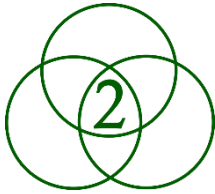
I am thankful for:



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Lord you are...



## THE APOSTLES' CREED - THE SECOND ARTICLE PT. 2

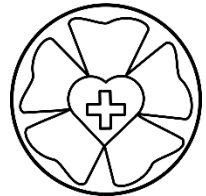
And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried, descended to Hell, on the third day rose again from the dead, ascended to Heaven and sat down at the right hand of God the Almighty Father. From there He will come to judge the living and the dead.

*What does this mean?*

I believe that Jesus Christ is truly God, born of the Father in eternity and also truly man, born of the Virgin Mary. He is my Lord! He redeemed me, a lost and condemned person, bought and won me from all sins, death and the authority of the Devil. It did not cost Him gold or silver, but His holy, precious blood, His innocent body -- His death! Because of this, I am His very own, will live under Him in His kingdom and serve Him righteously, innocently and blessedly forever, just as He is risen from death, lives and reigns forever. Yes, this is true.

### CATECHISM REFLECTION

What is something that this reading teaches us?



What is something related to this reading, for which we can give thanks?

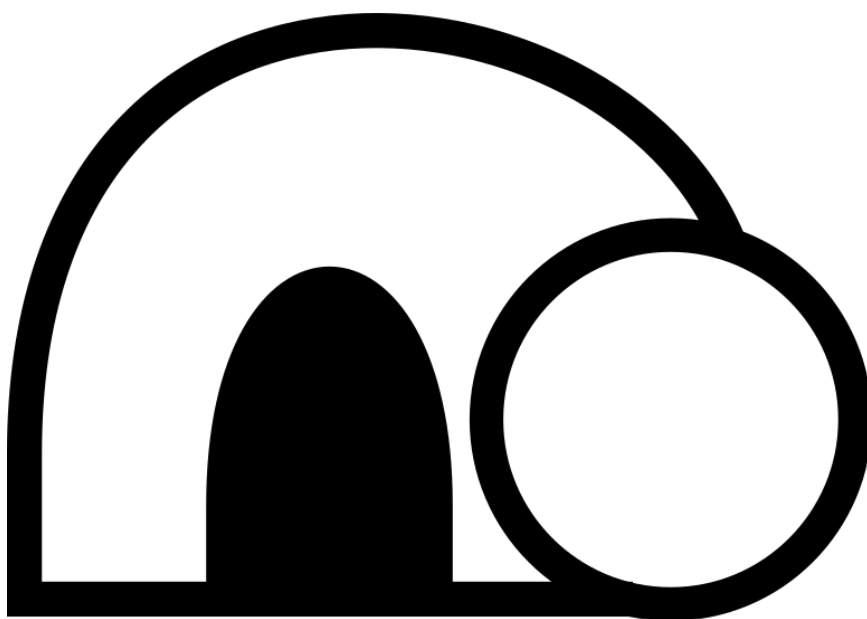
What is something that this reading tells us about living as God's people in this world?

# CATECHISM NOTES

- ④ The Scripture talks about Jesus as our prophet, our priest, and our king. As our priest, he perfectly fulfilled all the requirements of God's law. He willingly and lovingly laid down his life on the cross to pay for our sins. He intercedes on our behalf with the Father.
- ④ While Jesus always had all the powers of God available to him during his entire life, He purposely did not choose to always use those powers. This is what is known as his humiliation. It does not mean that he was embarrassed. Rather, it means that he was humble and did not use his divine powers to prevent or cheat in his mission. The creed mentions this in mentioning his conception, birth, suffering, crucifixion, death, and burial.
- ④ Jesus was conceived by the Holy Spirit. He did not have a human father. His conception meant that he was really, truly, and fully a human being. He had a body and soul. He knew life as we know it, only without sin.
- ④ Jesus was born of the virgin Mary. This again shows that he is really, truly, and fully human.
- ④ Jesus suffered in this life. He especially suffered during his passion (his time of trial and crucifixion). This was not senseless suffering. He took the punishment that we deserved so that we would not have to endure it. On the cross, he paid the price for our sins in full. He died and was buried. His suffering and death are the means through which Jesus purchased and won us from sin, death, and the power of the devil.
- ④ Because Jesus has risen from the dead and defeated death, we have eternal life in him. We need not be afraid of death. Because of Jesus, we have been given the gift of eternal life and will not really die. This gift of life that Jesus gives us is not limited to after death. He gives us life before death as well.
- ④ The Scriptures also speak about Jesus' exaltation. This is when he fully uses all the powers that are available to him as God. The parts of the creed that mention this are his descent into hell, resurrection, his ascension, and his coming back.
- ④ Jesus did not go to Hell to suffer any more. He was not going in our place. All the work of salvation was completed on the cross. Jesus went to Hell to proclaim that he is victorious over of Hell and its powers.



# CATECHISM APPLICATION



Jesus has defeated the powers of sin, death, and evil. Draw or paste a picture that shows how he accomplished this.



Jesus is alive! Death does not win! Draw a picture or write a word to describe what this means to you.

# WORSHIP REFLECTION

How did the service show God's great love, grace, and mercy in Jesus?



What is something the sermon tells me about who Jesus is or what he does?

What does this sermon tell me I should know or do as God's child?

# MISSIONAL LIVING REFLECTION

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Whom did I bless this week? How were they blessed?

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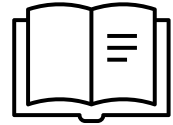
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What is something good that happened this week?



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What are you thankful for today?

# WEEKLY PRAYERS

I am thankful for:



Lord, please have mercy on my family, friends, neighbors, enemies:

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Lord you are...



## THE APOSTLES' CREED - THE SECOND ARTICLE PT. 3

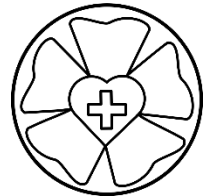
And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried, descended to Hell, on the third day rose again from the dead, ascended to Heaven and sat down at the right hand of God the Almighty Father. From there He will come to judge the living and the dead.

*What does this mean?*

I believe that Jesus Christ is truly God, born of the Father in eternity and also truly man, born of the Virgin Mary. He is my Lord! He redeemed me, a lost and condemned person, bought and won me from all sins, death and the authority of the Devil. It did not cost Him gold or silver, but His holy, precious blood, His innocent body -- His death! Because of this, I am His very own, will live under Him in His kingdom and serve Him righteously, innocently and blessedly forever, just as He is risen from death, lives and reigns forever. Yes, this is true.

### CATECHISM REFLECTION

What is something that this reading teaches us?



What is something related to this reading, for which we can give thanks?

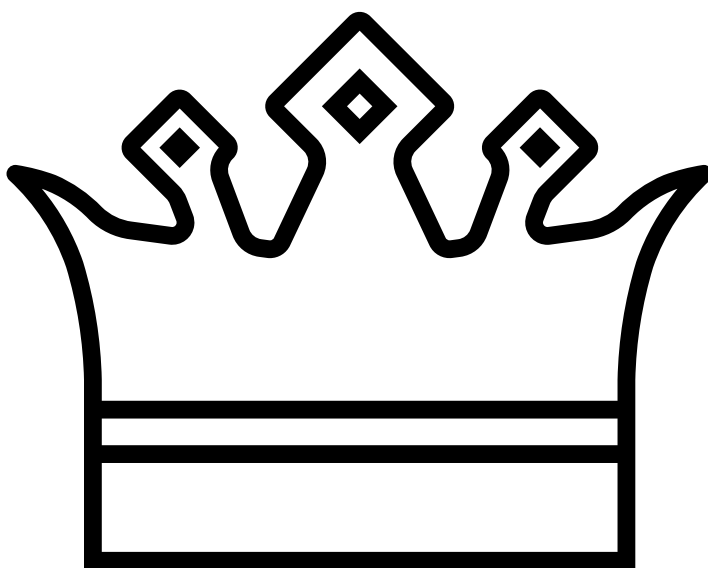
What is something that this reading tells us about living as God's people in this world?

# CATECHISM NOTES

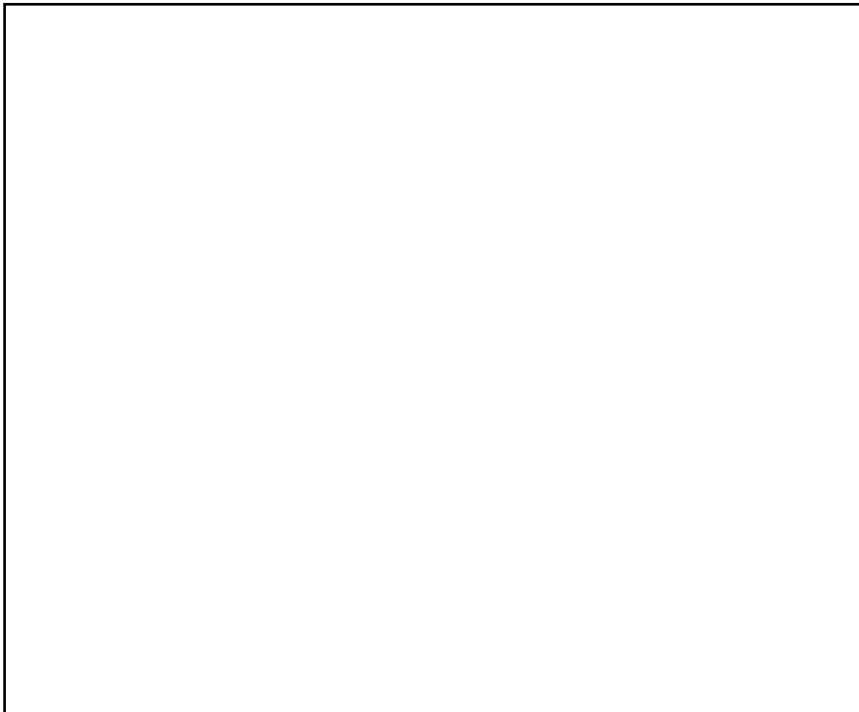
- ⊗ Jesus' resurrection from the dead shows that God has accepted his sacrifice, and it proves that he was who he said he was, and that the things he said were true. Because Jesus has been raised from the dead, death no longer has power over him. Because we are in Jesus, death no longer has any power over us either.
- ⊗ Forty days after his resurrection from the dead, Jesus bodily ascended into heaven. His divine and human natures have not separated from one another. He is still fully man and fully God. But now, all the powers and attributes of his divine nature are no longer hidden.
- ⊗ Having ascended into heaven, Jesus prepares a place for us.
- ⊗ Having ascended into heaven, Jesus, along with the Father, sends the Holy Spirit into the world. This Spirit both comforts God's people and enables the continued proclamation of the Gospel.
- ⊗ Having ascended into heaven, Jesus sits at the right hand of the Father. There he rules and reigns on behalf of his mission, the gospel, and his church.
- ⊗ Having ascended into heaven, Jesus sits at the right hand of the Father. There he intercedes for us, and on our behalf, to the Father.
- ⊗ Having ascended into heaven, Jesus sits at the right hand of the Father. He is one who loves us greatly and deeply. He is now working to help us as we go through this life. He is not there to condemn us, but to give us life that is full and abundant. He is there to give us life lived in relationship with him. Because this is true, we can know that we are always loved, and never need to be afraid.
- ⊗ Jesus is coming back. When he does, the dead will be raised. The final judgment will be made. We will live forever with our Lord. It will be better than anything you can imagine. This is the HOPE of the Christian faith. Our hope is not going to heaven when we die. Our hope is the resurrection and living forever with our God.
- ⊗ Jesus has redeemed us so that we could be his own and live under him in his kingdom. This is a great and wonderful thing that he does for us because he loves us so very much. Having a place in his kingdom, means that we also have a place in his mission. This means that we live lives that are marked by good works, which are done to God's glory so that others would know of God's love.



# CATECHISM APPLICATION



Jesus has given us a place in his Kingdom and family. So, we join him in his work in this world. Draw or paste a picture that shows something we can do to join Jesus in this work.



You belong in Jesus' family and kingdom. Draw a picture or write a word to describe what this means to you.

# WORSHIP REFLECTION

How did the service show God's great love, grace, and mercy in Jesus?



What is something the sermon tells me about who Jesus is or what he does?

What does this sermon tell me I should know or do as God's child?

# MISSIONAL LIVING REFLECTION

What did I say about Jesus this week? To whom did I say this?



Whom did I bless this week? How were they blessed?

What good can I do in this next week?

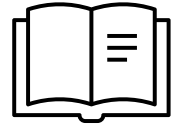
For what will I pray for my neighbors this week?

What is God sending me to do this week?

# SCRIPTURE READING

# SCRIPTURE REFLECTIONS

What is God saying to me in these verses?

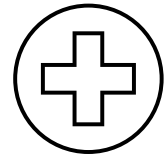


What do these verses tell me about Jesus?

How do these verses encourage me to share God's love with others?

# GOD ACTION REFLECTION

What is something good that happened this week?



What is something not so good that happened this week?

Where did you see God's presence or action this week? How did that show you God?

What are you thankful for today?

# WEEKLY PRAYERS

I am thankful for:



Lord, please have mercy on my family, friends, neighbors, enemies:

Please help me with:

Lord you are...



# THE APOSTLES' CREED - THE THIRD ARTICLE PT. 1

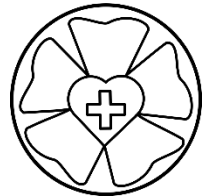
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the community of the saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and an everlasting life. Amen.

*What does this mean?*

I believe that I cannot come to my Lord Jesus Christ by my own intelligence or power. But the Holy Spirit call me by the Gospel, enlightened me with His gifts, made me holy and kept me in the true faith, just as He calls, gathers together, enlightens and makes holy the whole Church on earth and keeps it with Jesus in the one, true faith. In this Church, He generously forgives each day every sin committed by me and by every believer. On the last day, He will raise me and all the dead from the grave. He will give eternal life to me and to all who believe in Christ. Yes, this is true!

## CATECHISM REFLECTION

What is something that this reading teaches us?



What is something related to this reading, for which we can give thanks?

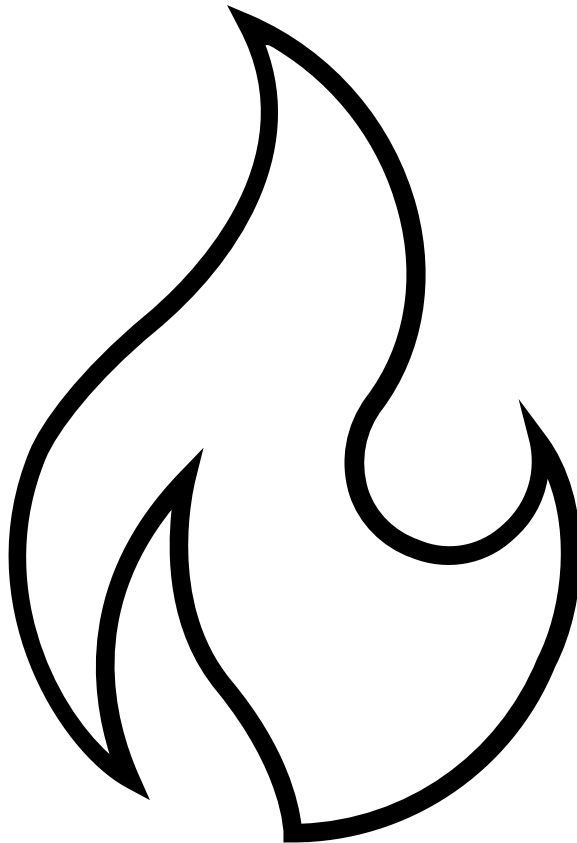
What is something that this reading tells us about living as God's people in this world?

# CATECHISM NOTES

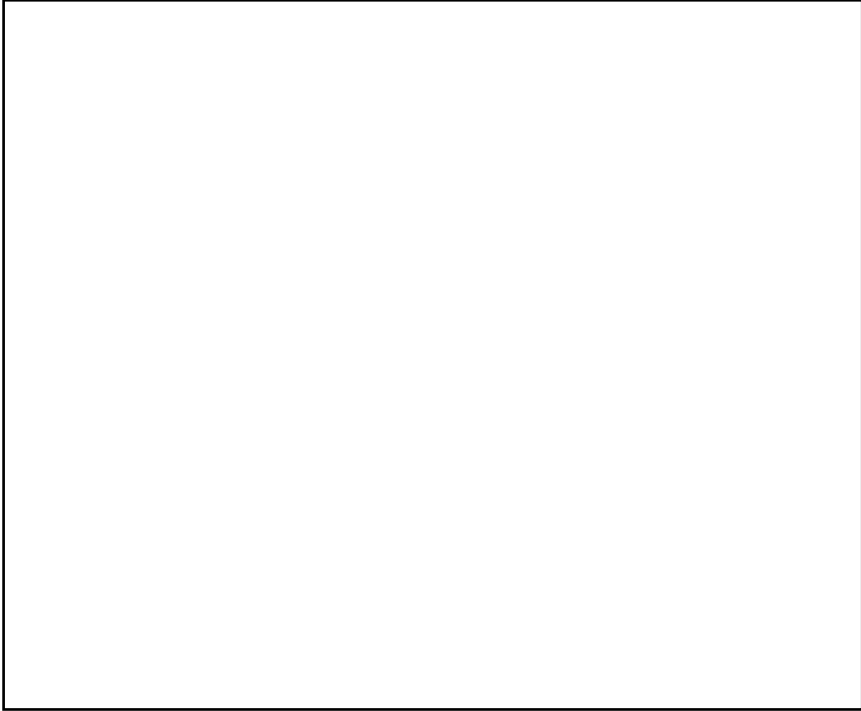
- ④ The Holy Spirit is the third person of the Trinity. He is really, truly, and fully God. He is not simply a part of God, but an equal member of the godhead with the Father and the Son. Here we see the Holy Spirit rightly called God.
- ④ The Holy Spirit is the third person of the Trinity. He is really, truly, and fully God. He is not simply a part of God, but an equal member of the godhead with the Father and the Son. Here we see the Holy Spirit has divine attributes. In this case, he is present everywhere (omnipresent).
- ④ The Holy Spirit is the third person of the Trinity. He is really, truly, and fully God. He is not simply a part of God, but an equal member of the godhead with the Father and the Son. Here we see the Holy Spirit does things that only God can do. In this case, he is present and active in the work of creation.
- ④ The Holy Spirit works in our lives in a very important way. He gives us saving faith. He works through word and sacrament to make us more and more into the image of Jesus. This is called sanctification. This work of the Holy Spirit in our lives is necessary because we cannot by our own reason or strength believe in Jesus Christ or come to him.
- ④ The Holy Spirit calls us to faith through the Gospel. As this good news is proclaimed, the Spirit works to give and strengthen faith.
- ④ Through the Gospel, the Holy Spirit works faith in our lives. This is one of the gifts with which he enlightens us.
- ④ As the Holy Spirit works in our lives, and we do not hinder him from doing this work, he brings about many good things. These things are important to cultivate in our lives. They help us to love, honor, and serve both God and our neighbors.
- ④ The Holy Spirit not only gives and strengthens faith, but he also keeps us in the true faith. The saving faith that we have, is ours because of the work of the Holy Spirit in our lives. He gets all the credit. We get none of it. This is important, because when God does something, he always does it right. So, we can be confident that this is real and true because it is God's work in our lives, and not our own work.



# CATECHISM APPLICATION



The Holy Spirit gives and strengthens faith through the means of grace. Draw or paste a picture that shows this taking place.



You have the Holy Spirit! Draw a picture or write a word to describe what this means to you.

# WORSHIP REFLECTION

How did the service show God's great love, grace, and mercy in Jesus?



What is something the sermon tells me about who Jesus is or what he does?

What does this sermon tell me I should know or do as God's child?

# MISSIONAL LIVING REFLECTION

What did I say about Jesus this week? To whom did I say this?



Whom did I bless this week? How were they blessed?

What good can I do in this next week?

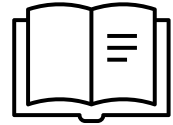
For what will I pray for my neighbors this week?

What is God sending me to do this week?

# SCRIPTURE READING

# SCRIPTURE REFLECTIONS

What is God saying to me in these verses?



What do these verses tell me about Jesus?

How do these verses encourage me to share God's love with others?

# GOD ACTION REFLECTION

What is something good that happened this week?



What is something not so good that happened this week?

Where did you see God's presence or action this week? How did that show you God?

What are you thankful for today?

# WEEKLY PRAYERS

I am thankful for:



Lord, please have mercy on my family, friends, neighbors, enemies:

Please help me with:

Lord you are...



## THE APOSTLES' CREED - THE THIRD ARTICLE PT. 2

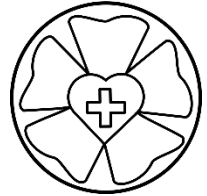
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the community of the saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and an everlasting life. Amen.

*What does this mean?*

I believe that I cannot come to my Lord Jesus Christ by my own intelligence or power. But the Holy Spirit call me by the Gospel, enlightened me with His gifts, made me holy and kept me in the true faith, just as He calls, gathers together, enlightens and makes holy the whole Church on earth and keeps it with Jesus in the one, true faith. In this Church, He generously forgives each day every sin committed by me and by every believer. On the last day, He will raise me and all the dead from the grave. He will give eternal life to me and to all who believe in Christ. Yes, this is true!

### CATECHISM REFLECTION

What is something that this reading teaches us?



What is something related to this reading, for which we can give thanks?

What is something that this reading tells us about living as God's people in this world?

# CATECHISM NOTES

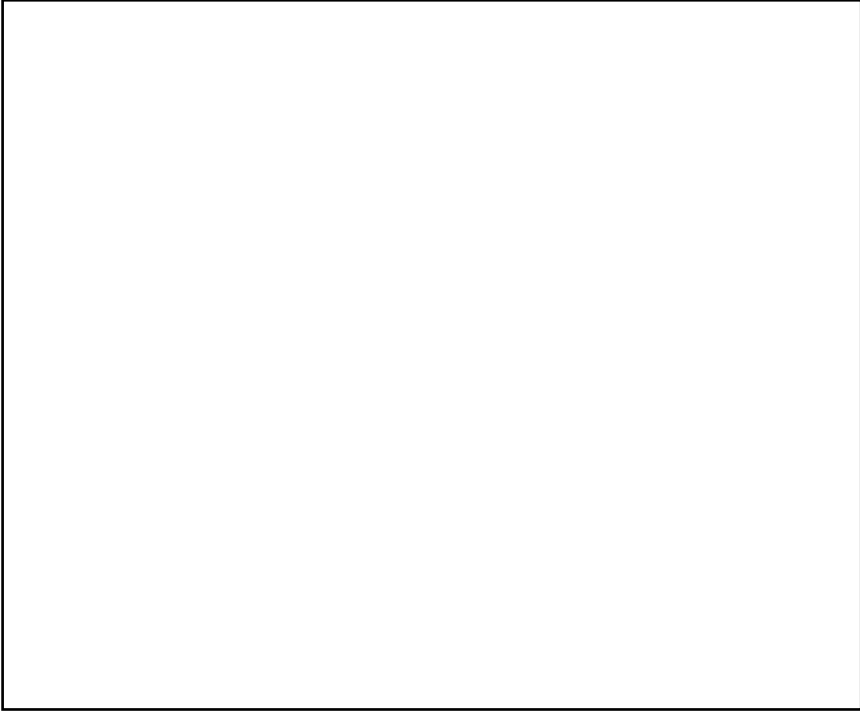
- ⊗ God desires that all people would have this gift of saving faith in Jesus. This is not just for some people, but it is available to each and every one of us. Unfortunately, some people choose to reject this great gift. This means that for those who are saved, the credit and glory belong only to God. For those who are not saved, they experience this through their own rejection of God's working in their lives.
- ⊗ The third article of the creed also mentions the church. The church is the community of God's people who gather around word and sacrament. This community is created and led by the Holy Spirit. She is the bride of Christ. She is God's church. God's church does not have a mission. God's mission has a church. Therefore, we must join God in the work that he is doing in our world.
- ⊗ The church is not just a human organization. She is a spiritual creation of God. And while she may not always look the same from time to time or place to place, one thing is for sure, she will always be present, and the powers of evil will not overcome her.
- ⊗ While there are many different denominations, and branches of the Christian family tree, there always has been and always will be only one church.
- ⊗ The creed refers to the church as "Holy" because the church is set apart for service to God and neighbor. God makes us holy. He saves us from sin, death, and the devil. Then he sends us out to make his love, grace, forgiveness, and mercy known to the people around us.
- ⊗ The church is not ours. She does not belong to us. She is not ours to do as we see fit. She is God's. He makes her grow and keeps her strong and healthy.
- ⊗ The mission in which the church joins God is to make disciples of all nations. This should be first and most important. This is more important than any program, expectation, or pet project. If the church fails to be about this, then you do not really have a church. What you really have is a social club.
- ⊗ As part of the church, we do not try to do things by our own reason, strength, or power. This is because we cannot. But instead, we are to be connected to and abide in Jesus. It is in him and through him that we can be about the work of being a disciple and joining him in his mission in the world.
- ⊗ As the church, we do not get to pick and choose what we want to believe teach and confess. Rather, we are bound to learn, live, and teach the truth as God has given to us in the scriptures. Holding onto this truth is important, so that our witness, lives, and proclamation of the gospel are not hindered.



# CATECHISM APPLICATION



The church is not a building. It is the people of God living life with God. Draw or paste a picture that shows the church in action.



You are part of the holy Christian church. Draw a picture or write a word to describe what this means to you.

# WORSHIP REFLECTION

How did the service show God's great love, grace, and mercy in Jesus?



What is something the sermon tells me about who Jesus is or what he does?

What does this sermon tell me I should know or do as God's child?

# MISSIONAL LIVING REFLECTION

What did I say about Jesus this week? To whom did I say this?



Whom did I bless this week? How were they blessed?

What good can I do in this next week?

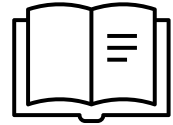
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# SCRIPTURE READING

# SCRIPTURE REFLECTIONS

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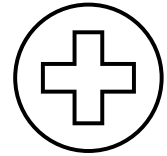


What do these verses tell me about Jesus?

How do these verses encourage me to share God's love with others?

# GOD ACTION REFLECTION

What is something good that happened this week?



What is something not so good that happened this week?

Where did you see God's presence or action this week? How did that show you God?

What are you thankful for today?

# WEEKLY PRAYERS

I am thankful for:



Lord, please have mercy on my family, friends, neighbors, enemies:

Please help me with:

Lord you are...



## THE APOSTLES' CREED - THE THIRD ARTICLE PT. 3

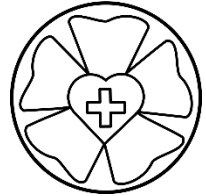
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the community of the saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and an everlasting life. Amen.

*What does this mean?*

I believe that I cannot come to my Lord Jesus Christ by my own intelligence or power. But the Holy Spirit call me by the Gospel, enlightened me with His gifts, made me holy and kept me in the true faith, just as He calls, gathers together, enlightens and makes holy the whole Church on earth and keeps it with Jesus in the one, true faith. In this Church, He generously forgives each day every sin committed by me and by every believer. On the last day, He will raise me and all the dead from the grave. He will give eternal life to me and to all who believe in Christ. Yes, this is true!

### CATECHISM REFLECTION

What is something that this reading teaches us?



What is something related to this reading, for which we can give thanks?

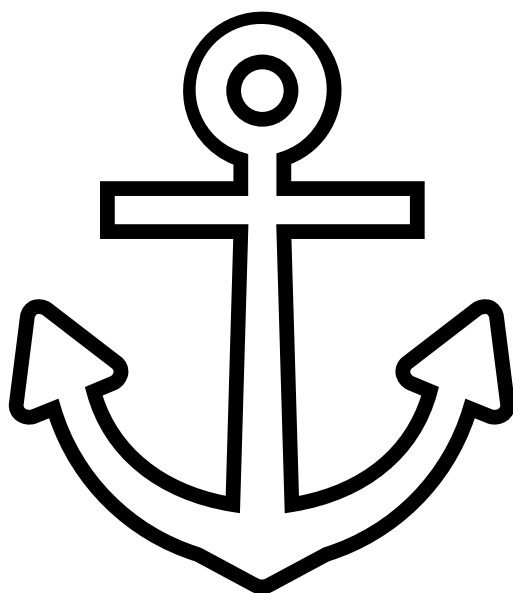
What is something that this reading tells us about living as God's people in this world?

# CATECHISM NOTES

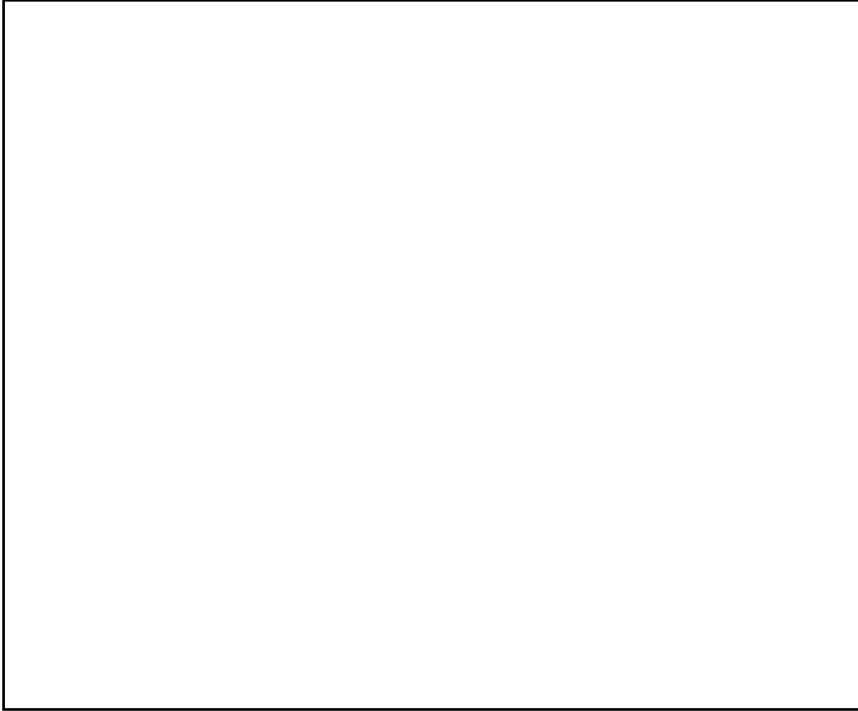
- ⊗ It is always important to test everything that is said in the church. You can always tell whether a person has God's interest or their own in mind as they speak. When it comes to life in the church, nothing is more important than what God wants, and God's will for his church.
- ⊗ As the church, we are sent by God to join God in God's mission in the world. This is because our God is a sending God. The Father sends the Son. The Father and the Son send the Holy Spirit. The Father, Son, and Holy Spirit send the church.
- ⊗ The third article of the creed mentions the communion of saints. This is the special connection that we share with all of God's people across time and space. This also includes those who are in heaven waiting for the resurrection. When we worship, our worship joins with their worship. In a very real sense, we are praising God together with them in worship.
- ⊗ God is about the work of forgiving sins. This is not just ignoring sin or saying that it no longer matters. Jesus has paid the price in full. Therefore, our sins are no longer counted against us, and we are brought back into a right relationship with our God (reconciled).
- ⊗ The forgiveness of sins is offered in the Gospel. The power to forgive is the power of the Gospel.
- ⊗ The forgiveness of sins that is offered in the Gospel is received through faith. Faith is believing that what God says is true. Faith is best understood as a hand which clings and holds on to the promises of God.
- ⊗ The forgiveness of our sins does not come about because of anything that we do. We cannot earn it. However, we have it because of what Jesus has done for us, and because he loves us so very much. Since this is the work of God in our lives, and not our own doing, we can be fully one hundred percent certain that this is real and that it is ours. This good news is a wonderful source of hope, peace, comfort, and strength.
- ⊗ Since Jesus has given us forgiveness, we also have salvation and life that never ends. This means that one day, when Jesus comes back those who have died will not stay dead forever. But they will be raised to life and will live forever with God. This is the resurrection. The resurrection is the HOPE of the Christian faith.
- ⊗ The resurrection means that all the effects of sin will be undone. There will be no more death or sin or injustice or sadness. God will wipe away every tear from our eye and we will live forever with him and all his people who have gone before us. It will be better than anything we can imagine. This is ours because Jesus is the resurrection and the life. He has defeated death by his own resurrection and gives this to all his people.



# CATECHISM APPLICATION



When sins are forgiven, broken relationships are healed and made whole. Draw or paste a picture that shows the results of forgiveness in life.



Because of Jesus, you have the hope of eternal life. Draw a picture or write a word to describe what this means to you.

# WORSHIP REFLECTION

How did the service show God's great love, grace, and mercy in Jesus?



What is something the sermon tells me about who Jesus is or what he does?

What does this sermon tell me I should know or do as God's child?

# MISSIONAL LIVING REFLECTION

What did I say about Jesus this week? To whom did I say this?



Whom did I bless this week? How were they blessed?

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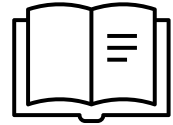
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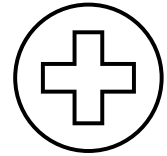


What do these verses tell me about Jesus?

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# GOD ACTION REFLECTION

What is something good that happened this week?



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What are you thankful for today?

# WEEKLY PRAYERS

I am thankful for:



Lord, please have mercy on my family, friends, neighbors, enemies:

Please help me with:

Lord you are...



# THE LORD'S PRAYER - THE INTRODUCTION

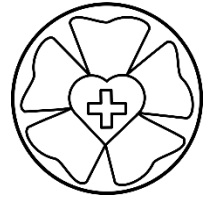
**Our Father in heaven,**

*What does this mean?*

In this introduction, God invites us to believe that He is our real Father and we are His real children, so that we will pray with trust and complete confidence, in the same way beloved children approach their beloved Father with their requests.

## CATECHISM REFLECTION

What is something that this reading teaches us?



What is something related to this reading, for which we can give thanks?

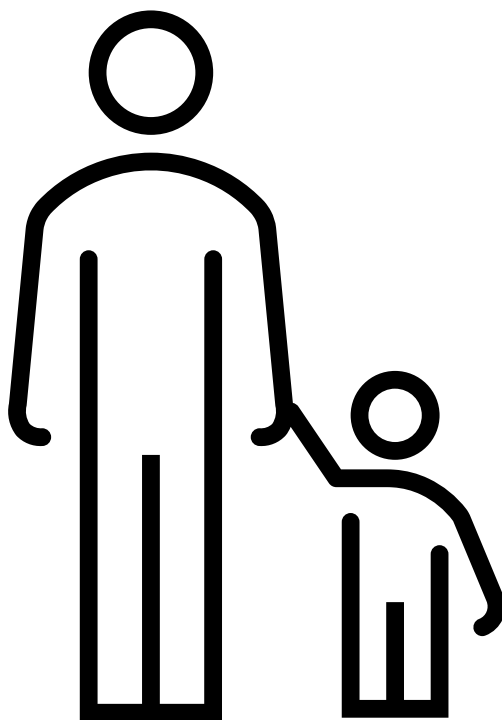
What is something that this reading tells us about living as God's people in this world?

# CATECHISM NOTES

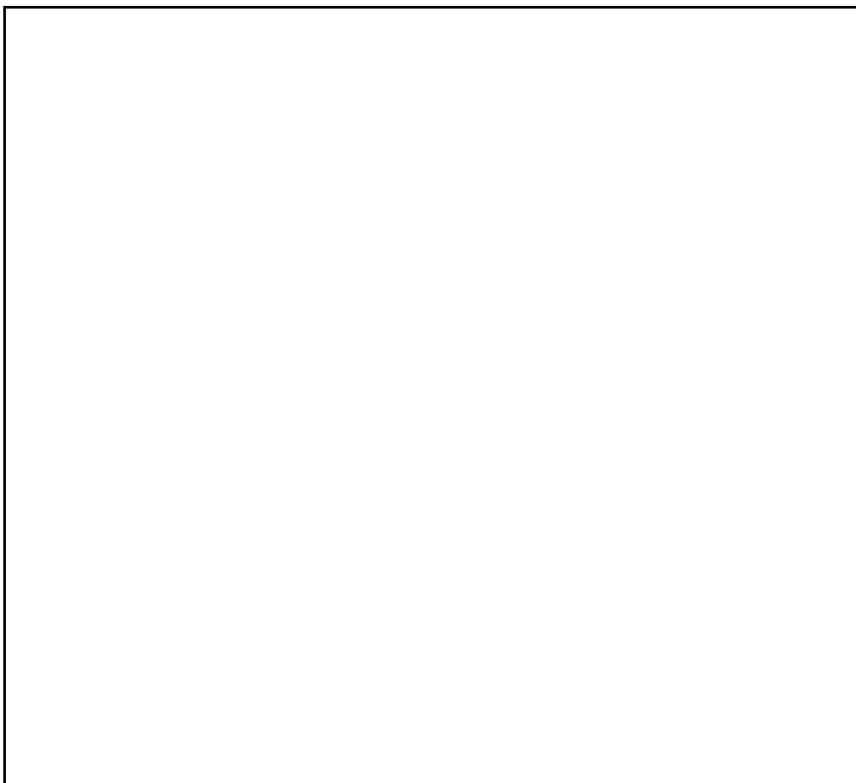
- ✚ Prayer is a special gift. It allows us to talk to God. When we talk to God, we can do so knowing that he hears us, and that he answers us. He tells us to pray because he delights in hearing from us.
- ✚ In prayer, we can talk to God about anything. There is no right or wrong way to do this. There are many different types of prayer and praying. Some work better for us than others. But the most important thing is that we spend time with God in prayer. Our prayers can include talking to God about things we are worried about, things we need or others around us need, things for which we need forgiveness, things for which we are thankful, and praises to God, we can (and should) even pray for our enemies.
- ✚ Even if we have difficulty finding the right words to say, we can pray in confidence knowing that the Holy Spirit helps us in our prayers.
- ✚ Jesus used the parable in Luke 18:1-8 to teach his disciples, and us, that we should always pray and never give up, and never lose heart. God always hears. He always answers.
- ✚ We can pray to God at any time, in any place, and in any situation in life. God is available all the time and in all the places where we may go. We can talk to him in good times, in bad times, and in every time in between.
- ✚ In Matthew 6:5-13, from Jesus' sermon on the mount, Jesus teaches his disciples, and us, how to pray. It is not us showing off in front of others. It is not about the words that we say or the way that we say them. Prayer is simply talking to God. It is something that we do in our relationship with him. It is not something we do to impress others.
- ✚ In our baptism, God has given us a special relationship with him. We are his dearly loved children. We get to call him our father. This is a special and close relationship. So, then prayer is not just something that we do in obedience to a command. It is something that we do as part of a close and special relationship. God has us call him Father because he loves us. This shows the close relationship we share.
- ✚ The Lord's prayer addresses God as the Father in heaven as a reminder to us that he is all-powerful and that he can answer our prayers. This is even more special when we understand that this powerful one loves us very much and has us address him as father.



# CATECHISM APPLICATION



Dads and Moms show their kids that they love them in numerous ways. Draw or paste a picture that shows something parents do for their kids.



How does it make you feel to know that God loves you this much? Write a word or draw a picture to show how it makes you feel.

# WORSHIP REFLECTION

How did the service show God's great love, grace, and mercy in Jesus?



What is something the sermon tells me about who Jesus is or what he does?

What does this sermon tell me I should know or do as God's child?

# MISSIONAL LIVING REFLECTION

What did I say about Jesus this week? To whom did I say this?



Whom did I bless this week? How were they blessed?

What good can I do in this next week?

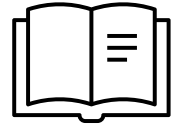
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What is God sending me to do this week?

# SCRIPTURE READING

# SCRIPTURE REFLECTIONS

What is God saying to me in these verses?

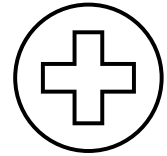


What do these verses tell me about Jesus?

How do these verses encourage me to share God's love with others?

# GOD ACTION REFLECTION

What is something good that happened this week?



What is something not so good that happened this week?

Where did you see God's presence or action this week? How did that show you God?

What are you thankful for today?

# WEEKLY PRAYERS

I am thankful for:



Lord, please have mercy on my family, friends, neighbors, enemies:

Please help me with:

Lord you are...



# THE LORD'S PRAYER - THE FIRST REQUEST

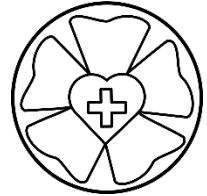
## **May your name be honored,**

*What does this mean?* Of course, God's name is holy in and of itself, but by this request, we pray that He will make it holy among us, too.

*How does this take place?* It happens when God's Word is taught clearly and purely, and when we live holy lives as God's children based upon it. Help us, Heavenly Father, to do this! But anyone who teaches and lives by something other than God's Word defiles God's name among us. Protect us from this, Heavenly Father.

## CATECHISM REFLECTION

What is something that this reading teaches us?



What is something related to this reading, for which we can give thanks?

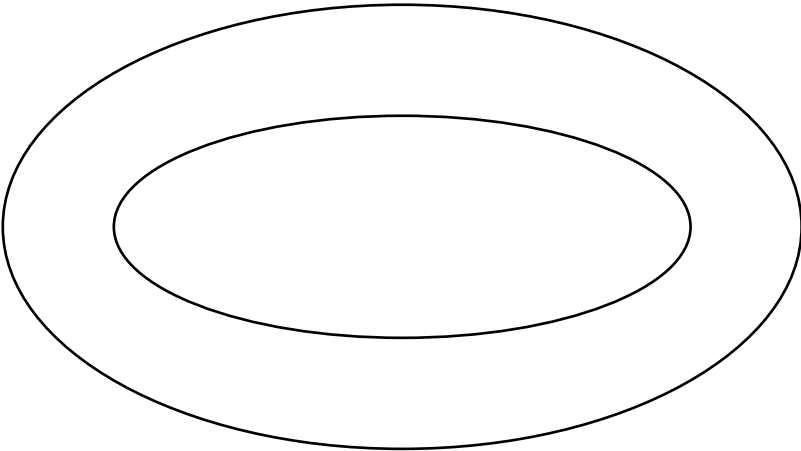
What is something that this reading tells us about living as God's people in this world?

# CATECHISM NOTES

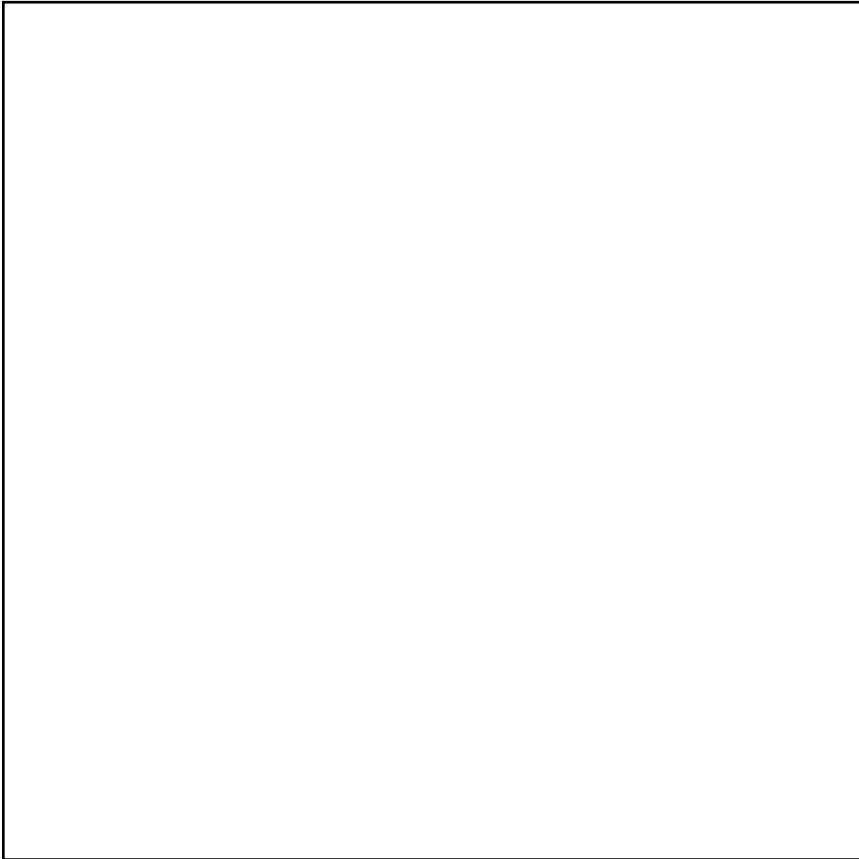
- ✚ The first petition of the Lord's prayer asks for the same thing that the second commandment commands, that God's name would be honored and holy in our lives and living. We do not make God's name holy, instead we live our lives in response to God's presence and action in our lives. Our response shows that God's name is holy. This petition asks God to help us do that.
- ✚ We keep God's name holy when the things that we teach and the ways that we live our lives are in accordance with the Word of God. When our teachings and living are out of line with what God's word teaches, his name is dishonored among us.



# CATECHISM APPLICATION



We can honor God's name in the way that we live, especially as we show love to others. Draw or paste a picture here that shows someone loving and caring for others.



Do you know what your name means? Draw a picture or write it out here?

# WORSHIP REFLECTION

How did the service show God's great love, grace, and mercy in Jesus?



What is something the sermon tells me about who Jesus is or what he does?

What does this sermon tell me I should know or do as God's child?

# MISSIONAL LIVING REFLECTION

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Whom did I bless this week? How were they blessed?

What good can I do in this next week?

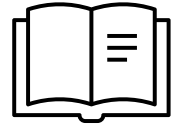
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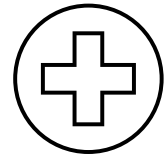


What do these verses tell me about Jesus?

How do these verses encourage me to share God's love with others?

# GOD ACTION REFLECTION

What is something good that happened this week?



What is something not so good that happened this week?

Where did you see God's presence or action this week? How did that show you God?

What are you thankful for today?

# WEEKLY PRAYERS

I am thankful for:



Lord, please have mercy on my family, friends, neighbors, enemies:

Please help me with:

Lord you are...



## THE LORD'S PRAYER - THE SECOND REQUEST

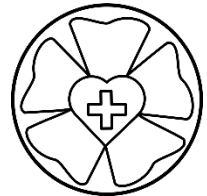
**May your kingdom come,**

*What does this mean?* Truly God's Kingdom comes by itself, without our prayer. But we pray in this request that it come to us as well.

*How does this happen?* It happens when the Heavenly Father gives us His Holy Spirit, so that we believe His holy Word by His grace and live godly lives here in this age and there in eternal life.

### CATECHISM REFLECTION

What is something that this reading teaches us?



What is something related to this reading, for which we can give thanks?

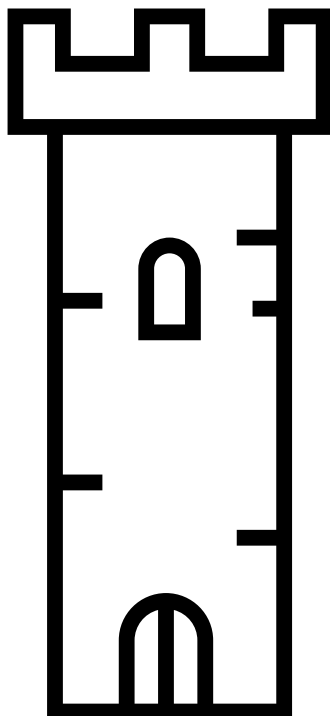
What is something that this reading tells us about living as God's people in this world?

# CATECHISM NOTES

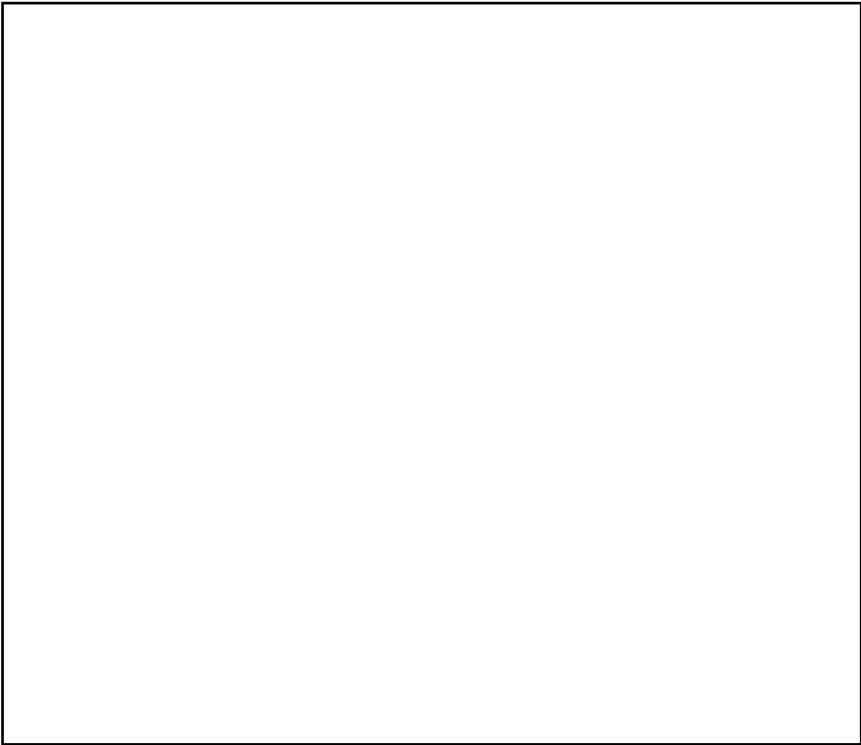
- ✚ The kingdom of God is the rule and reign of God in his creation. It is a relationship that we live in with God. It is life and community that is marked by the presence and action of God. It is life and community that reflects who God is (love, grace, mercy). It is life and community that joins God in God's mission of expanding the Kingdom.
- ✚ The kingdom of God is something that we see with the eyes of faith now and will see in the fulness of all its glory and splendor on that day when Jesus comes back. What we get to experience now is the real thing.
- ✚ The kingdom of God is not something that we make happen or enter ourselves. But we are brought into it by God's grace. It is his working in our lives that gives us a place in his kingdom. This is important to understand. If it is the work of God in our lives, we know it is done correctly, and there is no room for doubt.
- ✚ We participate in the kingdom of God as we live in relationship with him as his dearly loved people. We also participate in it as we invite others to experience it. In doing this, we are joining God in God's mission in this world. We are joining in the spreading of the kingdom of God. It may not seem like much by earthly standards, but when we see it in all its glory, it will be better than anything the world has ever seen.



# CATECHISM APPLICATION



Jesus said that the greatest in the kingdom of heaven is the one who is a servant. Draw or paste a picture of someone doing something to love, care, or help someone else.



You are a child of the king. That means you are particularly important and special. How does it feel to know that is who you are? Draw a picture or write a word that shows how it makes you feel.

# WORSHIP REFLECTION

How did the service show God's great love, grace, and mercy in Jesus?



What is something the sermon tells me about who Jesus is or what he does?

What does this sermon tell me I should know or do as God's child?

# MISSIONAL LIVING REFLECTION

What did I say about Jesus this week? To whom did I say this?



Whom did I bless this week? How were they blessed?

What good can I do in this next week?

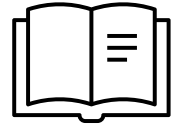
For what will I pray for my neighbors this week?

What is God sending me to do this week?

# SCRIPTURE READING

# SCRIPTURE REFLECTIONS

What is God saying to me in these verses?

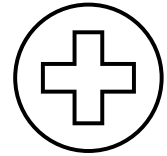


What do these verses tell me about Jesus?

How do these verses encourage me to share God's love with others?

# GOD ACTION REFLECTION

What is something good that happened this week?



What is something not so good that happened this week?

Where did you see God's presence or action this week? How did that show you God?

What are you thankful for today?

# WEEKLY PRAYERS

I am thankful for:



Lord, please have mercy on my family, friends, neighbors, enemies:

Please help me with:

Lord you are...



## THE LORD'S PRAYER - THE THIRD REQUEST

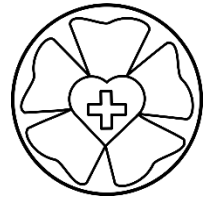
**May your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.**

*What does this mean?* Truly, God's good and gracious will is accomplished without our prayer. But we pray in this request that it be accomplished among us as well.

*How does this happen?* When God destroys and interferes with every evil will and all evil advice, which will not allow God's Kingdom to come, such as the Devil's will, the world's will and will of our bodily desires. It also happens when God strengthens us by faith and by His Word and keeps living by them faithfully until the end of our lives. This is His will, good and full of grace.

### CATECHISM REFLECTION

What is something that this reading teaches us?



What is something related to this reading, for which we can give thanks?

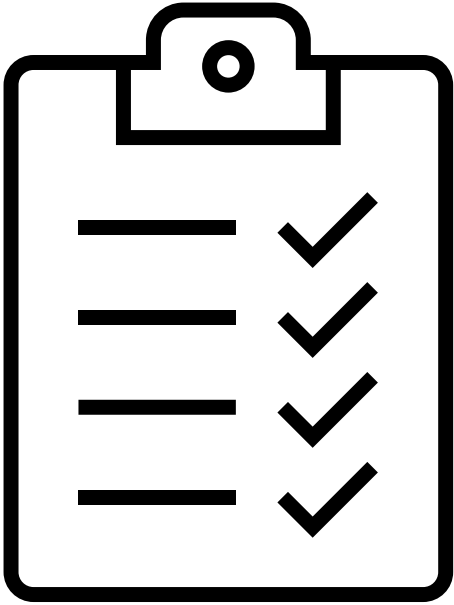
What is something that this reading tells us about living as God's people in this world?

# CATECHISM NOTES

- ✚ The will of God is what God has in mind for his creation. It is what he wants to happen in his creation and for his creation. The will of God is that his creation would be brought back into a right relationship with him, and that we would live in that relationship with him.
- ✚ The devil, the world, and our own sinful flesh do not want the will of God to be done in this world. They want their own will to be done instead. The problem with this is that these things cannot and do not love us like God loves us. They cannot and are not able to do what God alone can do for us. They cannot and are not able to love us like God does.
- ✚ We do the will of God when we live our lives in ways that are pleasing to him. This does not mean that we live perfectly. That would be impossible. But it means that we live as forgiven and forgiving people who seek to honor God in every aspect of our lives. It means that we live lives where we love God most, and our neighbors as ourselves.
- ✚ While things in this world are actively working to prevent and thwart the will of God happening in our midst, nothing can stop God from ultimately bringing about the good that he has in mind for us. God does not make or want bad things to happen to us. When they do happen, we are simply seeing the brokenness that is in the creation because of sin. No matter how bad those things may be, they cannot stop God's will.



# CATECHISM APPLICATION



The Holy Spirit uses the Word and Sacraments to give and strengthen faith. Draw or paste a picture of someone receiving the gifts God gives in Word and Sacrament.



God loves you and includes you in his will and the work he is doing in the world. What does it mean to you to know that God does this in your life? Draw a picture or write a word that shows how it makes you feel.

# WORSHIP REFLECTION

How did the service show God's great love, grace, and mercy in Jesus?



What is something the sermon tells me about who Jesus is or what he does?

What does this sermon tell me I should know or do as God's child?

# MISSIONAL LIVING REFLECTION

What did I say about Jesus this week? To whom did I say this?



Whom did I bless this week? How were they blessed?

What good can I do in this next week?

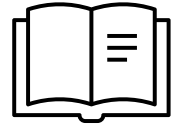
For what will I pray for my neighbors this week?

What is God sending me to do this week?

# SCRIPTURE READING

# SCRIPTURE REFLECTIONS

What is God saying to me in these verses?

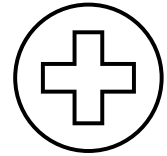


What do these verses tell me about Jesus?

How do these verses encourage me to share God's love with others?

# GOD ACTION REFLECTION

What is something good that happened this week?



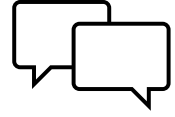
What is something not so good that happened this week?

Where did you see God's presence or action this week? How did that show you God?

What are you thankful for today?

# WEEKLY PRAYERS

I am thankful for:



Lord, please have mercy on my family, friends, neighbors, enemies:

Please help me with:

Lord you are...



## THE LORD'S PRAYER - THE FOURTH REQUEST

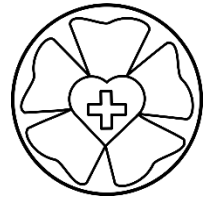
**Give us today our daily bread,**

*What does this mean?* Truly, God gives daily bread to evil people, even without our prayer. But we pray in this request that He will help us realize this and receive our daily bread with thanksgiving.

*What does "Daily Bread" mean?* Everything that nourishes our body and meets its needs, such as: Food, drink, clothing, shoes, house, yard, fields, cattle, money, possessions, a devout spouse, devout children, devout employees, devout and faithful rulers, good government, good weather, peace, health, discipline, honor, good friends, faithful neighbors and other things like these.

### CATECHISM REFLECTION

What is something that this reading teaches us?



What is something related to this reading, for which we can give thanks?

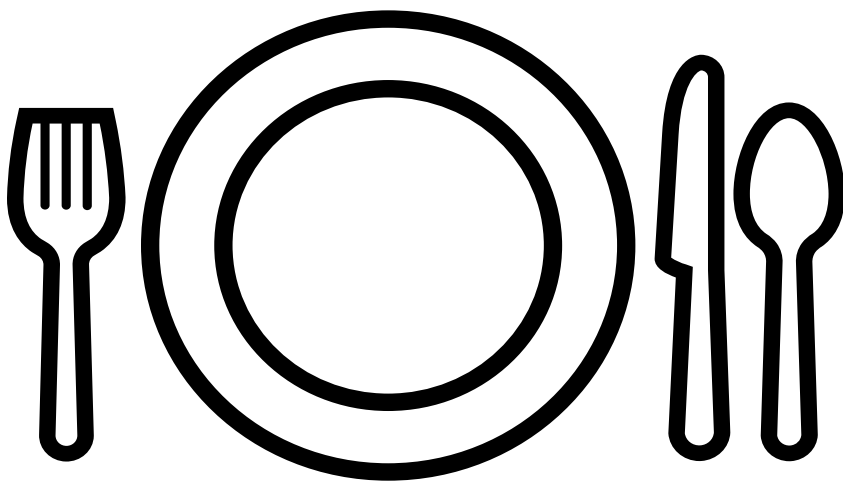
What is something that this reading tells us about living as God's people in this world?

# CATECHISM NOTES

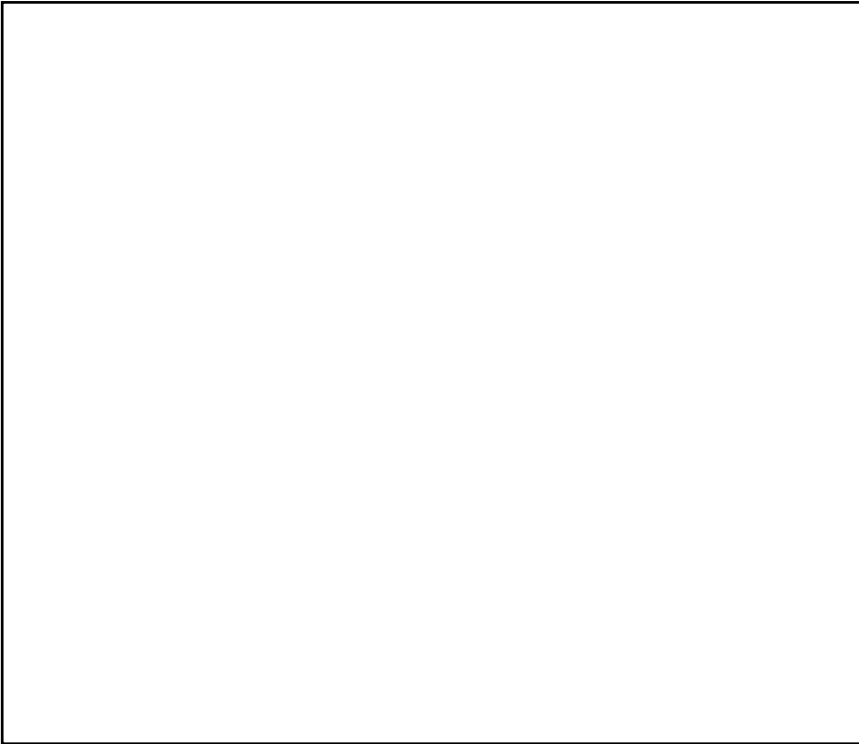
- ✚ God gives us everything that we need to support our bodies and lives. He does not only do this when we ask him to do it. However, in asking God for daily bread, we remember and see that he is faithful and truly gives us everything that we need.
- ✚ God provides daily bread in many and various ways. One important way is through his people. When we share with others, we are being the means through which God provides daily bread to others.
- ✚ We are instructed to pray for daily bread. We need not be greedy. God gives us everything we need for each day. Just as the manna only lasted one day, God provides for each day. The people were never lacking, they never had less than what they needed. We can always trust that God will provide us with everything we need, so we need not worry.
- ✚ Life with God is one where we can experience peace and hope. We have peace and hope because we know that God loves us and cares for us. He will always provide for us and give us everything we need. This comes out of his great and deep love for us.



# CATECHISM APPLICATION



Daily bread is about more than just food. Draw or paste a picture that shows the kinds of things that we ask God for in this request.



God always gives us everything that we need for our bodies and lives. Draw a picture or write a word that shows how it makes you feel to know that God provides and cares for you.

# WORSHIP REFLECTION

How did the service show God's great love, grace, and mercy in Jesus?



What is something the sermon tells me about who Jesus is or what he does?

What does this sermon tell me I should know or do as God's child?

# MISSIONAL LIVING REFLECTION

What did I say about Jesus this week? To whom did I say this?



Whom did I bless this week? How were they blessed?

What good can I do in this next week?

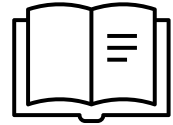
For what will I pray for my neighbors this week?

What is God sending me to do this week?

# SCRIPTURE READING

# SCRIPTURE REFLECTIONS

What is God saying to me in these verses?



What do these verses tell me about Jesus?

How do these verses encourage me to share God's love with others?

# GOD ACTION REFLECTION

What is something good that happened this week?



What is something not so good that happened this week?

Where did you see God's presence or action this week? How did that show you God?

What are you thankful for today?

# WEEKLY PRAYERS

I am thankful for:



Lord, please have mercy on my family, friends, neighbors, enemies:

Please help me with:

Lord you are...



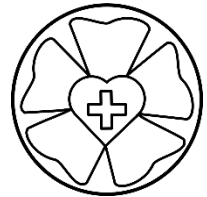
## THE LORD'S PRAYER - THE FIFTH REQUEST

**And forgive us our debts, as we ourselves have forgiven our debtors.**

*What does this mean?* We pray in this request that our Heavenly Father will neither pay attention to our sins nor refuse requests such as these because of our sins and because we are neither worthy nor deserve the things for which we pray. Yet He wants to give them all to us by His grace, because many times each day we sin and truly deserve only punishment. Because God does this, we will, of course, want to forgive from our hearts and willingly do good to those who sin against us.

### CATECHISM REFLECTION

What is something that this reading teaches us?



What is something related to this reading, for which we can give thanks?

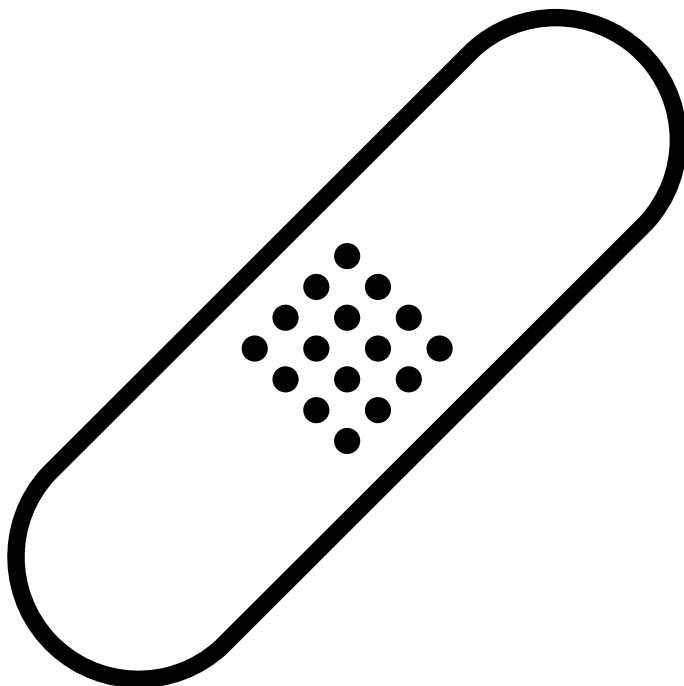
What is something that this reading tells us about living as God's people in this world?

# CATECHISM NOTES

- ✚ When we ask God to forgive our sins, we know that he hears our prayers and answers them. Indeed, he has forgiven all our sins and pays the price for them in full in Jesus. We never have to wonder or worry if God forgives us. Every time we ask him to forgive us, he does.
- ✚ Just as God has forgiven us in Jesus. So too we are to forgive one another. This is a very important part of the Christian life. God's people are not to live as perfect people. That is not possible for us to do. Rather, we are to live as people who are forgiven and forgiving. Because God has forgiven us, we are able to forgive others.
- ✚ Sin breaks apart and separates people from God and people from one another. Forgiveness undoes the effects of sin and brings about reconciliation and restoration. It restores us back to God and to a right relationship with him. Forgiveness also restores us back to each other and to a right relationship with one another.



# CATECHISM APPLICATION



Forgiveness heals a broken relationship and allows for a fresh start. Draw or paste a picture that shows forgiveness taking place.



God forgives all your sins! Draw a picture or write a word to describe how this good news makes you feel.

# WORSHIP REFLECTION

How did the service show God's great love, grace, and mercy in Jesus?



What is something the sermon tells me about who Jesus is or what he does?

What does this sermon tell me I should know or do as God's child?

# MISSIONAL LIVING REFLECTION

What did I say about Jesus this week? To whom did I say this?



Whom did I bless this week? How were they blessed?

What good can I do in this next week?

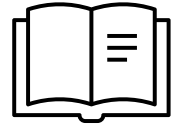
For what will I pray for my neighbors this week?

What is God sending me to do this week?

# SCRIPTURE READING

# SCRIPTURE REFLECTIONS

What is God saying to me in these verses?



What do these verses tell me about Jesus?

How do these verses encourage me to share God's love with others?

# GOD ACTION REFLECTION

What is something good that happened this week?



What is something not so good that happened this week?

Where did you see God's presence or action this week? How did that show you God?

What are you thankful for today?

# WEEKLY PRAYERS

I am thankful for:



Lord, please have mercy on my family, friends, neighbors, enemies:

Please help me with:

Lord you are...



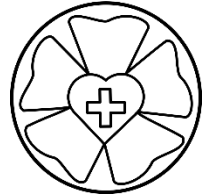
## THE LORD'S PRAYER - THE SIXTH REQUEST

**And do not lead us into temptation,**

*What does this mean?* God tempts no one, of course, but we pray in this request that God will protect us and save us, so that the Devil, the world and our bodily desires will neither deceive us nor seduce us into heresy, despair or other serious shame or vice, and so that we will win and be victorious in the end, even if they attack us.

### CATECHISM REFLECTION

What is something that this reading teaches us?



What is something related to this reading, for which we can give thanks?

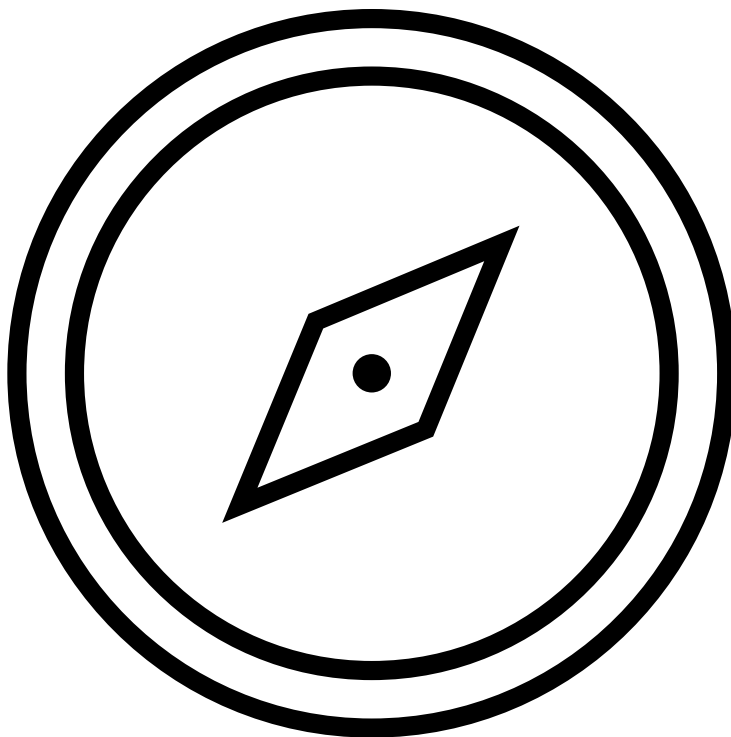
What is something that this reading tells us about living as God's people in this world?

# CATECHISM NOTES

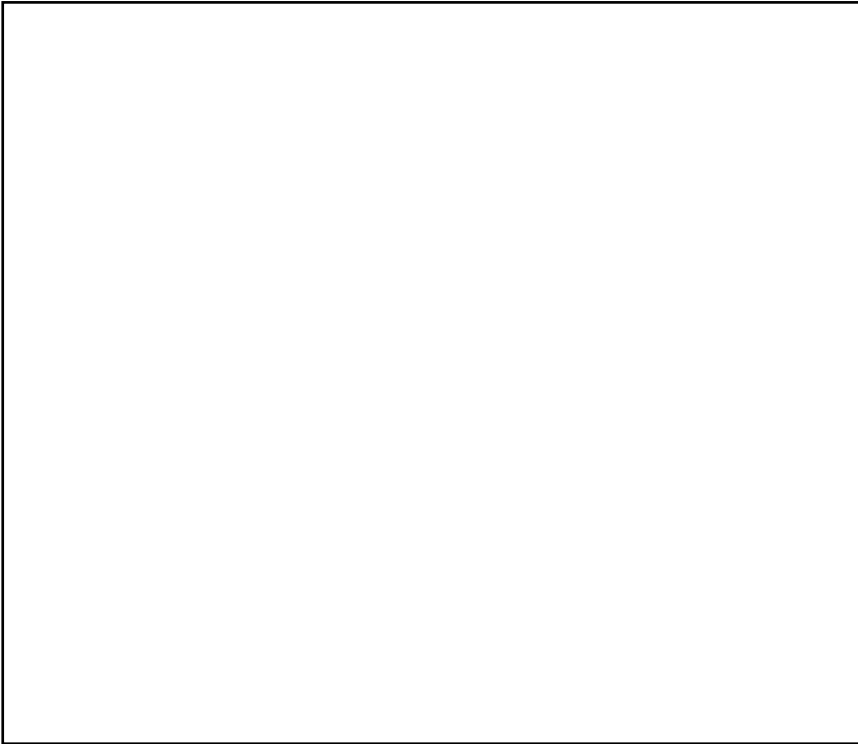
- ✚ The devil, the world, and our sinful nature do not want the things of God. They are constantly at war with him and working to entice away from God and God's will. In the sixth petition, we ask God to not allow them to be victorious over us.
- ✚ God does not leave us powerless against the devil, the world, and our sinful nature. He gives us the ability to stand firm against them. When we stand in the strength that he provides we can overcome the attacks of these things against us.
- ✚ Jesus was victorious over the devil in his time of temptation in the wilderness. We see how he used the word of God to overcome the devil's temptations. In the same way, we can use the word of God to help us stand against the attack of these things.



# CATECHISM APPLICATION



Scripture talks about the armor of God as protection for us in spiritual battle. Read Ephesians 6:10-17 and draw or paste a picture of what that armor might look like.



God promises to be with you and to protect you. Draw a picture or write a word that describes how it feels to know this.

# WORSHIP REFLECTION

How did the service show God's great love, grace, and mercy in Jesus?



What is something the sermon tells me about who Jesus is or what he does?

What does this sermon tell me I should know or do as God's child?

# MISSIONAL LIVING REFLECTION

What did I say about Jesus this week? To whom did I say this?



Whom did I bless this week? How were they blessed?

What good can I do in this next week?

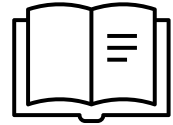
For what will I pray for my neighbors this week?

What is God sending me to do this week?

# SCRIPTURE READING

# SCRIPTURE REFLECTIONS

What is God saying to me in these verses?



What do these verses tell me about Jesus?

How do these verses encourage me to share God's love with others?

# GOD ACTION REFLECTION

What is something good that happened this week?



What is something not so good that happened this week?

Where did you see God's presence or action this week? How did that show you God?

What are you thankful for today?

# WEEKLY PRAYERS

I am thankful for:



Lord, please have mercy on my family, friends, neighbors, enemies:

Please help me with:

Lord you are...



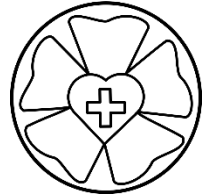
## THE LORD'S PRAYER - THE SEVENTH REQUEST

**But deliver us from the evil one.**

*What does this mean?* We pray in this request, as a summary, that our Father in Heaven will save us from every kind of evil that threatens body, soul, property and honor. We pray that when at last our final hour has come, He will grant us a blessed death, and, in His grace, bring us to Himself from this valley of tears.

### CATECHISM REFLECTION

What is something that this reading teaches us?



What is something related to this reading, for which we can give thanks?

What is something that this reading tells us about living as God's people in this world?

# CATECHISM NOTES

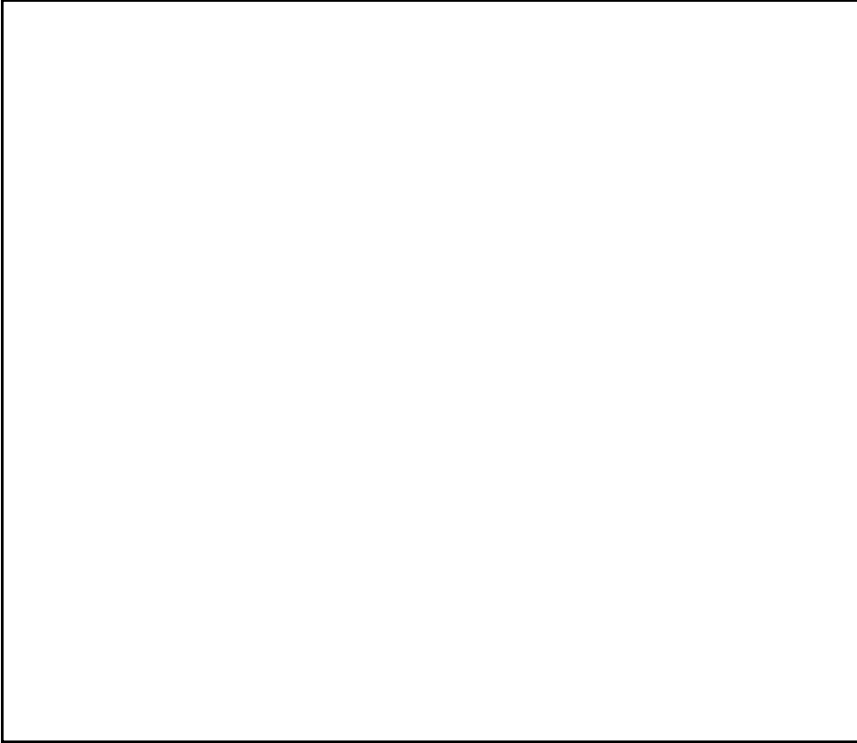
- ✚ Our God protects us and cares for us because he loves us. This does not mean that we will never experience hard or difficult times in life. But it does mean that those difficult times will not overcome us and be victorious against us.
- ✚ Though we experience the brokenness that comes from living in a creation that has been corrupted by sin, we can know that no matter what happens, nothing will be able to stop God from bringing about what he ultimately has in mind for us. No amount of evil, suffering, or hardship will be able to keep him from doing what he wants to do in us and in our lives.
- ✚ The seventh petition asks God to deliver us from evil. The ultimate and final fulfillment of this will be seen in the creation. For in the new creation there will be no more evil or suffering ever again. They will never show their ugly heads in God's creation or cause harm to God's people.



# CATECHISM APPLICATION



Nothing is more powerful than our God. Nothing is too big or too difficult for our God. He saves us even from death. Draw or paste a picture of someone rescuing someone else.



God saves you from sin, death, and evil. Draw a picture or write a word to describe how this makes you feel.

# WORSHIP REFLECTION

How did the service show God's great love, grace, and mercy in Jesus?



What is something the sermon tells me about who Jesus is or what he does?

What does this sermon tell me I should know or do as God's child?

# MISSIONAL LIVING REFLECTION

What did I say about Jesus this week? To whom did I say this?



Whom did I bless this week? How were they blessed?

What good can I do in this next week?

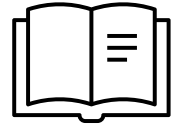
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What is God sending me to do this week?

# SCRIPTURE READING

# SCRIPTURE REFLECTIONS

What is God saying to me in these verses?

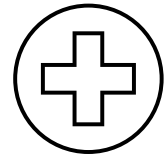


What do these verses tell me about Jesus?

How do these verses encourage me to share God's love with others?

# GOD ACTION REFLECTION

What is something good that happened this week?



What is something not so good that happened this week?

Where did you see God's presence or action this week? How did that show you God?

What are you thankful for today?

# WEEKLY PRAYERS

I am thankful for:



Lord, please have mercy on my family, friends, neighbors, enemies:

Please help me with:

Lord you are...



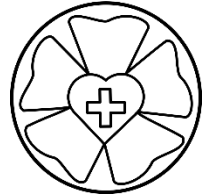
# THE LORD'S PRAYER - THE CONCLUSION

## **Amen.**

*What does this mean?* That I should be certain that such prayers are acceptable to the Father in Heaven and will be granted, that He Himself has commanded us to pray in this way and that He promises to answer us. Amen. Amen. This means: Yes, yes it will happen this way.

## CATECHISM REFLECTION

What is something that this reading teaches us?



What is something related to this reading, for which we can give thanks?

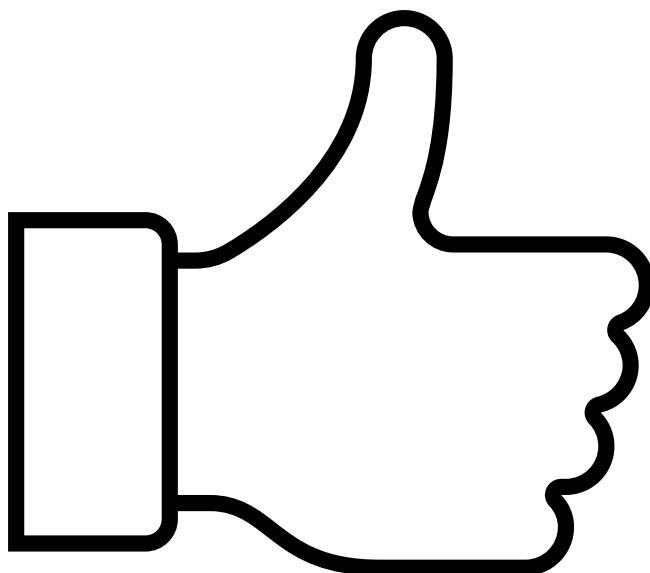
What is something that this reading tells us about living as God's people in this world?

# CATECHISM NOTES

- ✚ Jesus is worthy of all these things because of his life, death, and resurrection. He gave us the words of this prayer and therefore we can pray them in confidence knowing that that they are pleasing to God, and that God hears them, and that God will certainly answer them.
- ✚ The word “amen” is often translated as “truly, truly.” It is a way of showing that what is being said is true. It will happen. It will take place. We believe it. We can speak so confidently about this not because of the one who is praying, but because of the one who hears these prayers and answers them.



# CATECHISM APPLICATION



God promises to hear and answer our prayers. Draw or paste a picture of a person talking to God in prayer.



Your prayers matter to God. He hears you and answers you. Draw a picture or write a word to describe what this means to you.

# WORSHIP REFLECTION

How did the service show God's great love, grace, and mercy in Jesus?



What is something the sermon tells me about who Jesus is or what he does?

What does this sermon tell me I should know or do as God's child?

# MISSIONAL LIVING REFLECTION

What did I say about Jesus this week? To whom did I say this?



Whom did I bless this week? How were they blessed?

What good can I do in this next week?

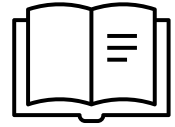
For what will I pray for my neighbors this week?

What is God sending me to do this week?

# SCRIPTURE READING

# SCRIPTURE REFLECTIONS

What is God saying to me in these verses?

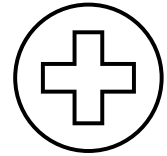


What do these verses tell me about Jesus?

How do these verses encourage me to share God's love with others?

# GOD ACTION REFLECTION

What is something good that happened this week?



What is something not so good that happened this week?

Where did you see God's presence or action this week? How did that show you God?

What are you thankful for today?

# WEEKLY PRAYERS

I am thankful for:



Lord, please have mercy on my family, friends, neighbors, enemies:

Please help me with:

Lord you are...



# CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

*What is confession?*

Confession has two parts: First, a person admits his sin. Second, a person receives absolution or forgiveness from the confessor, as if from God Himself, without doubting it, but believing firmly that their sins are forgiven by God in Heaven through it.

*Which sins should people confess?*

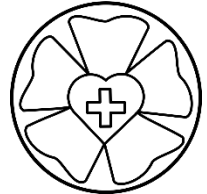
When speaking to God, we should plead guilty to all sins, even those we don't know about, just as we do in the "Our Father," but when speaking to the confessor, only the sins we know about, which we know about and feel in our hearts.

*Which are these?*

Consider here your place in life according to the Ten Commandments. Are you a father? A mother? A son? A daughter? A husband? A wife? A servant? Are you disobedient, unfaithful or lazy? Have you hurt anyone with your words or actions? Have you stolen, neglected your duty, let things go or injured someone?

## CATECHISM REFLECTION

What is something that this reading teaches us?



What is something related to this reading, for which we can give thanks?

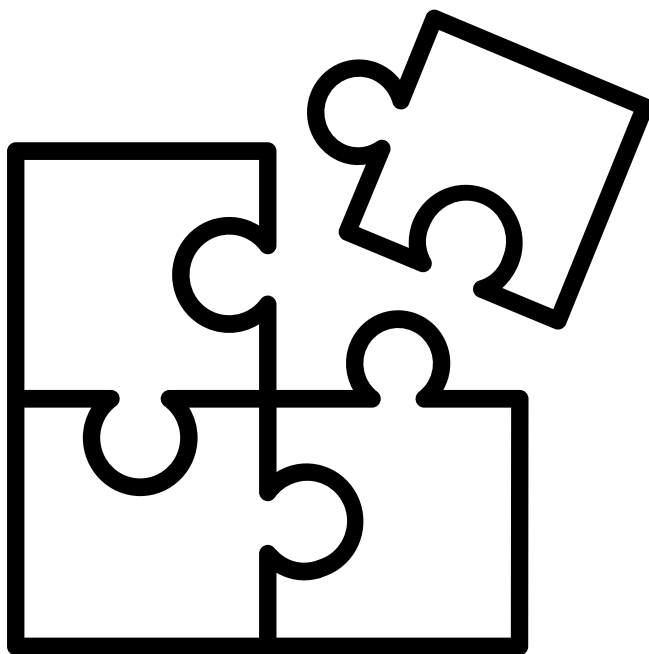
What is something that this reading tells us about living as God's people in this world?

# CATECHISM NOTES

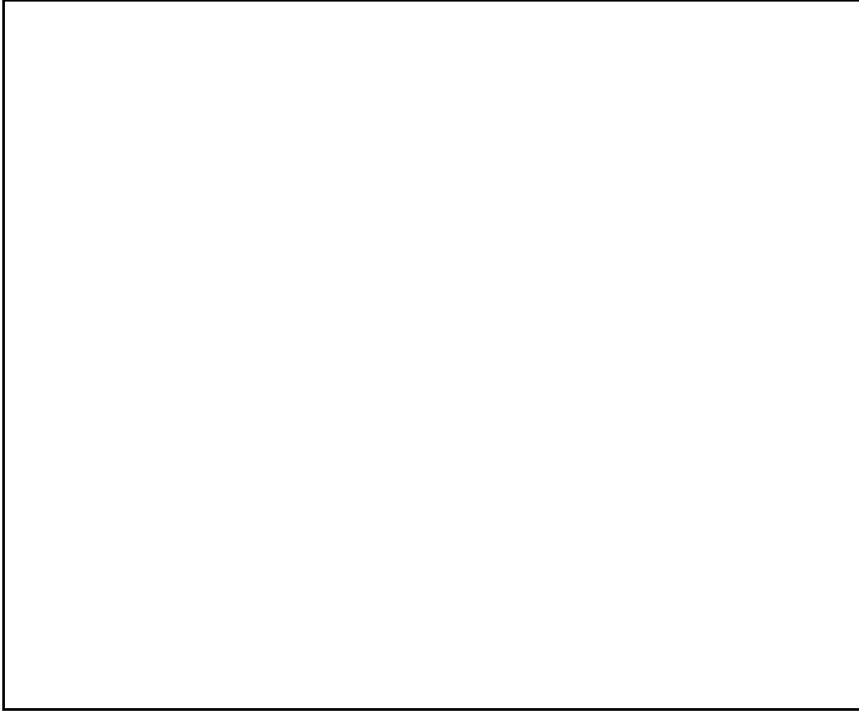
- ⦿ Confession and absolution are great gifts that God gives to us. This is not something that is used to hurt us or get us in trouble. Rather, it is a way for us to know that our sins really are forgiven, and that God will not hold them against us.
- ⦿ We do not have confession without absolution. After we confess our sins, we receive absolution. That is, they are forgiven and no longer counted against us.
- ⦿ Jesus gave us the ability to forgive sins. Therefore, when we receive absolution, we are to hear those words as if they were coming from Jesus himself.
- ⦿ We do not have to go to another person to know that our sins are forgiven. When we confess our sins to God, he truly does forgive them and removes them from us as far as the east is from the west. Sometimes it is nice to be able to hear the words from another person who will show us and remind us that God's forgiveness is real, sure, and certain.
- ⦿ Jesus gives his church the ability to forgive sins. This ability he refers to as the office of the keys. This is because the forgiveness of sins opens to people the gates of heaven.
- ⦿ As the forgiven and baptized people of God, we have a place and role in his mission in this world. We have a place in the ministry of the forgiveness of sins. This is very important and a big deal.



# CATECHISM APPLICATION



Forgiveness heals broken relationships and brings people back together. Draw or paste a picture that shows people forgiving each other.



God has forgiven all your sins. Draw a picture or write a word to describe what this means to you.

# WORSHIP REFLECTION

How did the service show God's great love, grace, and mercy in Jesus?



What is something the sermon tells me about who Jesus is or what he does?

What does this sermon tell me I should know or do as God's child?

# MISSIONAL LIVING REFLECTION

What did I say about Jesus this week? To whom did I say this?



Whom did I bless this week? How were they blessed?

What good can I do in this next week?

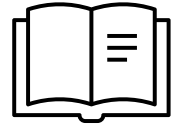
For what will I pray for my neighbors this week?

What is God sending me to do this week?

# SCRIPTURE READING

# SCRIPTURE REFLECTIONS

What is God saying to me in these verses?

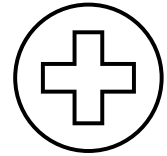


What do these verses tell me about Jesus?

How do these verses encourage me to share God's love with others?

# GOD ACTION REFLECTION

What is something good that happened this week?



What is something not so good that happened this week?

Where did you see God's presence or action this week? How did that show you God?

What are you thankful for today?

# WEEKLY PRAYERS

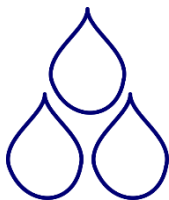
I am thankful for:



Lord, please have mercy on my family, friends, neighbors, enemies:

Please help me with:

Lord you are...



## HOLY BAPTISM - FIRST QUESTION

*What is Baptism?*

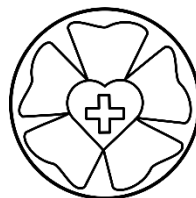
Baptism is not just plain water, but it is water contained within God's command and united with God's Word.

*Which Word of God is this?*

The one which our Lord Christ spoke in the last chapter of Matthew: **“Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you.”**

## CATECHISM REFLECTION

What is something that this reading teaches us?



What is something related to this reading, for which we can give thanks?

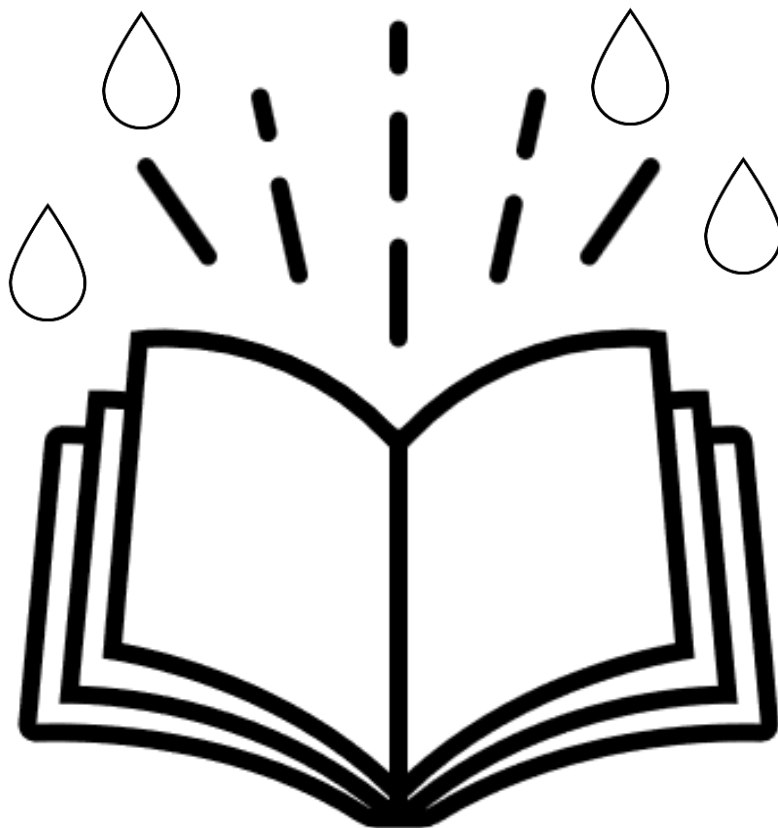
What is something that this reading tells us about living as God's people in this world?

# CATECHISM NOTES

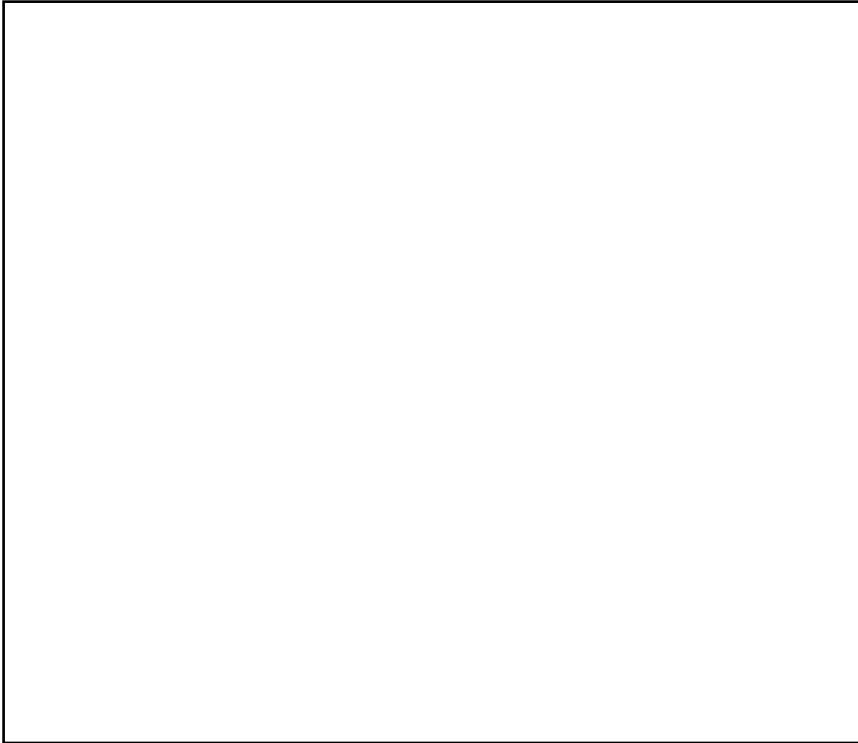
- ⦿ The gift of Baptism is for all people of all places and ages. This is because all people of all places and ages need the gifts offered in baptism. God is the main actor. Baptism is not something that we do for him. Rather, it is something that he does for us. Therefore, what God is doing in baptism is more important than anything else.



# CATECHISM APPLICATION



God works in our lives in baptism. Draw or paste a picture that shows God at work in baptism.



Baptism brings you into God's family. Draw a picture or write a word to describe what this means to you.

# WORSHIP REFLECTION

How did the service show God's great love, grace, and mercy in Jesus?



What is something the sermon tells me about who Jesus is or what he does?

What does this sermon tell me I should know or do as God's child?

# MISSIONAL LIVING REFLECTION

What did I say about Jesus this week? To whom did I say this?



Whom did I bless this week? How were they blessed?

What good can I do in this next week?

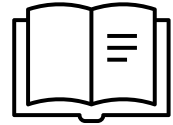
For what will I pray for my neighbors this week?

What is God sending me to do this week?

# SCRIPTURE READING

# SCRIPTURE REFLECTIONS

What is God saying to me in these verses?



What do these verses tell me about Jesus?

How do these verses encourage me to share God's love with others?

# GOD ACTION REFLECTION

What is something good that happened this week?



What is something not so good that happened this week?

Where did you see God's presence or action this week? How did that show you God?

What are you thankful for today?

# WEEKLY PRAYERS

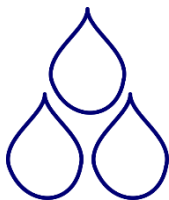
I am thankful for:



Lord, please have mercy on my family, friends, neighbors, enemies:

Please help me with:

Lord you are...



## HOLY BAPTISM - SECOND QUESTION

*What does Baptism give? What good is it?*

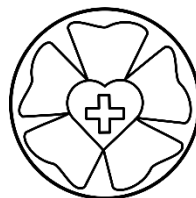
It gives the forgiveness of sins, redeems from death and the Devil, gives eternal salvation to all who believe this, just as God's words and promises declare.

*What are these words and promises of God?*

Our Lord Christ spoke one of them in the last chapter of Mark:  
**"The one who believes and is baptized will be saved, but the one who does not believe will be condemned."**

### CATECHISM REFLECTION

What is something that this reading teaches us?



What is something related to this reading, for which we can give thanks?

What is something that this reading tells us about living as God's people in this world?

# CATECHISM NOTES

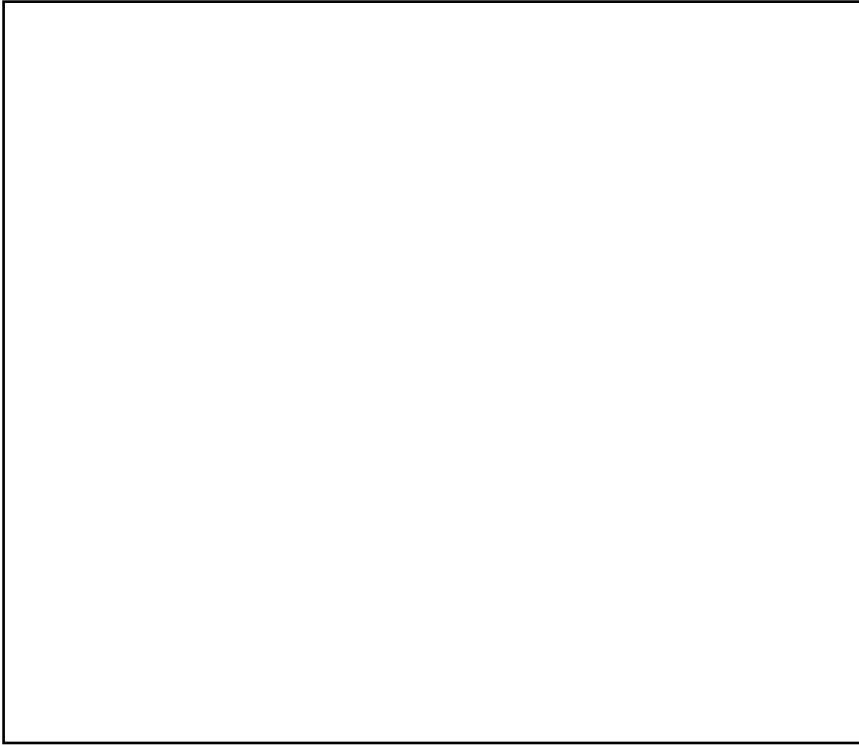
- ⌘ In Baptism, we receive gifts. We receive the forgiveness of sins.
- ⌘ In Baptism, we receive gifts. We receive everlasting life and the hope of the resurrection.
- ⌘ In Baptism, we receive gifts. We receive salvation and we receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.
- ⌘ While Baptism is an incredible gift that God gives to us, and through which we find many important things like comfort and identity, baptism is not a requirement for salvation. That is a person can be saved without having to be baptized. It is only unbelief that condemns.



# CATECHISM APPLICATION



God gives us good gifts in baptism. Draw or paste a picture that shows someone giving a gift.



God gives you forgiveness, life, and salvation in baptism. Draw a picture or write a word to describe what this means to you.

# WORSHIP REFLECTION

How did the service show God's great love, grace, and mercy in Jesus?



What is something the sermon tells me about who Jesus is or what he does?

What does this sermon tell me I should know or do as God's child?

# MISSIONAL LIVING REFLECTION

What did I say about Jesus this week? To whom did I say this?



Whom did I bless this week? How were they blessed?

What good can I do in this next week?

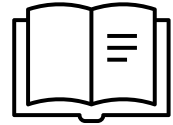
For what will I pray for my neighbors this week?

What is God sending me to do this week?

# SCRIPTURE READING

# SCRIPTURE REFLECTIONS

What is God saying to me in these verses?



What do these verses tell me about Jesus?

How do these verses encourage me to share God's love with others?

# GOD ACTION REFLECTION

What is something good that happened this week?



What is something not so good that happened this week?

Where did you see God's presence or action this week? How did that show you God?

What are you thankful for today?

# WEEKLY PRAYERS

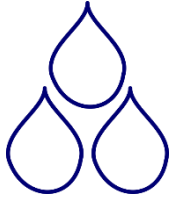
I am thankful for:



Lord, please have mercy on my family, friends, neighbors, enemies:

Please help me with:

Lord you are...



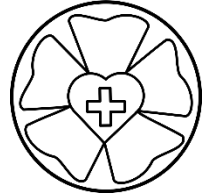
## HOLY BAPTISM - THIRD QUESTION

*How can water do such great things?*

Water doesn't make these things happen, of course. It is God's Word, which is with and in the water. Because, without God's Word, the water is plain water and not baptism. But with God's Word it is a Baptism, a grace-filled water of life, a bath of new birth in the Holy Spirit, as St. Paul said to Titus in the third chapter: **"He saved us not by works of righteousness that we have done but on the basis of his mercy, through the washing of the new birth and the renewing of the Holy Spirit, whom he poured out on us in full measure through Jesus Christ our Savior. And so, since we have been justified by his grace, we become heirs with the confident expectation of eternal life.' This saying is trustworthy."**

### CATECHISM REFLECTION

What is something that this reading teaches us?



What is something related to this reading, for which we can give thanks?

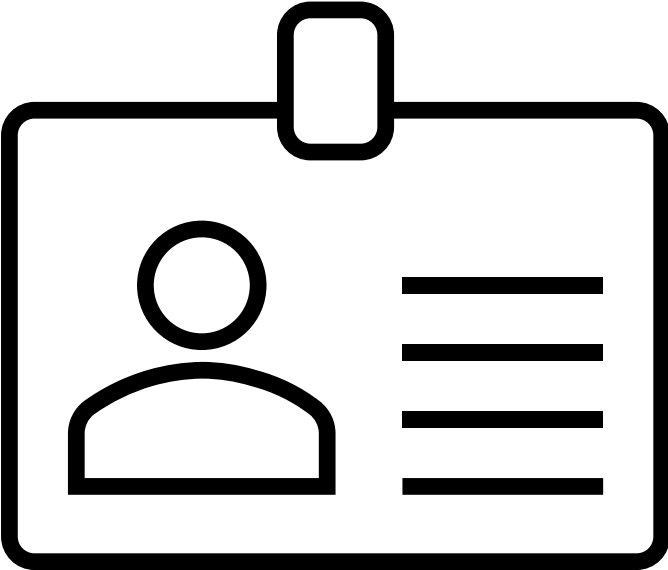
What is something that this reading tells us about living as God's people in this world?

# CATECHISM NOTES

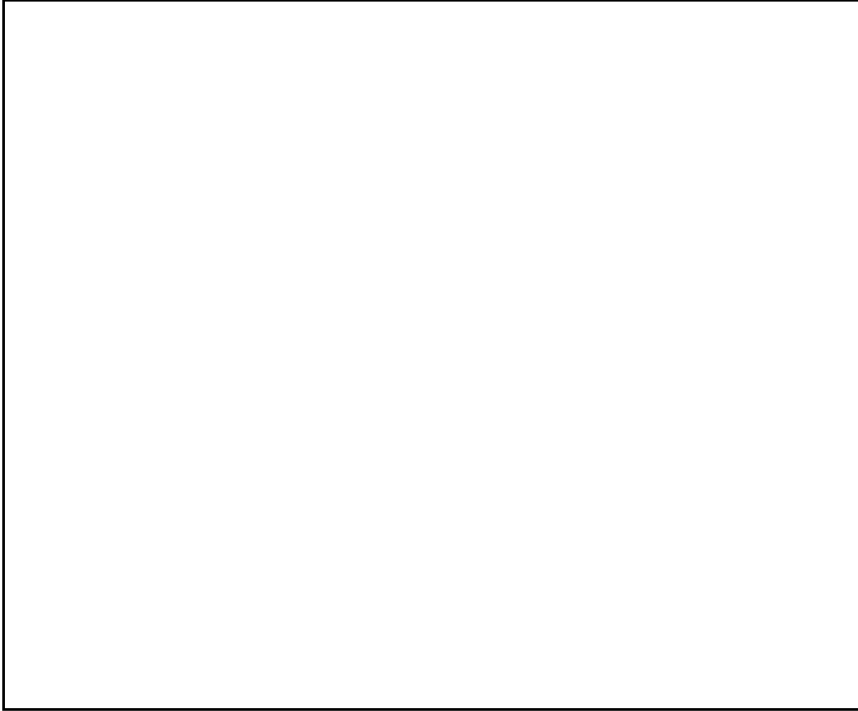
- ⌘ In baptism, we receive the gifts that God gives. Baptism is not something that happens once and then does not matter for the rest of our days. Rather, baptism is the source of our identity. Who are we? We are the baptized children of God. It is the way in which he brings us into and makes us members of his family. Having been given a place in God's family, we also then have a place in God's mission.



# CATECHISM APPLICATION



In baptism, we find our identity. We are God's dearly loved children and members of God's family. Draw or paste a picture that shows your family.



You are God's dearly loved child. You have a place in God's family. Draw a picture or write a word to describe what this means to you.

# WORSHIP REFLECTION

How did the service show God's great love, grace, and mercy in Jesus?



What is something the sermon tells me about who Jesus is or what he does?

What does this sermon tell me I should know or do as God's child?

# MISSIONAL LIVING REFLECTION

What did I say about Jesus this week? To whom did I say this?



Whom did I bless this week? How were they blessed?

What good can I do in this next week?

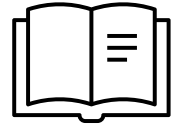
For what will I pray for my neighbors this week?

What is God sending me to do this week?

# SCRIPTURE READING

# SCRIPTURE REFLECTIONS

What is God saying to me in these verses?

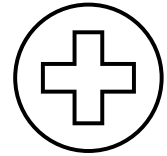


What do these verses tell me about Jesus?

How do these verses encourage me to share God's love with others?

# GOD ACTION REFLECTION

What is something good that happened this week?



What is something not so good that happened this week?

Where did you see God's presence or action this week? How did that show you God?

What are you thankful for today?

# WEEKLY PRAYERS

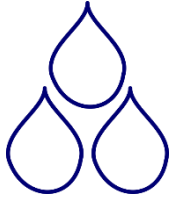
I am thankful for:



Lord, please have mercy on my family, friends, neighbors, enemies:

Please help me with:

Lord you are...



## HOLY BAPTISM - FOURTH QUESTION

*What is the meaning of such a water Baptism?*

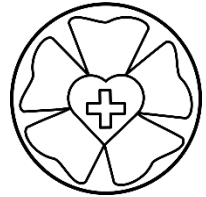
It means that the old Adam in us should be drowned by daily sorrow and repentance, and die with all sins and evil lusts, and, in turn, a new person daily come forth and rise from death again. This new person will live forever before God in righteousness and purity.

*Where is this written?*

St. Paul says to the Romans in chapter six: **“Therefore we have been buried with him through baptism into death, in order that just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, so we too may live a new life.”**

### CATECHISM REFLECTION

What is something that this reading teaches us?



What is something related to this reading, for which we can give thanks?

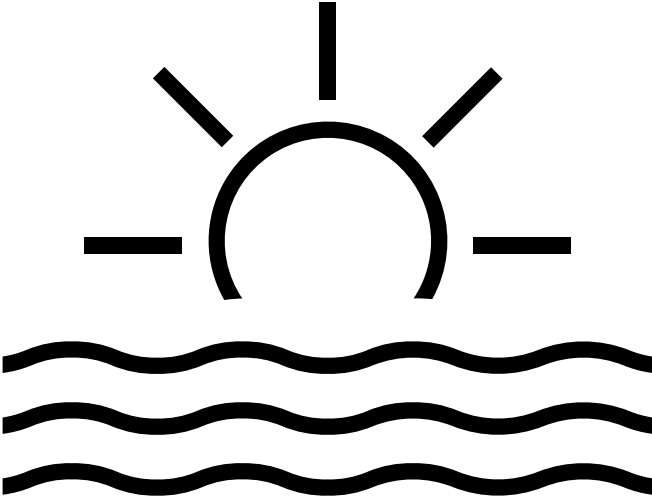
What is something that this reading tells us about living as God’s people in this world?

# CATECHISM NOTES

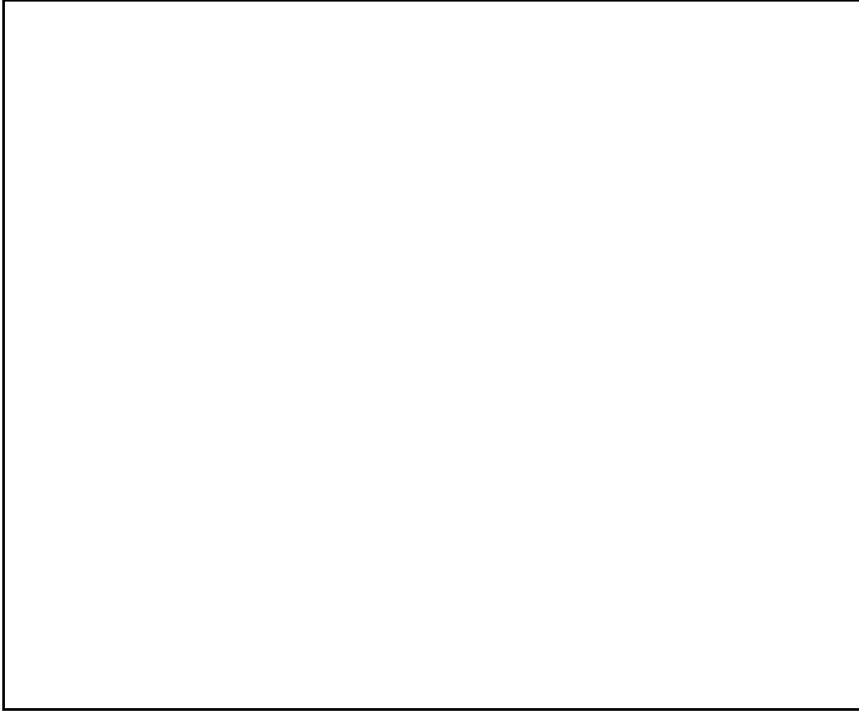
- ⌘ The “Old Adam” is a term that is used to describe that sinful nature that still lives within us, and with which we must wrestle every day. This is not our identity. It is not who we are. Yet it is something with which we must contend. How do we do that? Through remembering our baptism with daily contrition and repentance. This is not supposed to be beating ourselves up. Rather it is a humble acknowledgment that we are imperfect, and that life is not all about us. Whenever we ask God to forgive us, we can know that he always does.



# CATECHISM APPLICATION



In baptism, we live a new life where we love and serve God and our neighbors. Draw or paste a picture that shows a way to love and serve God or your neighbors.



Baptism means that we get a new beginning every day. Draw a picture or write a word to describe what this means to you.

# WORSHIP REFLECTION

How did the service show God's great love, grace, and mercy in Jesus?



What is something the sermon tells me about who Jesus is or what he does?

What does this sermon tell me I should know or do as God's child?

# MISSIONAL LIVING REFLECTION

What did I say about Jesus this week? To whom did I say this?



Whom did I bless this week? How were they blessed?

What good can I do in this next week?

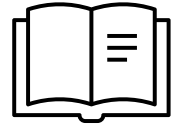
For what will I pray for my neighbors this week?

What is God sending me to do this week?

# SCRIPTURE READING

# SCRIPTURE REFLECTIONS

What is God saying to me in these verses?

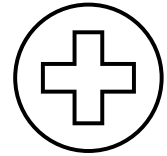


What do these verses tell me about Jesus?

How do these verses encourage me to share God's love with others?

# GOD ACTION REFLECTION

What is something good that happened this week?



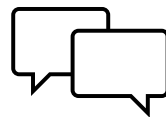
What is something not so good that happened this week?

Where did you see God's presence or action this week? How did that show you God?

What are you thankful for today?

# WEEKLY PRAYERS

I am thankful for:



Lord, please have mercy on my family, friends, neighbors, enemies:

Please help me with:

Lord you are...



# HOLY COMMUNION – PART 1

*What is the Sacrament of the Altar?*

It is the true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ under bread and wine for us Christians to eat and to drink, established by Christ Himself.

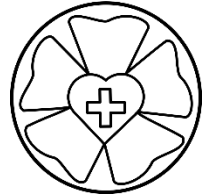
*Where is that written?*

The holy apostles Matthew, Mark and Luke and St. Paul write this:

**“The Lord Jesus on the night in which he was betrayed took bread, and after he had given thanks he broke it and said, ‘This is my body, which is for you. Do this in remembrance of me.’ In the same way, he also took the cup after supper, saying, ‘This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, every time you drink it, in remembrance of me.’”**

## CATECHISM REFLECTION


What is something that this reading teaches us?





What is something related to this reading, for which we can give thanks?


What is something that this reading tells us about living as God’s people in this world?

# CATECHISM NOTES

 Jesus gives to his church this gift of the sacrament. Through this gift we receive his very body and blood, and thus we receive forgiveness, life, and salvation.

 The presence of Jesus' body and blood in the sacrament is a mystery. We know that he is truly there because he told us that he would be. Therefore, we believe what he says and take him at his word. Yet we know that the bread and wine do not cease to be bread and wine. In this beautiful and wonderful mystery, the body and blood of Jesus are truly present in, with, and under the bread and wine.

 When we receive the gifts that Jesus gives in communion, we are proclaiming his death until he comes. That is, we are saying that these gifts show that the benefits of his death are given and received until time ends.

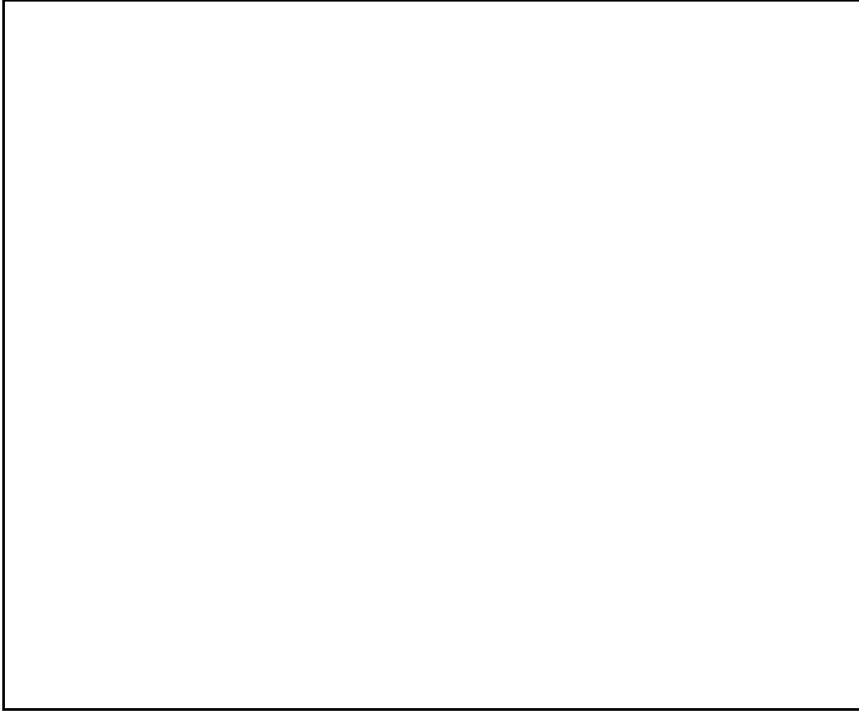
 We are to receive the sacrament whenever we are able because we are people who sin. We are not perfect, and the gift of forgiveness that God gives in the sacrament is always a good thing for us.



# CATECHISM APPLICATION



In Communion, God gives good gifts to us. Draw or paste a picture that shows people receiving God's gifts in Communion.



Jesus gives us himself in Communion. Draw a picture or write a word to describe what this means to you.

# WORSHIP REFLECTION

How did the service show God's great love, grace, and mercy in Jesus?



What is something the sermon tells me about who Jesus is or what he does?

What does this sermon tell me I should know or do as God's child?

# MISSIONAL LIVING REFLECTION

What did I say about Jesus this week? To whom did I say this?



Whom did I bless this week? How were they blessed?

What good can I do in this next week?

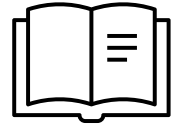
For what will I pray for my neighbors this week?

What is God sending me to do this week?

# SCRIPTURE READING

# SCRIPTURE REFLECTIONS

What is God saying to me in these verses?

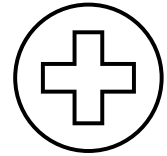


What do these verses tell me about Jesus?

How do these verses encourage me to share God's love with others?

# GOD ACTION REFLECTION

What is something good that happened this week?



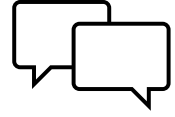
What is something not so good that happened this week?

Where did you see God's presence or action this week? How did that show you God?

What are you thankful for today?

# WEEKLY PRAYERS

I am thankful for:



Lord, please have mercy on my family, friends, neighbors, enemies:

Please help me with:

Lord you are...



## HOLY COMMUNION – PART 2

*What good does this eating and drinking do?*

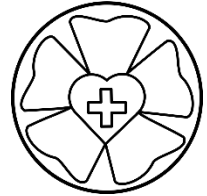
These words tell us: "Given for you" and "Shed for you to forgive sins." Namely, that the forgiveness of sins, life and salvation are given to us through these words in the sacrament. Because, where sins are forgiven, there is life and salvation as well.

*How can physical eating and drinking do such great things?*

Of course, eating and drinking do not do these things. These words, written here, do them: "given for you" and "shed for you to forgive sins." These words, along with physical eating and drinking are the important part of the sacrament. Anyone who believes these words has what they say and what they record, namely, the forgiveness of sins.

### CATECHISM REFLECTION



What is something that this reading teaches us?



What is something related to this reading, for which we can give thanks?

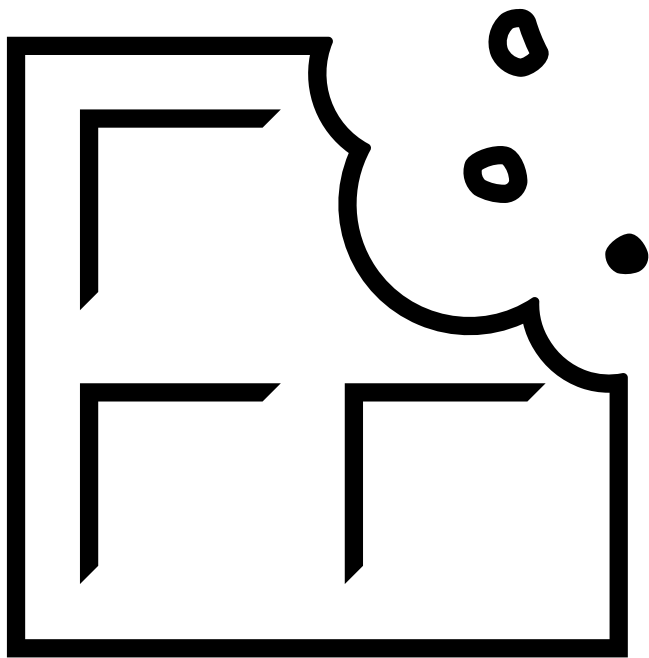
What is something that this reading tells us about living as God's people in this world?

# CATECHISM NOTES

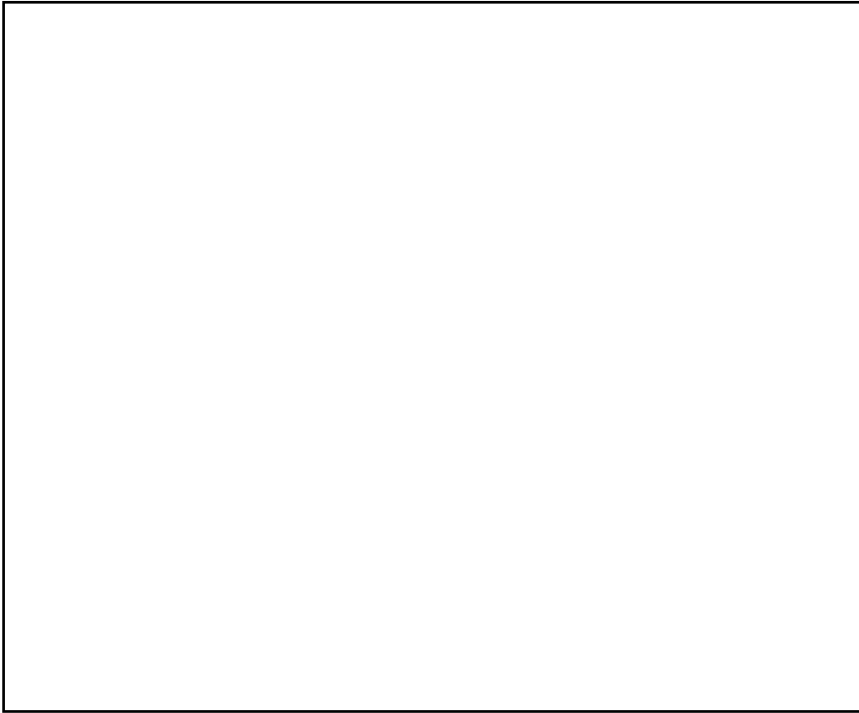
-  In this sacrament, Jesus gives us forgiveness. It is one of the means that he uses to pour out his grace into our lives. Thus, we call communion one of the means of grace.
  
-  The gift of God in the sacrament is not there because we believe it. The gift of God in the sacrament is there because what God says is true. This means that we can simply take God at his word and believes the things that he tells us are true. That is how we can know with great confidence that communion is what it is.



# CATECHISM APPLICATION



In Communion, God serves us a heavenly meal. Draw or paste a picture of your favorite meal.



God gives forgiveness, life, and salvation in this meal. Draw a picture or write a word to describe what this means to you.

# WORSHIP REFLECTION

How did the service show God's great love, grace, and mercy in Jesus?



What is something the sermon tells me about who Jesus is or what he does?

What does this sermon tell me I should know or do as God's child?

# MISSIONAL LIVING REFLECTION

What did I say about Jesus this week? To whom did I say this?



Whom did I bless this week? How were they blessed?

What good can I do in this next week?

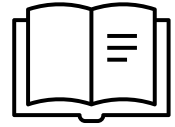
For what will I pray for my neighbors this week?

What is God sending me to do this week?

# SCRIPTURE READING

# SCRIPTURE REFLECTIONS

What is God saying to me in these verses?

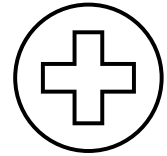


What do these verses tell me about Jesus?

How do these verses encourage me to share God's love with others?

# GOD ACTION REFLECTION

What is something good that happened this week?



What is something not so good that happened this week?

Where did you see God's presence or action this week? How did that show you God?

What are you thankful for today?

# WEEKLY PRAYERS

I am thankful for:



Lord, please have mercy on my family, friends, neighbors, enemies:

Please help me with:

Lord you are...



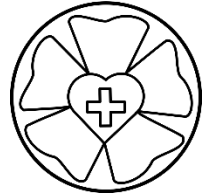
## HOLY COMMUNION – PART 3

*Who, then, receives such a sacrament in a worthy way?*

Of course, fasting and other physical preparations are excellent disciplines for the body. But anyone who believes these words, "Given for you," and "Shed for you to forgive sins," is really worthy and well prepared. But whoever doubts or does not believe these words is not worthy and is unprepared, because the words, "for you" demand a heart that fully believes.

## CATECHISM REFLECTION


What is something that this reading teaches us?




What is something related to this reading, for which we can give thanks?

What is something that this reading tells us about living as God's people in this world?

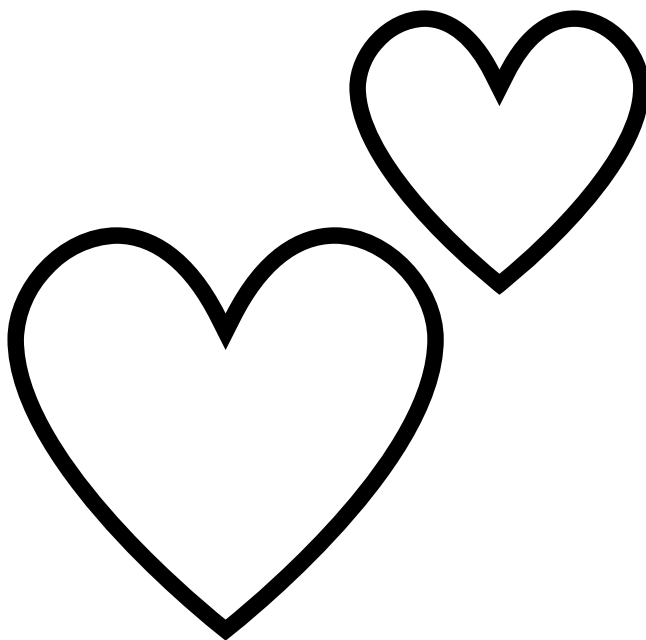
# CATECHISM NOTES

 We do not want to mistreat this gift that Jesus gives. Therefore, it is important to examine ourselves before we receive it. This means that we understand that we have sinned and need forgiveness, we believe that Jesus is truly present, and we desire the help of the Holy Spirit to change our sinful ways.

 When we receive communion, we are receiving forgiveness. Therefore, it is important to understand what is happening here. To not really want forgiveness (we do not think what we are doing is wrong or needs to be changed) or to not forgive someone else (holding a grudge against them) means that our hearts are in a place where we should not receive communion. Doing so would be like saying that God's forgiveness does not matter or is not important.



# CATECHISM APPLICATION



Believing the words “for you” prepares us to receive Communion. We prepare for a lot of things in life. Draw or paste a picture of something that needs preparation.



Communion and the gifts of Communion are for you. Draw a picture or write a word to describe what this means to you.

# WORSHIP REFLECTION

How did the service show God's great love, grace, and mercy in Jesus?



What is something the sermon tells me about who Jesus is or what he does?

What does this sermon tell me I should know or do as God's child?

# MISSIONAL LIVING REFLECTION

What did I say about Jesus this week? To whom did I say this?



Whom did I bless this week? How were they blessed?

What good can I do in this next week?

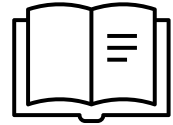
For what will I pray for my neighbors this week?

What is God sending me to do this week?

# SCRIPTURE READING

# SCRIPTURE REFLECTIONS

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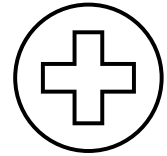


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I am thankful for:



Lord, please have mercy on my family, friends, neighbors, enemies:

Please help me with:

Lord you are...

# THE TEN COMMANDMENTS

## BIBLE MARGINS

# THE TEN COMMANDMENTS



## EXODUS 20:5B-6

What does God say to us about all these commandments?

This is what He says: **"I, the LORD, your God, am a jealous God, responding to the transgression of fathers by dealing with children to the third and fourth generations of those who reject me, and showing covenant faithfulness to a thousand generations of those who love me and keep my commandments."**

What does it mean?

God threatens to punish everyone who breaks these commandments. We should be afraid of His anger because of this and not violate such commandments. But He promises grace and all good things to those who keep such commandments.

Because of this, we, too, should love Him, trust Him, and willingly do what His commandments require.



## MATTHEW 22:36-40

The summary of the commandments is love.

Loving God and loving our neighbors is keeping the commandments. The commandments are about living in a relationship with God and others.

Go to Deuteronomy 5:6-21



## DEUTERONOMY 5:6-21

The commandments have two tables. The first table is commandments 1-3. These deal with our relationship with God. The second table is commandments 4-10. These deal with our relationship with our neighbors.

Each commandment has a positive aspect, "Do this," and a negative aspect, "Don't do this."

Go to Romans 2:14-15



# THE TEN COMMANDMENTS

# THE TEN COMMANDMENTS



## ROMANS 2:14-15

The law functions in three ways. The first way is as a curb. This is the law written on people's hearts. It is how we know right from wrong. The first use of the law is a curb.

Go to Romans 7:7



## ROMANS 7:7

The second use of the law is a mirror. This is when the law shows us our sin. When we look into the law, we see that we have not kept it, and that we cannot keep it and we understand that we are sinners.

S.O.S. (**S**hows **O**ur **S**in).

The gospel shows us our savior. (**S**hows **O**ur **S**avior).

Go to Psalm 119:105



## PSALM 119:105

The third use of the law is the ruler. This is the law showing us how to live our lives in ways that are pleasing to God and bring him glory. We live this way in response to what he has done for us in Jesus. It does not earn us anything from him.

Go to 1 John 1:8-10

# THE TEN COMMANDMENTS

# THE TEN COMMANDMENTS



## 1 JOHN 1:8-10

To break the law is to sin.  
We have all broken the law.  
We are all sinners. There is  
no one who can deny this.  
Since we have all broken it,  
then we are all in need of a  
savior. And that is just  
where Jesus comes in.

Go to Ephesians 2:10



## EPHESIANS 2:10

God's law is a good thing.  
Even though it cannot save  
us, it gives a way of living  
that is healthy and happy. It  
is important to follow this  
law because

1. God told us to do it.
2. There is great freedom,  
joy, and blessing in following  
God's law.
3. It bears a powerful  
witness to who God is and  
what it means to live life in  
relationship with him
4. It is one of the ways that  
we join God in God's  
mission in the world.

# THE TEN COMMANDMENTS

# THE TEN COMMANDMENTS



## EXODUS 32:10

**You shall have no other gods before me.**

*What does this mean?*

We must fear, love, and trust God more than anything else.

Go to Proverbs 1:7



## PROVERBS 1:7

The fear of the Lord is understanding that God is God, and we are not. So, we take him seriously and obey him above all others.

Go to Joshua 23:11



## JOSHUA 23:11

We love God in many ways. When we do the things he tells us to do, we are loving him. When we believe the things he tells us, we are loving him. When we love the things that he loves, we are loving him.

Go to Isaiah 12:2

# THE TEN COMMANDMENTS

# THE TEN COMMANDMENTS



## **ISAIAH 12:2**

Trusting in God is believing that he is who he says he is, and that he does what he says he will do. We do not just trust God because he tells us to, but we trust him because he never fails, and because he always keeps his promises. God is worthy of our trust. When we trust in him, our trust is well placed.

Go to Deuteronomy 6:4



## **DEUTERONOMY 6:4**

We do not fear, love, and trust in many gods, but in the one God, who alone is God. He is the one who create everything. He is the one who saved Israel. He is the one who made himself known in Jesus.

Go to 2 Corinthians 13:14



# THE TEN COMMANDMENTS

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## **2 CORINTHIANS 13:14**

The one God we fear, love, and trust in above all things has revealed himself to us in three persons. He is one God, but also Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. This means that we know him in relationship. He is our creator, redeemer, and the one who makes us holy (our sanctifier).

Go to Isaiah 44:14-20



## **ISAIAH 44:14-20**

An idol is anything that we fear, love, and trust more than God. The reason why we are not to fear, love, and trust an idol is because an idol is not able to help us or do anything for us. Therefore, they are not worthy of our fear, love, or trust. Only God is worthy of those things. Besides, he will never fail us.

# THE TEN COMMANDMENTS

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## LEVITICUS 24:10-16

The Second Commandment

**You shall not take the name of the LORD your God in vain.**

*What does this mean?*

We must fear and love God, so that we will not use His name to curse, swear, cast a spell, lie or deceive, but will use it to call upon Him, pray to Him, praise Him and thank Him in all times of trouble.



## EXODUS 3:14

God reveals to us his very name. This allows us to know him on a real and intimate level. It reminds us that he is unique and important. In Hebrew, it is probably pronounced as Yahweh. But we are not sure. What is most important is how we treat this name. This name becomes for us the name of the one who made us, loves us, and saves us from sin and death.

Go to Matthew 1:21



## MATTHEW 1:21

Joseph is told to give Jesus the name "Jesus" because Jesus will save his people from their sins. That is exactly what he has done for us. Jesus lived the perfect life that God's law requires. He suffered and died on the cross to pay the price for our sins. He rose victoriously from the grave and defeated the power of death.

Go to John 18:4-8

# THE TEN COMMANDMENTS

# THE TEN COMMANDMENTS



## **JOHN 18:4-8**

When Jesus answered their question, he answered them, "I am." He is using this as a way of showing that he is God (Yahweh) in the flesh. That is why they responded the way that they did. When we see Jesus, we see God and who he is.

Philippians 2:9-11



## **PHILIPPIANS 2:9-11**

This verse assures us that Jesus is God in the flesh. We know this from the connection between Jesus and the name that is above every name (Yahweh). When we see Jesus, we see God. Because of all that God does for us, we respond by honoring his name and calling upon it in every trouble, praise, and thanksgiving.

Go to Matthew 15:8-9



## **MATTHEW 15:8-9**

One of the ways that we honor God is in the way that we live our lives. Our love and praise for God should not be limited to the things that we say but should be seen in our hearts and in the ways that we live our lives. To use God's name in a way that is false, deceptive, or empty is misusing it, and something that we should avoid.

Go to Psalm 50:15

# THE TEN COMMANDMENTS

# THE TEN COMMANDMENTS



## **PSALM 50:15**

God gives us his name so that we can know him, love him, and live in relationship with him. A proper use of his name is to call upon him in our time of trial and trouble. We do this knowing that God always hears and answers us.

Go to Psalm 7:17



## **PSALM 7:17**

God is worthy of our praise because of all the wonderful things that he does for us. We praise God because of what he has first done for us in Jesus. Praise is the only proper response to God's love, grace, and mercy.

Go to Galatians 4:4-7



## **GALATIANS 4:4-7**

In baptism, God gives us his Holy Spirit, and a place in his kingdom, mission, and family. The Holy Spirit is proof that we have been adopted into God's family. This means that we can know our God as Creator, Yahweh, Savior, Jesus, and Father. Because God has placed his name on us, we can live in confidence of knowing that we are his, and we belong to him.



# THE TEN COMMANDMENTS

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## LUKE 10:38-42

The Third Commandment

**Remember the Sabbath day to set it apart as holy. What does this mean?**

We must fear and love God, so that we will not look down on preaching or God's Word, but consider it holy, listen to it willingly, and learn it.

Go to Leviticus 23:3



## LEVITICUS 23:3

God set apart the seventh day (Saturday) to be a day of rest. This was done so that God's people would not work themselves to death; remember that God rested on the seventh day; and have time to worship and be with God.

Go to Matthew 11:28



## MATTHEW 11:28

The sabbath day points us to Jesus, who is the Lord of the Sabbath (Matthew 12:8) and the one who gives us rest. This means that Jesus is the fulfillment of the Sabbath. He kept it perfectly.

Go to Colossians 2:16-17

# THE TEN COMMANDMENTS

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## **COLOSSIANS 2:16-17**

Because Jesus fulfilled the Sabbath, we are no longer bound to Saturday as our day of rest. This does not mean that we do not have to be with God in worship or spend time in his word. It just means that those things do not have to be limited to Saturday.

Hebrews 10:25



## **HEBREWS 10:25**

The third commandment tells us to set aside time to be with God in worship. When we are with God in worship, we receive the gifts that he gives to us through Word and Sacrament, we are reminded of his love for us, and that our sins are forgiven. Also, we are strengthened and sent into our neighborhoods to join God in God's mission in the world.

Go to Acts 20:7



## **ACTS 20:7**

We worship on Sunday because Sunday is the day that Jesus rose from the dead. This makes each Sunday a little Easter celebration. Easter Sunday is also known as the eighth day of the creation, because Jesus makes all things new through his death and resurrection.

Go to Luke 10:16

# THE TEN COMMANDMENTS

# THE TEN COMMANDMENTS



## **LUKE 10:16**

God's word is a great gift that he gives to his people. He works through it to give and strengthen faith. The preaching of God's word helps us to understand it correctly and helps us to know what God's word says to us. This is why it is so important.

Go to Colossians 3:16



## **COLOSSIANS 3:16**

We should not be content to just hear the word of God on Sundays. But we should spend time in it daily and let God's word dwell deeply in us. God's word tells us who God is, how he sees us, what he has done for us, and how we are to live our lives.

Go to Mark 16:15



## **MARK 16:15**

In addition to working in our lives through his word, God sends us out into our neighborhoods, community, and world, to show, proclaim, and make known the good news of God's love, mercy, and grace for the world in Jesus. God's word is one of the means that we use to do this.

Go to Romans 10:14-17

# THE TEN COMMANDMENTS

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## **ROMANS 10:14-17**

God's word is not meant to sit on a shelf and collect dust. But it is meant to be proclaimed and shared. We share it as we tell others what it says (in a loving, grace-filled, and humble way), and as we put it into actions in our lives.

Go to 2 Timothy 3:16-17



## **2 TIMOTHY 3:16-17**

God's word is not just a bunch of ink on a bunch of pages. But it is a mean through which God pours out his grace in our lives. It is living and active and an important resource in our lives. God's word shows us Jesus and helps us to know him better.



# THE TEN COMMANDMENTS

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## LUKE 2:41-52

The Fourth Commandment

**Honor your father and your mother, that you may live a long time in the land the LORD your God is giving to you.**

What does this mean?

We must fear and love God, so that we will neither look down on our parents or superiors nor irritate them, but will honor them, serve them, obey them, love them, and value them.

Go to Proverbs 23:22



## PROVERBS 23:22

The fourth commandment tells us to not hate or anger our parents and others in authority. We accomplish this by listening to them and not despising them.

Go to Romans 13:1-2



## ROMANS 13:1-2

The fourth commandment is not limited to our parents. It requires that we honor and respect all those people God has placed in authority over us. This includes our elected leaders, police officers, pastors, and teachers.

Go to Ephesians 6:1-3

# THE TEN COMMANDMENTS

# THE TEN COMMANDMENTS



## **EPHESIANS 6:1-3**

The fourth Commandment instructs us to honor and respect our parents and others in authority over us. This is because they are God's representatives. The way that we treat them reflects how we see God.

Go to 1 Timothy 5:4



## **1 TIMOTHY 5:4**

The fourth commandment shows us that God is pleased when we serve our parents and others in authority. We serve them by providing the things that they need from us, and the things that they require of us.

# THE TEN COMMANDMENTS

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## GENESIS 4:1-15

The Fifth Commandment

**You shall not murder.**

What does this mean?

We must fear and love God, so that we will neither harm nor hurt our neighbor's body but help him and care for him when he is ill.

Go to 1 John 3:12-15

5

## 1 JOHN 3:12-15

The fifth commandment goes deep into the heart of how we see and treat other people. This commandment is more than not killing people. It teaches us that how we treat other people matters and is important. This commandment does not just tell us to not hurt our neighbors. But it tells us to help them also.

Go to Matthew 5:21-22

5

## MATTHEW 5:21-22

In the Fifth Commandment, God tells us to not take the life of another, or even our own. It also tells us not to say or do anything that would hurt or harm them. Words are powerful and should be used to build up and not to tear down.

Go to Romans 13:4

# THE TEN COMMANDMENTS

# THE TEN COMMANDMENTS



5

## **ROMANS 13:4**

The Fifth Commandment gives to the authorities the ability to punish criminals for crimes. However, a pro-life position should be against the use of this ability to take another's life.

Go to Romans 12:14-21



5

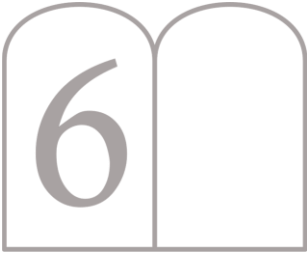
## **ROMANS 12:14-21**

The Fifth Commandment instructs us to help and support our neighbors in every physical need. This is true for both our friends and our enemies.



# THE TEN COMMANDMENTS

# THE TEN COMMANDMENTS



## 2 SAMUEL 11:1-5

The Sixth Commandment

**You shall not commit adultery.**

What does this mean?

We must fear and love God, so that our words and actions will be clean and decent and so that everyone will love and honor their spouses.

Go to Mark 10:6-9



## MARK 10:6-9

The Sixth Commandment is about God's gift of marriage and keeping that relationship special. It is about protecting that relationship. While sex is a part of that relationship, there is much more to this relationship than sex. In marriage, God brings together a man and a woman to live together in a way that shows God's love to the world and reflects the relationship that God has with God's people.

Go to Matthew 5:27-32

# THE TEN COMMANDMENTS

# THE TEN COMMANDMENTS



6

## **MATTHEW 5:27-32**

Lust, divorce, sex with someone outside of marriage, breaks apart what God has put together in marriage. To protect and preserve marriage, those things are to be avoided.

Go to Ephesians 5:3-4



6

## **EPHESIANS 5:3-4**

The Sixth Commandment is not just limited to our actions about sex. But it gets to the heart of how we think and talk about it too. When we honor sex, we honor our spouse. We also honor the God who gave this gift to us.

# THE TEN COMMANDMENTS

# THE TEN COMMANDMENTS

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## **JOSHUA 7:1, 10-15**

The Seventh Commandment

**You shall not steal.**

**What does this mean?**

We must fear and love God, so that we will neither take our neighbor's money or property, nor acquire it by fraud or by selling him poorly made products, but will help him improve and protect his property and career.

Go to Hosea 4:1-3

7

## **HOSEA 4:1-3**

The seventh commandment tells us that we are not to take anything that belongs to our neighbors away from them. This includes both their money and their possessions.

Go to Philippians 4:11-12

7

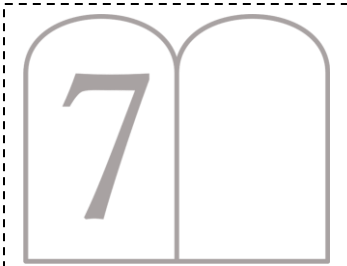
## **PHILIPPIANS 4:11-12**

In the seventh commandment, we are forbidden from taking what rightfully belongs to our neighbors. There are two main reasons for this. First, is because our neighbor's belongings are given to them by God. We do not have a right to tell God how to give his gifts or tell him what he is supposed to give to them. Second, is because God gives us everything that we need. When we try to take things that are not ours to take, that is like telling God that he cannot or will not provide for us.

Go to Philippians 2:3-4

# THE TEN COMMANDMENTS

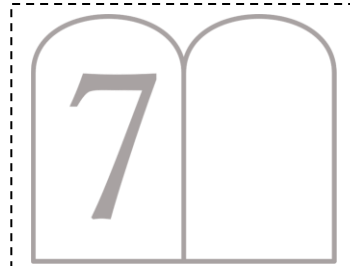
# THE TEN COMMANDMENTS



## **PHILIPPIANS 2:3-4**

The seventh commandment tells us that we are to help our neighbors to improve and protect their money and everything that belongs to them. As we help our neighbors in this way, God is working through us to show them his love and care.

Luke 10:29-37



## **LUKE 10:29-37**

Not only are we able to help our neighbors protect everything that belongs to them, but we can use what has been given to us to help our neighbors in their need. As we do this, we are bearing a powerful witness to what it means to be a follower of Jesus.



# THE TEN COMMANDMENTS

# THE TEN COMMANDMENTS

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## LUKE 22:54-62

The Eight Commandment

**You shall not give false testimony against your neighbor.**

What does this mean?

We must fear and love God, so that we will not deceive by lying, betraying, slandering, or ruining our neighbor's reputation, but will defend him, say good things about him, and see the best side of everything he does.

Go to Ephesians 4:25

8

## EPHESIANS 4:25

The eighth commandment not only tells us to not lie about our neighbors. It also tells us to not lie to our neighbors. This is especially true if that neighbor is a sister or brother in Christ.

Go to James 4:11

8

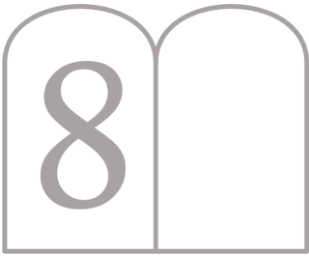
## JAMES 4:11

The eighth commandment tells to not slander our neighbors. This means that we should also reject gossiping about them and speaking evil about them. Few things are as hurtful and destructive as gossip. If it is not true, then do not say anything. If it is true, and it is private, then do not broadcast it for the whole world to know.

Go to Proverbs 31:8-9

# THE TEN COMMANDMENTS

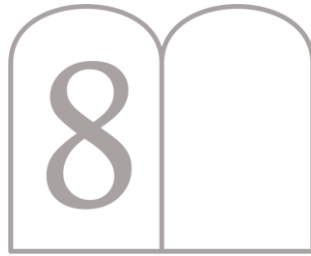
# THE TEN COMMANDMENTS



## **PROVERBS 31:8-9**

The eighth commandment does not just tell us what kinds of things to not say and speak. It also gives us instructions on the ways that we are supposed to speak about our neighbors. One of the ways that we can keep this commandment is by speaking on behalf of those who cannot speak for themselves, or who have no voice.

Go to 1 Corinthians 13:7



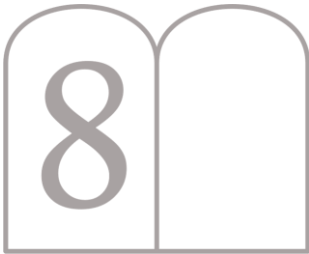
## **1 CORINTHIANS 13:7**

The eighth commandment tells us that we are to put the best construction on everything our neighbors do. That means that we do not automatically assume the worst about what they are doing or saying. Instead, we try to understand where they are coming from and go and talk to them directly.

Go to Ephesians 4:15

# THE TEN COMMANDMENTS

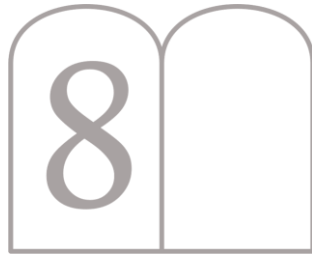
# THE TEN COMMANDMENTS



## **EPHESIANS 4:15**

The eighth commandment does not prevent us from speaking the truth when someone is doing wrong. But we must always speak the truth in love. That is the difference and the challenge. As God's people, we are to speak the truth in love without sacrificing truth or love.

Go to Matthew 18:15-20



## **MATTHEW 18:15-20**

When our brother or sister in Christ has sinned against us, we do not gossip or slander them. We do not seek revenge on them. Instead, we are to seek reconciliation with them. So, we go to them to do just that. We do this because this is what God has done for us.

# THE TEN COMMANDMENTS

# THE TEN COMMANDMENTS



## GENESIS 30:25-43

The Ninth Commandment

**You shall not covet your neighbor's house.**

What does this mean?

We must fear and love God, so that we will not attempt to trick our neighbor out of his inheritance or house, take it by pretending to have a right to it, etc. but help him to keep & improve it.

Go to Micah 2:1-2



## MICAH 2:1-2

Coveting is what we call that sinful desire in us to take what belongs to our neighbor away from them. Even if we can make it sound like it is a good thing for our neighbor, that does not make it right. The ninth commandment tells us not to covet our neighbor's house or possessions.

Go to Hebrews 13:5



## HEBREWS 13:5

The ninth commandment is not only kept when we do not covet our neighbor's house or possessions. It also requires us to help our neighbor protect and keep what belongs to them. Our neighbor's house and possessions are gifts to them from God. When we help them keep and protect their stuff, we are honoring God.



# THE TEN COMMANDMENTS

# THE TEN COMMANDMENTS



## **GENESIS 39:1-10**

The Tenth Commandment

**You shall not covet your neighbor's wife, nor his male servant, nor his female servant, nor his ox, nor his donkey, nor anything that belongs to your neighbor.**

What does this mean?

We must fear and love God, so that we will not release his cattle, take his employees from him or seduce his wife, but urge them to stay and do what they ought to do.

Go to Luke 12:15



## **LUKE 12:15**

The tenth commandment does not imply that a person's family is their possession. One person does not own another. However, this commandment tells us that we are not to try to turn our neighbor's family, household, or employees against them. Neither are we to take them for ourselves.

Go to Psalm 119:35-36

# THE TEN COMMANDMENTS

# THE TEN COMMANDMENTS



## **PSALM 119:35-36**

The tenth commandment tells us to help our neighbor's household and family to stay together, and to help their employees stay with them too. In doing this, we are honoring God.

Go to Psalm 37:4

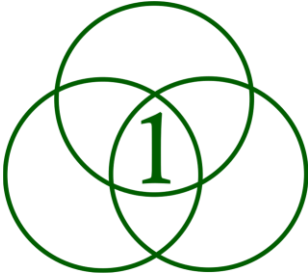


## **PSALM 37:4**

At the heart of coveting is our trust in and gratitude toward God. When we covet, we are saying that what God has given to us is not good enough. It is also a way of saying that we do not believe that he will provide for us or give us what we need. But God is faithful and will never fail to give us what we need. In him, we can always be content with the things with which he has blessed us.

# THE APOSTLES' CREED

# THE APOSTLES' CREED



PSALM 136:1-9

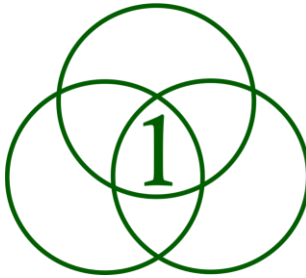
The First Article - Creation

I believe in God the Almighty Father, Creator of Heaven and Earth.

What does this mean?

I believe that God created me, along with all creatures. He gave to me: body and soul, eyes, ears and all the other parts of my body, my mind and all my senses and preserves them as well. He gives me clothing and shoes, food and drink, house and land, wife and children, fields, animals and all I own. Every day He abundantly provides everything I need to nourish this body and life. He protects me against all danger, shields and defends me from all evil. He does all this because of His pure, fatherly and divine goodness and His mercy, not because I've earned it or deserved it. For all of this, I must thank Him, praise Him, serve Him and obey Him. Yes, this is true!

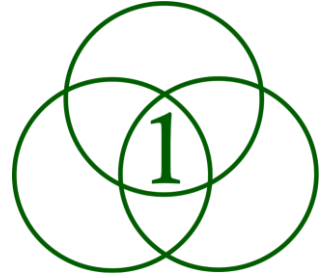
Go to Psalm 19:1



PSALM 19:1

There are three main means through which we can know that there is a God. First, is creation.

Go to Romans 2:14-15



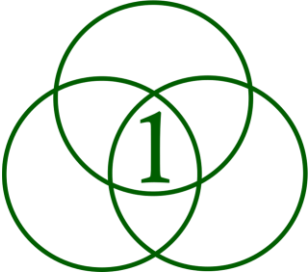
ROMANS 2:14-15

The second means through which we can know there is a God is the conscience. But creation and conscience only tell us that there is a God. They tell us nothing about him.

Go to John 20:31

# THE APOSTLES' CREED

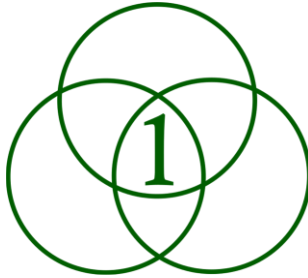
# THE APOSTLES' CREED



JOHN 20:31

The third means through which we know that there is a God is through revelation (scripture). Apart from Scripture we only know that God exists. We know nothing about Him; who He is; and what He is like. Scripture shows us all these things.

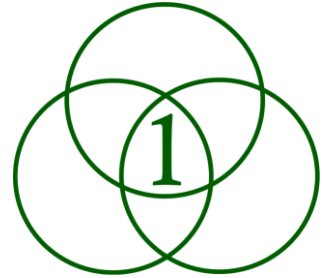
Go to John 4:24



JOHN 4:24

Scripture tells us that God is Spirit.

Go to Psalm 90:1-2



PSALM 90:1-2

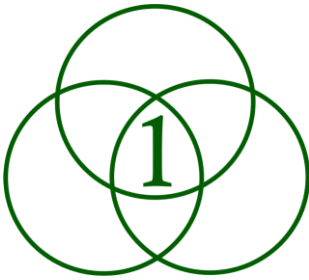
Scripture tells us that God is eternal.

Go to Psalm 102:27



# THE APOSTLES' CREED

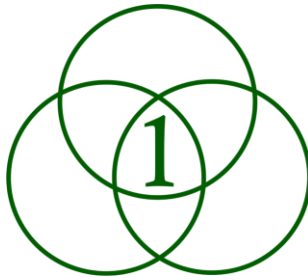
# THE APOSTLES' CREED



PSALM 102:27

Scripture tells us that God is immutable. That is, He does not change.

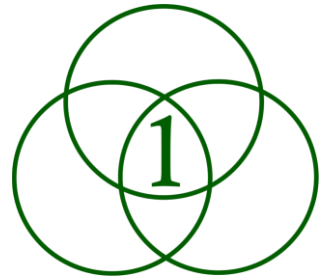
Go to Genesis 17:1



GENESIS 17:1

Scripture tells us that God is omnipotent. That is, He is all-powerful.

Go to Psalm 139:1-4



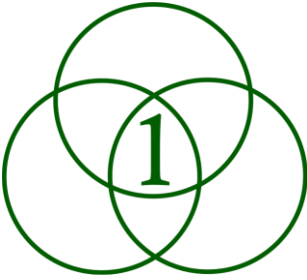
PSALM 139:1-4

Scripture tells us that God is omniscient. That is, He is all-knowing.

Go to Jeremiah 23:24.

# THE APOSTLES' CREED

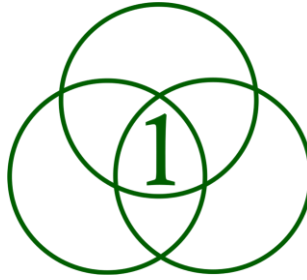
# THE APOSTLES' CREED



## JEREMIAH 23:24

Scripture tells us that God is omnipresent. That is, He is everywhere.

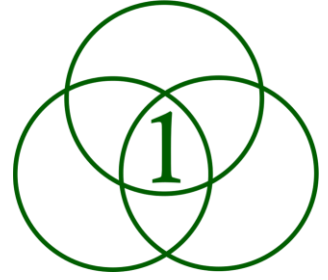
Go to Leviticus 19:2



## LEVITICUS 19:2

Scripture tells us that God is holy.

Go to Deuteronomy 32:4



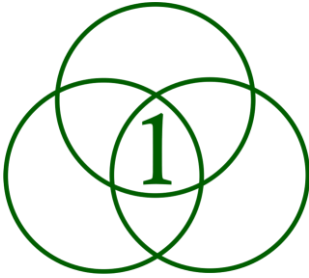
## DEUTERONOMY 32:4

Scripture tells us that God is just.

Go to 2 Timothy 2:13

# THE APOSTLES' CREED

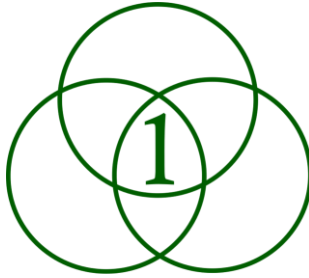
# THE APOSTLES' CREED



2 TIMOTHY 2:13

Scripture tells us that God is faithful.

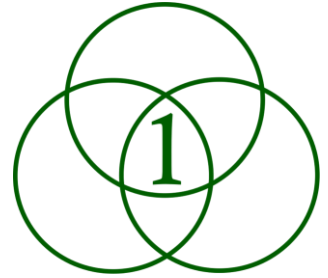
Go to Psalm 118:1



PSALM 118:1

Scripture tells us that God is good.

Go to Jeremiah 3:12



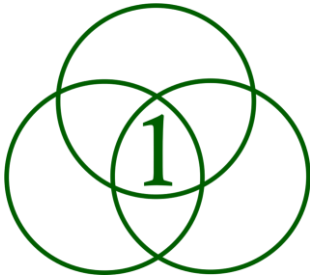
JEREMIAH 3:12

Scripture tells is that God is merciful.

Go to Exodus 34:6

# THE APOSTLES' CREED

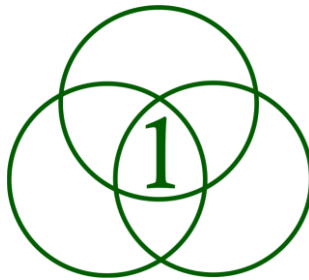
# THE APOSTLES' CREED



EXODUS 34:6

Scripture tells us that God is gracious.

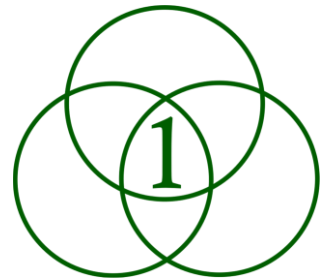
Go to 1 John 4:8



1 JOHN 4:8

Scripture tells us that God is love.

Go to Luke 15:11-32



LUKE 15:11-32

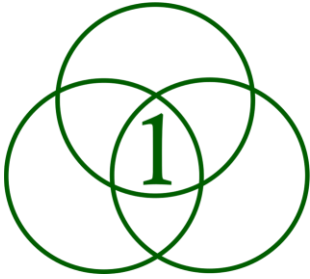
God is loving and forgiving beyond human understanding. This is a really, really big deal.

Go to Matthew 28:19



# THE APOSTLES' CREED

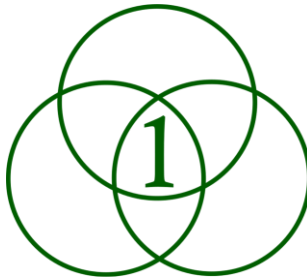
# THE APOSTLES' CREED



## MATTHEW 28:19

Scripture tells us that God is three persons, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Yet, He is one God.

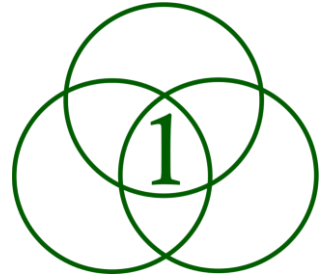
Go to Deuteronomy 6:4



## DEUTERONOMY 6:4

Scripture tells us that God is three persons, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Yet, He is one God.

Go to Matthew 3:17



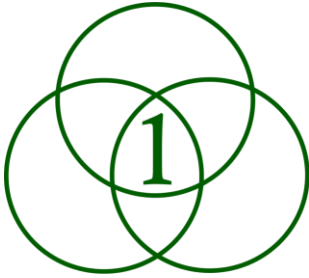
## MATTHEW 3:17

The Creed refers to the first person of the trinity as "Father" because He is the father of Jesus, our Savior.

Go to Galatians 3:26

# THE APOSTLES' CREED

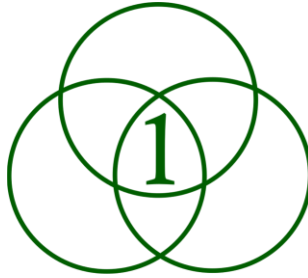
# THE APOSTLES' CREED



## GALATIANS 3:26

The Creed refers to the first person of the trinity as "Father" because He has adopted us into His family through Jesus.

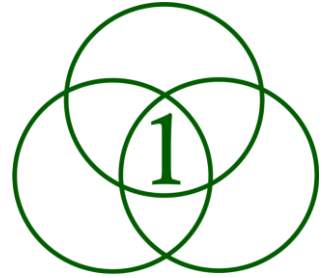
Go to Malachi 2:10



## MALACHI 2:10

The Creed refers to the first person of the trinity as "Father" because he is the creator of the entire human race (all people).

Go to Revelation 4:11



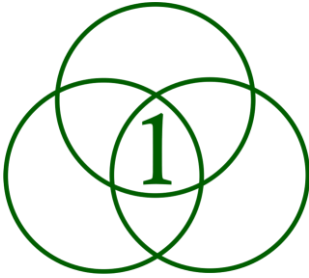
## REVELATION 4:11

The creed refers to the first person of the trinity as "Creator" because he made all things and brought them into existence. There is nothing that exists that is not part of his creation.

Go to Psalm 33:6-9

# THE APOSTLES' CREED

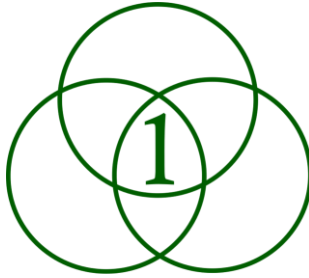
# THE APOSTLES' CREED



## PSALM 33:6-9

God created everything simply by speaking it into existence. This means that he is the creator and everything else is part of the creation. This simple fact establishes the very important relationship that exists between God (creator) and his creation (creation).

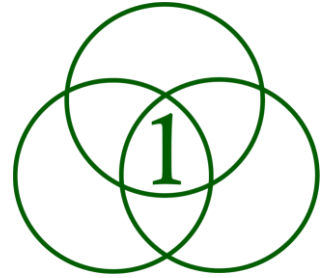
Go to Colossians 1:16



## COLOSSIANS 1:16

The creation is not limited to what we can see alone. It includes even the invisible. This could be things too small to see; things too far away to see; things that have not been discovered yet; and things that exist in the spiritual realm.

Go to Genesis 2:7



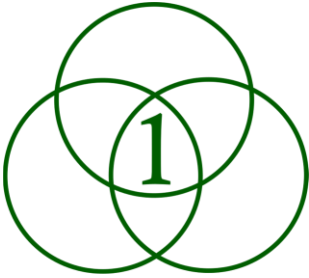
## GENESIS 2:7

The creation of human beings is an incredibly important and special part of God's creation. People do not just randomly exist. But they are deeply loved and valued by God. He delights in living in relationship with them.

Go to Colossians 1:17

# THE APOSTLES' CREED

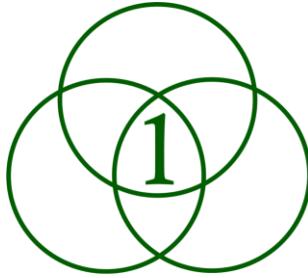
# THE APOSTLES' CREED



## COLOSSIANS 1:17

God did not just create the creation and leave it alone. He does not watch from a distance. Rather, he is actively involved in his creation. He sustains it and keeps it going.

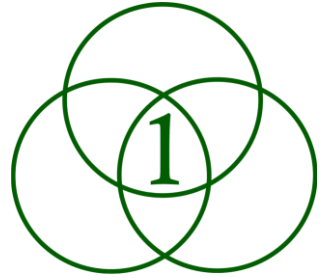
Go to Romans 6:23



## ROMANS 6:23

God did not create sin or evil. Those are separate from his creation and introduced into the creation things that God never intended to be part of the creation. Because of sin, death, suffering, injustice all entered into the creation.

Go to Romans 8:28



## ROMANS 8:28

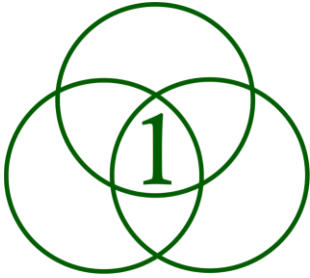
When bad things happen, it is not because God wants them to happen. But bad things cannot stop God from bringing about what he ultimately wants to do in and among his creation.

Go to Genesis 50:19-20



# THE APOSTLES' CREED

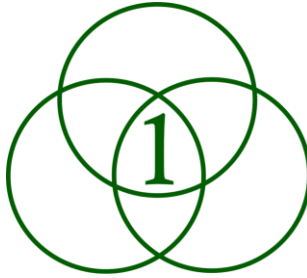
# THE APOSTLES' CREED



## GENESIS 50:19-20

God is more powerful than evil. That means that no evil will be able to stop his plan or prevent his will from being done.

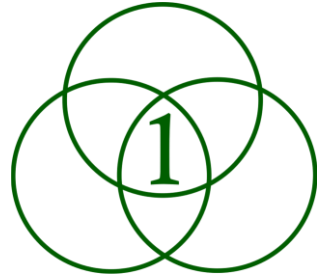
Go to Matthew 6:25-34



## MATTHEW 6:25-34

God gives us everything that we have and everything that we need to support our bodies and lives. This includes food, clothing, house, home, etc.

Go to Matthew 10:29-31



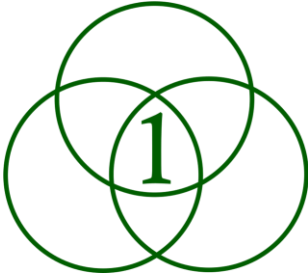
## MATTHEW 10:29-31

In addition to giving us everything we need for our bodies and lives, God also defends and protects us from evil, danger, and harm.

Go to Psalm 103:13

# THE APOSTLES' CREED

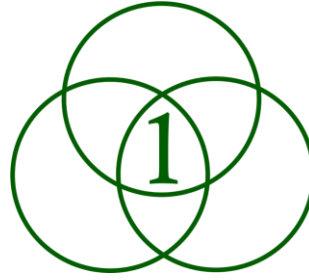
# THE APOSTLES' CREED



## PSALM 103:13

God does the things that he does for us because he loves us deeply and we are valuable and important to him.

Go to Micah 6:8



## MICAH 6:8

In response to all that God has done and does do for us, we praise and serve him and live life with him in his kingdom. It is also our privilege to join him in his mission in this world.

# THE APOSTLES' CREED

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JOHN 3:16-17

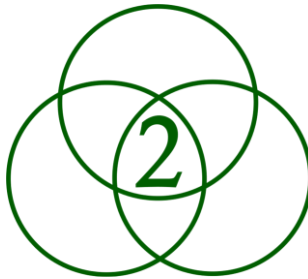
The Second Article -  
Redemption

And 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, descended to Hell, on the third day rose again from the dead, ascended to Heaven and sat down at the right hand of God the Almighty Father. From there He will come to judge the living and the dead.

What does this mean?

I believe that Jesus Christ is truly God, born of the Father in eternity and also truly man, born of the Virgin Mary. He is my Lord! He redeemed me, a lost and condemned person, bought and won me from all sins, death and the authority of the Devil. It did not cost Him gold or silver, but His holy, precious blood, His innocent body -- His death! Because of this, I am His very own, will live under Him in His kingdom and serve Him righteously, innocently and blessedly forever, just as He is risen from death, lives and reigns forever. Yes, this is true.

Go to Acts 4:11-12



ACTS 4:11-12

Jesus has the name that he has because he saves people from their sins.

Go to 1 John 5:1



1 JOHN 5:1

"Christ" is not Jesus' last name. It is his title. It means "anointed one." This is the same thing as the Messiah. Jesus is the anointed one who comes to be our prophet, priest, and king. He comes to save us from sin, death, and the devil.

Go to 1 John 5:20

# THE APOSTLES' CREED

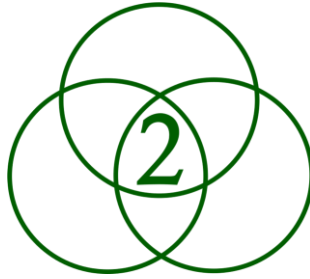
# THE APOSTLES' CREED



## 1 JOHN 5:20

Our Savior Jesus is true God, begotten of the Father from all eternity. The scriptures clearly call him God. That is how we know he is God.

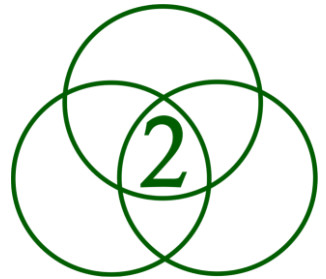
Go to John 1:1-3



## 1 JOHN 1:1-3

The scriptures show us that Jesus is God by showing us that he has divine attributes. That is, he has qualities that belong only to God. Some of those attributes include being eternal and being involved in the creation.

Go to Mark 2:1-12



## MARK 2:1-12

The scriptures show us that Jesus is God by showing us that he does things that only God can do. An important example of this is that Jesus forgives sins.

Go to 1 Timothy 2:5



# THE APOSTLES' CREED

# THE APOSTLES' CREED



## 1 TIMOTHY 2:5

The scriptures show us that our Savior Jesus is also true man, born of the virgin Mary. They show us this by telling us that he is a man.

Go to Matthew 4:2



## MATTHEW 4:2

The scriptures show us that Jesus is a man by showing us that he has the experiences that human beings have. Only Jesus has them without sin.

Go to Galatians 4:4-5



## GALATIANS 4:4-5

Our Savior had to be both God and man for us to have salvation. If he were not God, then his death would not have paid the price for all our sins. If he were not a human being, then he could not have lived for us the perfect life the law requires, neither would he have been able to die for us. For us to be saved, Jesus had to be truly one hundred percent God and truly one hundred percent man. And that is exactly what he is.

Go to John 6:68-69

# THE APOSTLES' CREED

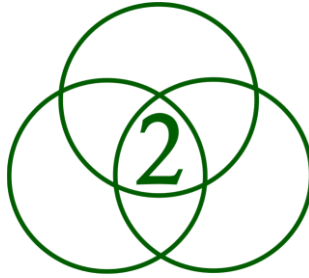
# THE APOSTLES' CREED



## JOHN 6:68-69

The Scripture talks about Jesus as our prophet, our priest, and our king. As our prophet, Jesus himself preached the good news of the Gospel. He continues to serve in this role today as the Gospel is proclaimed through the church.

Go to 1 Corinthians 15:3



## 1 CORINTHIANS 15:3

The Scripture talks about Jesus as our prophet, our priest, and our king. As our priest, he perfectly fulfilled all the requirements of God's law. He willingly and lovingly laid down his life on the cross to pay for our sins. He intercedes on our behalf with the Father.

Go to Philippians 2:5-8



## PHILIPPIANS 2:5-8

While Jesus always had all the powers of God available to him during his entire life, He purposely did not choose to always use those powers. This is what is known as his humiliation. It does not mean that he was embarrassed. Rather, it means that he was humble and did not use his divine powers to prevent or cheat in his mission. The creed mentions this in mentioning his conception, birth, suffering, crucifixion, death, and burial.

Go to Matthew 1:20

# THE APOSTLES' CREED

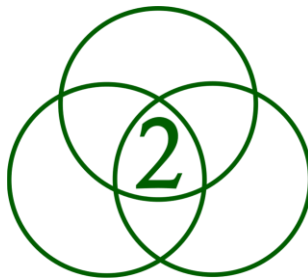
# THE APOSTLES' CREED



## MATTHEW 1:20

Jesus was conceived by the Holy Spirit. He did not have a human father. His conception meant that he was really, truly, and fully a human being. He had a body and soul. He knew life as we know it, only without sin.

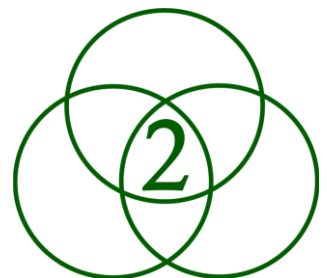
Go to Luke 2:7



## LUKE 2:7

Jesus was born of the virgin Mary. This again shows that he is really, truly, and fully human.

Go to Isaiah 53:3 - 9



## ISAIAH 53:3-9

Jesus suffered in this life. He especially suffered during his passion (his time of trial and crucifixion). This was not senseless suffering. He took the punishment that we deserved so that we would not have to endure it. On the cross, he paid the price for our sins in full. He died and was buried. His suffering and death are the means through which Jesus purchased and won us from sin, death, and the power of the devil.

Go to John 11:25-26

# THE APOSTLES' CREED

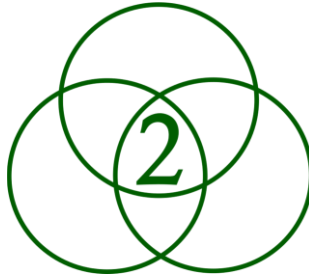
# THE APOSTLES' CREED



## JOHN 11:25-26

Because Jesus has risen from the dead and defeated death, we have eternal life in him. We need not be afraid of death. Because of Jesus, we have been given the gift of eternal life and will not really die. This gift of life that Jesus gives us is not limited to after death. He gives us life before death as well.

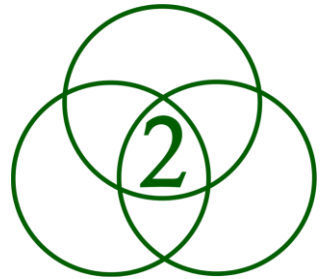
Go to Ephesians 1:20-23



## EPHESIANS 1:20-23

The Scriptures also speak about Jesus' exaltation. This is when he fully uses all the powers that are available to him as God. The parts of the creed that mention this are his descent into hell, resurrection, his ascension, and his coming back.

Go to 1 Peter 3:18-19



## 1 PETER 3:18-19

Jesus did not go to Hell to suffer any more. He was not going in our place. All the work of salvation was completed on the cross. Jesus went to Hell to proclaim that he is victorious over of Hell and its powers.

Go to Romans 6:3-5



# THE APOSTLES' CREED

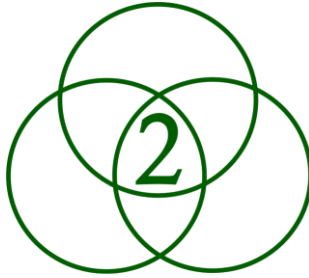
# THE APOSTLES' CREED



## ROMANS 6:3-5

Jesus' resurrection from the dead shows that God has accepted his sacrifice, and it proves that he was who he said he was, and that the things he said were true. Because Jesus has been raised from the dead, death no longer has power over him. Because we are in Jesus, death no longer has any power over us either.

Go to Acts 1:6-11



## ACTS 1:6-11

Forty days after his resurrection from the dead, Jesus bodily ascended into heaven. His divine and human natures have not separated from one another. He is still fully man and fully God. But now, all the powers and attributes of his divine nature are no longer hidden.

Go to John 14:1-3



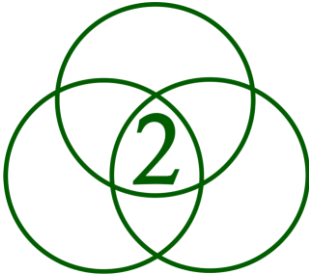
## JOHN 14:1-3

Having ascended into heaven, Jesus prepares a place for us.

Go to John 16:7

# THE APOSTLES' CREED

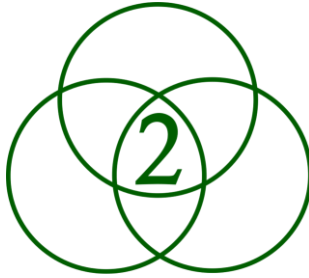
# THE APOSTLES' CREED



## JOHN 16:7

Having ascended into heaven, Jesus, along with the Father, sends the Holy Spirit into the world. This Spirit both comforts God's people and enables the continued proclamation of the Gospel.

Go to Ephesians 1:20-23



## EPHESIANS 1:20-23

Having ascended into heaven, Jesus sits at the right hand of the Father. There he rules and reigns on behalf of his mission, the gospel, and his church.

Go to Romans 8:34



## ROMANS 8:34

Having ascended into heaven, Jesus sits at the right hand of the Father. There he intercedes for us, and on our behalf, to the Father.

Go to Hebrews 4:14-16

# THE APOSTLES' CREED

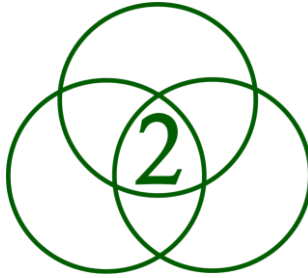
# THE APOSTLES' CREED



## HEBREWS 4:14-16

Having ascended into heaven, Jesus sits at the right hand of the Father. He is one who loves us greatly and deeply. He is now working to help us as we go through this life. He is not there to condemn us, but to give us life that is full and abundant. He is there to give us life lived in relationship with him. Because this is true, we can know that we are always loved, and never need to be afraid.

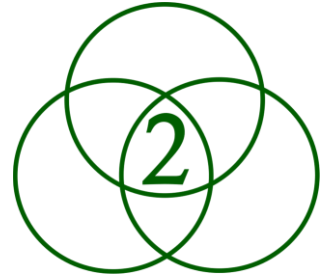
Go to 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18



## 1 THESS. 4:13-18

Jesus is coming back. When he does, the dead will be raised. The final judgment will be made. We will live forever with our Lord. It will be better than anything you can imagine. This is the HOPE of the Christian faith. Our hope is not going to heaven when we die. Our hope is the resurrection and living forever with our God.

Go to Ephesians 2:8-10



## EPHESIANS 2:8-10

Jesus has redeemed us so that we could be his own and live under him in his kingdom. This is a great and wonderful thing that he does for us because he loves us so very much. Having a place in his kingdom, means that we also have a place in his mission. This means that we live lives that are marked by good works, which are done to God's glory so that others would know of God's love.

# THE APOSTLES' CREED

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## 1 CORINTHIANS 12:3

The Third Article - Sanctification

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the community of the saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and an everlasting life. Amen.

What does this mean?

I believe that I cannot come to my Lord Jesus Christ by my own intelligence or power. But the Holy Spirit call me by the Gospel, enlightened me with His gifts, made me holy and kept me in the true faith, just as He calls, gathers together, enlightens and makes holy the whole Church on earth and keeps it with Jesus in the one, true faith. In this Church, He generously forgives each day every sin committed by me and by every believer. On the last day, He will raise me and all the dead from the grave. He will give eternal life to me and to all who believe in Christ. Yes, this is true!

Go to Acts 5:3-4



## ACTS 5:34

The Holy Spirit is the third person of the Trinity. He is really, truly, and fully God. He is not simply a part of God, but an equal member of the godhead with the Father and the Son. Here we see the Holy Spirit rightly called God.

Go to Psalm 139:7-10



## PSALM 139:7-10

The Holy Spirit is the third person of the Trinity. He is really, truly, and fully God. He is not simply a part of God, but an equal member of the godhead with the Father and the Son. Here we see the Holy Spirit has divine attributes. In this case, he is present everywhere (omnipresent).

Go to Genesis 1:2



# THE APOSTLES' CREED

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## GENESIS 1:2

The Holy Spirit is the third person of the Trinity. He is really, truly, and fully God. He is not simply a part of God, but an equal member of the godhead with the Father and the Son. Here we see the Holy Spirit does things that only God can do. In this case, he is present and active in the work of creation.

Go to 1 Corinthians 2:14



## 1 CORINTHIANS 2:14

The Holy Spirit works in our lives in a very important way. He gives us saving faith. He works through word and sacrament to make us more and more into the image of Jesus. This is called sanctification. This work of the Holy Spirit in our lives is necessary because we cannot by our own reason or strength believe in Jesus Christ or come to him.

Go to 2 Thessalonians 2:13-14



## 2 THESSALONIANS 2:13-14

The Holy Spirit calls us to faith through the Gospel. As this good news is proclaimed, the Spirit works to give and strengthen faith.

Go to 1 Peter 2:9

# THE APOSTLES' CREED

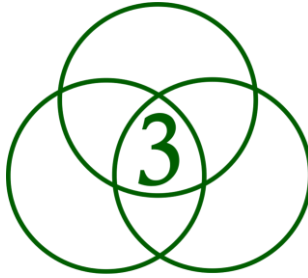
# THE APOSTLES' CREED



## 1 PETER 2:9

Through the Gospel, the Holy Spirit works faith in our lives. This is one of the gifts with which he enlightens us.

Go to Galatians 5:22-23



## GALATIANS 5:22-23

As the Holy Spirit works in our lives, and we do not hinder him from doing this work, he brings about many good things. These things are important to cultivate in our lives. They help us to love, honor, and serve both God and our neighbors.

Go to 1 Thessalonians 5:23-24



## 1 THESSALONIANS 5:23-24

The Holy Spirit not only gives and strengthens faith, but he also keeps us in the true faith. The saving faith that we have, is ours because of the work of the Holy Spirit in our lives. He gets all the credit. We get none of it. This is important, because when God does something, he always does it right. So, we can be confident that this is real and true because it is God's work in our lives, and not our own work.

Go to 1 Timothy 2:4

# THE APOSTLES' CREED

# THE APOSTLES' CREED



## 1 TIMOTHY 2:4

God desires that all people would have this gift of saving faith in Jesus. This is not just for some people, but it is available to each and every one of us. Unfortunately, some people choose to reject this great gift. This means that for those who are saved, the credit and glory belong only to God. For those who are not saved, they experience this through their own rejection of God's working in their lives.

Go to 1 Peter 2:9-10



## 1 PETER 2:9-10

The third article of the creed also mentions the church. The church is the community of God's people who gather around word and sacrament. This community is created and led by the Holy Spirit. She is the bride of Christ. She is God's church. God's church does not have a mission. God's mission has a church. Therefore, we must join God in the work that he is doing in our world.

Go to Matthew 16:18



## MATTHEW 16:18

The church is not just a human organization. She is a spiritual creation of God. And while she may not always look the same from time to time or place to place, one thing is for sure, she will always be present, and the powers of evil will not overcome her.

Go to Romans 12:4-5

# THE APOSTLES' CREED

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## ROMANS 12:4-5

While there are many different denominations, and branches of the Christian family tree, there always has been and always will be only one church.

Go to Ephesians 5:25-27



## EPHESIANS 5:25-27

The creed refers to the church as "Holy" because the church is set apart for service to God and neighbor. God makes us holy. He saves us from sin, death, and the devil. Then he sends us out to make his love, grace, forgiveness, and mercy known to the people around us.

Go to Ephesians 2:20



## EPHESIANS 2:20

The church is not ours. She does not belong to us. She is not ours to do as we see fit. She is God's. He makes her grow and keeps her strong and healthy.

Go to Matthew 28:19-20



# THE APOSTLES' CREED

# THE APOSTLES' CREED



## MATTHEW 28:19-20

The mission in which the church joins God is to make disciples of all nations. This should be first and most important. This is more important than any program, expectation, or pet project. If the church fails to be about this, then you do not really have a church. What you really have is a social club.

Go to John 15:5



## JOHN 15:5

As part of the church, we do not try to do things by our own reason, strength, or power. This is because we cannot. But instead, we are to be connected to and abide in Jesus. It is in him and through him that we can be about the work of being a disciple and joining him in his mission in the world.

Go to John 8:31-32



## JOHN 8:31-32

As the church, we do not get to pick and choose what we want to believe teach and confess. Rather, we are bound to learn, live, and teach the truth as God has given to us in the scriptures. Holding onto this truth is important, so that our witness, lives, and proclamation of the gospel are not hindered.

Go to Romans 16:17-18

# THE APOSTLES' CREED

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## ROMANS 16:17-18

It is always important to test everything that is said in the church. You can always tell whether a person has God's interest or their own in mind as they speak. When it comes to life in the church, nothing is more important than what God wants, and God's will for his church.

Go to John 20:21



## JOHN 20:21

As the church, we are sent by God to join God in God's mission in the world. This is because our God is a sending God. The Father sends the Son. The Father and the Son send the Holy Spirit. The Father, Son, and Holy Spirit send the church.

Go to Revelation 7:9-12



## REVELATION 7:9-12

The third article of the creed mentions the communion of saints. This is the special connection that we share with all of God's people across time and space. This also includes those who are in heaven waiting for the resurrection. When we worship, our worship joins with their worship. In a very real sense, we are praising God together with them in worship.

Go to 2 Corinthians 5:16-21

# THE APOSTLES' CREED

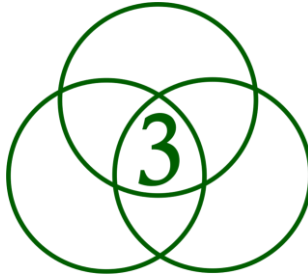
# THE APOSTLES' CREED



## GENESIS 15:6

The forgiveness of sins that is offered in the Gospel is received through faith. Faith is believing that what God says is true. Faith is best understood as a hand which clings and holds on to the promises of God.

Go to Romans 5:6-11



## 2 CORINTHIANS 5:16-21

God is about the work of forgiving sins. This is not just ignoring sin or saying that it no longer matters. Jesus has paid the price in full. Therefore, our sins are no longer counted against us, and we are brought back into a right relationship with our God (reconciled).

Go to Romans 1:16



## ROMANS 1:16

The forgiveness of sins is offered in the Gospel. The power to forgive is the power of the Gospel.

Go to Genesis 15:6

# THE APOSTLES' CREED

# THE APOSTLES' CREED



## ROMANS 5:6-11

The forgiveness of our sins does not come about because of anything that we do. We cannot earn it. However, we have it because of what Jesus has done for us, and because he loves us so very much. Since this is the work of God in our lives, and not our own doing, we can be fully one hundred percent certain that this is real and that it is ours. This good news is a wonderful source of hope, peace, comfort, and strength.

Go to Job 19:25-27



## JOB 19:25-27

Since Jesus has given us forgiveness, we also have salvation and life that never ends. This means that one day, when Jesus comes back those who have died will not stay dead forever. But they will be raised to life and will live forever with God. This is the resurrection. The resurrection is the HOPE of the Christian faith.

Go to John 11:21-27



## JOHN 11:21-27

The resurrection means that all the effects of sin will be undone. There will be no more death or sin or injustice or sadness. God will wipe away every tear from our eye and we will live forever with him and all his people who have gone before us. It will be better than anything we can imagine. This is ours because Jesus is the resurrection and the life. He has defeated death by his own resurrection and gives this to all his people.



# THE LORD'S PRAYER

# THE LORD'S PRAYER



## PSALM 66:19-20

Prayer is a special gift. It allows us to talk to God. When we talk to God, we can do so knowing that he hears us, and that he answers us. He tells us to pray because he delights in hearing from us.

Go to Psalm 55:22



## PSALM 55:22

In prayer, we can talk to God about anything. There is no right or wrong way to do this. There are many different types of prayer and praying. Some work better for us than others. But the most important thing is that we spend time with God in prayer. Our prayers can include talking to God about things we are worried about, things we need or others around us need, things for which we need forgiveness, things for which we are thankful, and praises to God, we can (and should) even pray for our enemies.

Go to Romans 8:26



## ROMANS 8:26

Even if we have difficulty finding the right words to say, we can pray in confidence knowing that the Holy Spirit helps us in our prayers.

Go to Luke 18:1-8

# THE LORD'S PRAYER

# THE LORD'S PRAYER



## PSALM 50:15

We can pray to God at any time, in any place, and in any situation in life. God is available all the time and in all the places where we may go. We can talk to him in good times, in bad times, and in every time in between.

Go to Matthew 6:5-13



## MATTHEW 6:5-13

In these words, from Jesus' sermon on the mount, Jesus teaches his disciples, and us, how to pray. It is not us showing off in front of others. It is not about the words that we say or the way that we say them. Prayer is simply talking to God. It is something that we do in our relationship with him. It is not something we do to impress others.

Go to Luke 18:1-8



## LUKE 18:1-8

Jesus used this parable to teach his disciples, and us, that we should always pray and never give up, and never lose heart. God always hears. He always answers.

# THE LORD'S PRAYER

# THE LORD'S PRAYER



Father

EPHESIANS 4:6

Introduction

**Our Father in heaven,**

*What does this mean?*

In this introduction, God invites us to believe that He is our real Father and we are His real children, so that we will pray with trust and complete confidence, in the same way beloved children approach their beloved Father with their requests.

Go to 1 John 3:1



Father

1 JOHN 3:1

In our baptism, God has given us a special relationship with him. We are his dearly loved children. We get to call him our father. This is a special and close relationship. So, then prayer is not just something that we do in obedience to a command. It is something that we do as part of a close and special relationship. God has us call him Father because he loves us. This shows the close relationship we share.

Go to Psalm 124:8



Father

PSALM 124:8

The Lord's prayer addresses God as the Father in heaven as a reminder to us that he is all-powerful and that he can answer our prayers. This is even more special when we understand that this powerful one loves us very much and has us address him as father.

# THE LORD'S PRAYER

# THE LORD'S PRAYER



## PSALM 103:1

The First Request

**May your name be honored,**

*What does this mean?*

Of course, God's name is holy in and of itself, but by this request, we pray that He will make it holy among us, too.

*How does this take place?*

When God's Word is taught clearly and purely, and when we live holy lives as God's children based upon it. Help us, Heavenly Father, to do this! But anyone who teaches and lives by something other than God's Word defiles God's name among us. Protect us from this, Heavenly Father!

Go to Exodus 20:7



## EXODUS 20:7

The first petition of the Lord's prayer asks for the same thing that the second commandment commands, that God's name would be honored and holy in our lives and living. We do not make God's name holy, instead we live our lives in response to God's presence and action in our lives. Our response shows that God's name is holy. This petition asks God to help us do that.

Go to Ephesians 4:1



## EPHESIANS 4:1

We keep God's name holy when the things that we teach and the ways that we live our lives are in accordance with the Word of God. When our teachings and living are out of line with what God's word teaches, his name is dishonored among us.

Go to Psalm 103:9



# THE LORD'S PRAYER

# THE LORD'S PRAYER



## PSALM 103:9

### The Second Request **May your kingdom come,**

*What does this mean?*

Truly God's Kingdom comes by itself, without our prayer. But we pray in this request that it come to us as well.

*How does this happen?*

When the Heavenly Father gives us His Holy Spirit, so that we believe His holy Word by His grace and live godly lives here in this age and there in eternal life.

Go to Mark 1:15



## MARK 1:15

The kingdom of God is the rule and reign of God in his creation. It is a relationship that we live in with God. It is life and community that is marked by the presence and action of God. It is life and community that reflects who God is (love, grace, mercy). It is life and community that joins God in God's mission of expanding the Kingdom.

Go to Luke 17:20-21



## LUKE 17:20-21

The kingdom of God is something that we see with the eyes of faith now and will see in the fulness of all its glory and splendor on that day when Jesus comes back. What we get to experience now is the real thing.

Go to Colossians 1:13-14

# THE LORD'S PRAYER

# THE LORD'S PRAYER



## COLOSSIANS 1:13-14

The kingdom of God is not something that we make happen or enter ourselves. But we are brought into it by God's grace. It is his working in our lives that gives us a place in his kingdom. This is important to understand. If it is the work of God in our lives, we know it is done correctly, and there is no room for doubt.

Go to Mark 4:30-32



## MARK 4:30-32

We participate in the kingdom of God as we live in relationship with him as his dearly loved people. We also participate in it as we invite others to experience it. In doing this, we are joining God in God's mission in this world. We are joining in the spreading of the kingdom of God. It may not seem like much by earthly standards, but when we see it in all its glory, it will be better than anything the world has ever seen.

# THE LORD'S PRAYER

# THE LORD'S PRAYER



## JOHN 6:40

The Third Request

**May your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.**

*What does this mean?*

Truly, God's good and gracious will is accomplished without our prayer. But we pray in this request that it be accomplished among us as well.

*How does this happen?*

When God destroys and interferes with every evil will and all evil advice, which will not allow God's Kingdom to come, such as the Devil's will, the world's will and will of our bodily desires. It also happens when God strengthens us by faith and by His Word and keeps living by them faithfully until the end of our lives. This is His will, good and full of grace.

Go to 1 Timothy 2:3-4



## 1 TIMOTHY 2:3-4

The will of God is what God has in mind for his creation. It is what he wants to happen in his creation and for his creation.

The will of God is that his creation would be brought back into a right relationship with him, and that we would live in that relationship with him.

Go to Romans 12:2



## ROMANS 12:2

The devil, the world, and our own sinful flesh do not want the will of God to be done in this world. They want their own will to be done instead. The problem with this is that these things cannot and do not love us like God loves us. They cannot and are not able to do what God alone can do for us. They cannot and are not able to love us like God does.

Go to Matthew 22:36-40

# THE LORD'S PRAYER

# THE LORD'S PRAYER



## MATTHEW 22:36-40

We do the will of God when we live our lives in ways that are pleasing to him. This does not mean that we live perfectly. That would be impossible. But it means that we live as forgiven and forgiving people who seek to honor God in every aspect of our lives. It means that we live lives where we love God most, and our neighbors as ourselves.

Go to Romans 8:28



## ROMANS 8:28

While things in this world are actively working to prevent and thwart the will of God happening in our midst, nothing can stop God from ultimately bringing about the good that he has in mind for us. God does not make or want bad things to happen to us. When they do happen, we are simply seeing the brokenness that is in the creation because of sin. No matter how bad those things may be, they cannot stop God's will.



# THE LORD'S PRAYER

# THE LORD'S PRAYER



## PSALM 145:15-16

### The Fourth Request

**Give us today our daily bread,**

*What does this mean?*

Truly, God gives daily bread to evil people, even without our prayer. But we pray in this request that He will help us realize this and receive our daily bread with thanksgiving.

*What does "Daily Bread" mean?*

Everything that nourishes our body and meets its needs, such as: Food, drink, clothing, shoes, house, yard, fields, cattle, money, possessions, a devout spouse, devout children, devout employees, devout and faithful rulers, good government, good weather, peace, health, discipline, honor, good friends, faithful neighbors and other things like these.

Go to Matthew 6:33



## MATTHEW 6:33

God gives us everything that we need to support our bodies and lives. He does not only do this when we ask him to do it. However, in asking God for daily bread, we remember and see that he is faithful and truly gives us everything that we need.

Go to Hebrews 13:16



## HEBREWS 13:16

God provides daily bread in many and various ways. One important way is through his people. When we share with others, we are being the means through which God provides daily bread to others.

# THE LORD'S PRAYER

# THE LORD'S PRAYER



## EXODUS 16:4-5

We are instructed to pray for daily bread. We need not be greedy. God gives us everything we need for each day. Just as the manna only lasted one day, God provides for each day. The people were never lacking, they never had less than what they needed. We can always trust that God will provide us with everything we need, so we need not worry.

Go to 1 Peter 5:7



## 1 PETER 5:7

Life with God is one where we can experience peace and hope. We have peace and hope because we know that God loves us and cares for us. He will always provide for us and give us everything we need. This comes out of his great and deep love for us.

Go to Matthew 18:21-35

# THE LORD'S PRAYER

# THE LORD'S PRAYER



## MATTHEW 18:21-35

### The Fifth Request

**And forgive us our debts, as we ourselves have forgiven our debtors.**

*What does this mean?*

We pray in this request that our Heavenly Father will neither pay attention to our sins nor refuse requests such as these because of our sins and because we are neither worthy nor deserve the things for which we pray. Yet He wants to give them all to us by His grace, because many times each day we sin and truly deserve only punishment. Because God does this, we will, of course, want to forgive from our hearts and willingly do good to those who sin against us.

Go to Psalm 51:1-2



## PSALM 51:1-2

When we ask God to forgive our sins, we know that he hears our prayers and answers them. Indeed, he has forgiven all our sins and pays the price for them in full in Jesus. We never have to wonder or worry if God forgives us. Every time we ask him to forgive us, he does.

Go to Ephesians 4:32

# THE LORD'S PRAYER

# THE LORD'S PRAYER



## EPHESIANS 4:32

Just as God has forgiven us in Jesus. So too we are to forgive one another. This is a very important part of the Christian life. God's people are not to live as perfect people. That is not possible for us to do. Rather, we are to live as people who are forgiven and forgiving. Because God has forgiven us, we are able to forgive others.

Go to Genesis 50:15-21



## GENESIS 50:15-21

Sin breaks apart and separates people from God and people from one another. Forgiveness undoes the effects of sin and brings about reconciliation and restoration. It restores us back to God and to a right relationship with him. Forgiveness also restores us back to each other and to a right relationship with one another.



# THE LORD'S PRAYER

# THE LORD'S PRAYER



## JAMES 1:13-14

### The Sixth Request

**And do not lead us into temptation,**

*What does this mean?*

God tempts no one, of course, but we pray in this request that God will protect us and save us, so that the Devil, the world and our bodily desires will neither deceive us nor seduce us into heresy, despair or other serious shame or vice, and so that we will win and be victorious in the end, even if they attack us.

Go to Galatians 5:17



## GALATIANS 5:17

The devil, the world, and our sinful nature do not want the things of God. They are constantly at war with him and working to entice away from God and God's will. In the sixth petition, we ask God to not allow them to be victorious over us.

Go to Ephesians 6:11

# THE LORD'S PRAYER

# THE LORD'S PRAYER



## EPHESIANS 6:11

God does not leave us powerless against the devil, the world, and our sinful nature. He gives us the ability to stand firm against them. When we stand in the strength that he provides we can overcome the attacks of these things against us.

Go to Matthew 4:11



## MATTHEW 4:11

Jesus was victorious over the devil in his time of temptation in the wilderness. We see how he used the word of God to overcome the devil's temptations. In the same way, we can use the word of God to help us stand against the attack of these things.

# THE LORD'S PRAYER

# THE LORD'S PRAYER



## 2 THESSALONIANS 3:3

### The Seventh Request

**But deliver us from the evil one.**

*What does this mean?*

We pray in this request, as a summary, that our Father in Heaven will save us from every kind of evil that threatens body, soul, property, and honor. We pray that when at last our final hour has come, He will grant us a blessed death, and, in His grace, bring us to Himself from this valley of tears.

Go to 2 Timothy 4:18



## 2 TIMOTHY 4:18

Our God protects us and cares for us because he loves us. This does not mean that we will never experience hard or difficult times in life. But it does mean that those difficult times will not overcome us and be victorious against us.

Go to Romans 8:28

# THE LORD'S PRAYER

# THE LORD'S PRAYER



## ROMANS 8:28

Though we experience the brokenness that comes from living in a creation that has been corrupted by sin, we can know that no matter what happens, nothing will be able to stop God from bringing about what he ultimately has in mind for us. No amount of evil, suffering, or hardship will be able to keep him from doing what he wants to do in us and in our lives.

Go to Revelation 21:3-5



## REVELATION 21:3-5

The seventh petition asks God to deliver us from evil. The ultimate and final fulfillment of this will be seen in the creation. For in the new creation there will be no more evil or suffering ever again. They will never show their ugly heads in God's creation or cause harm to God's people.



# THE LORD'S PRAYER

# THE LORD'S PRAYER



EPHESIANS 3:20-21

## **Amen.**

*What does this mean?*

That I should be certain that such prayers are acceptable to the Father in Heaven and will be granted, that He Himself has commanded us to pray in this way and that He promises to answer us. Amen. Amen. This means: Yes, yes it will happen this way.

Go to Revelation 5:9-14



REVELATION 5:9-14

Jesus is worthy of all these things because of his life, death, and resurrection. He gave us the words of this prayer and therefore we can pray them in confidence knowing that that they are pleasing to God, and that God hears them, and that God will certainly answer them.

Go to John 6:47

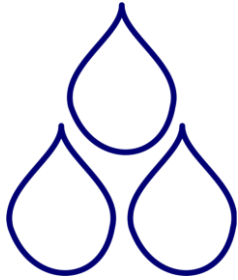


JOHN 6:47

The word "amen" is often translated as "truly, truly." It is a way of showing that what is being said is true. It will happen. It will take place. We believe it. We can speak so confidently about this not because of the one who is praying, but because of the one who hears these prayers and answers them.

# THE SACRAMENTS

# THE SACRAMENTS



MATTHEW 28:19

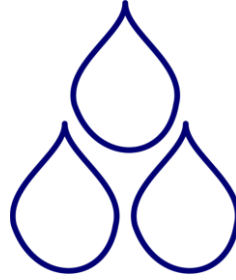
Baptism - First

What is Baptism?

Baptism is not just plain water, but it is water contained within God's command and united with God's Word.

Which Word of God is this?

The one which our Lord Christ spoke in the last chapter of Matthew: **"Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you."**

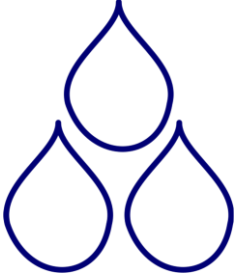


ACTS 8:34-39

The gift of Baptism is for all people of all places and ages. This is because all people of all places and ages need the gifts offered in baptism. God is the main actor. Baptism is not something that we do for him. Rather, it is something that he does for us. Therefore, what God is doing in baptism is more important than anything else.

# THE SACRAMENTS

# THE SACRAMENTS



MARK 16:16

## Baptism - Second

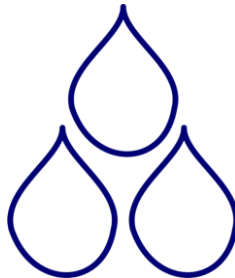
What does Baptism give? What good is it?

It gives the forgiveness of sins, redeems from death and the Devil, gives eternal salvation to all who believe this, just as God's words and promises declare.

What are these words and promises of God?

Our Lord Christ spoke one of them in the last chapter of Mark: **"The one who believes and is baptized will be saved, but the one who does not believe will be condemned."**

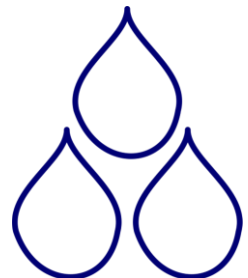
Go to Acts 2:38



ACTS 2:38

In Baptism, we receive gifts. We receive the forgiveness of sins.

Go to Romans 6:3-5



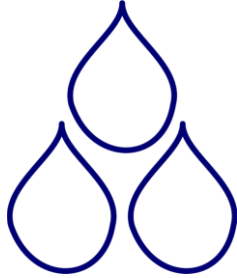
ROMANS 6:3-5

In Baptism, we receive gifts. We receive everlasting life and the hope of the resurrection.

Go to John 3:5

# THE SACRAMENTS

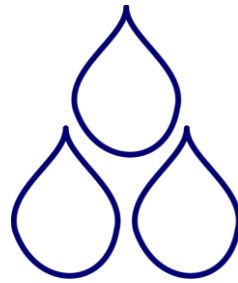
# THE SACRAMENTS



## JOHN 3:5

In Baptism, we receive gifts. We receive salvation and we receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

Go to Luke 23:39-43



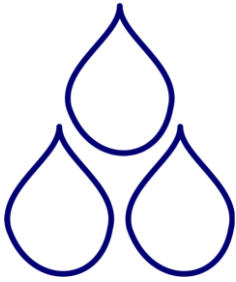
## LUKE 23:39-43

While Baptism is an incredible gift that God gives to us, and through which we find many important things like comfort and identity, baptism is not a requirement for salvation. That is a person can be saved without having to be baptized. It is only unbelief that condemns.



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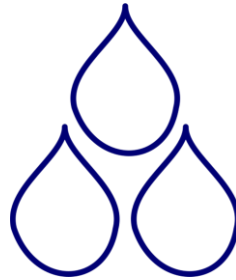


## TITUS 3:5-8

Baptism – Third  
How can water do such great things?

Water doesn't make these things happen, of course. It is God's Word, which is with and in the water. Because, without God's Word, the water is plain water and not baptism. But with God's Word it is a Baptism, a grace-filled water of life, a bath of new birth in the Holy Spirit, as St. Paul said to Titus in the third chapter: **"He saved us not by works of righteousness that we have done but on the basis of his mercy, through the washing of the new birth and the renewing of the Holy Spirit, whom he poured out on us in full measure through Jesus Christ our Savior. And so, since we have been justified by his grace, we become heirs with the confident expectation of eternal life." This saying is trustworthy.**

Go to Galatians 3:26-27



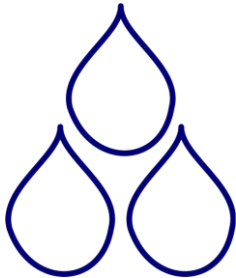
## GALATIANS 3:26-27

In baptism, we receive the gifts that God gives. Baptism is not something that happens once and then does not matter for the rest of our days. Rather, baptism is the source of our identity. Who are we? We are the baptized children of God. It is the way in which he brings us into and makes us members of his family. Having been given a place in God's family, we also then have a place in God's mission.

Go to Romans 6:4

# THE SACRAMENTS

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## ROMANS 6:4

Baptism - Fourth

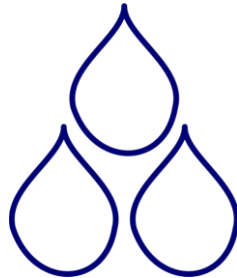
What is the meaning of such a water Baptism?

It means that the old Adam in us should be drowned by daily sorrow and repentance, and die with all sins and evil lusts, and, in turn, a new person daily come forth and rise from death again. This new person will live forever before God in righteousness and purity.

Where is this written?

St. Paul says to the Romans in chapter six: **“Therefore we have been buried with him through baptism into death, in order that just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, so we too may live a new life.”**

Go to Luke 9:23



## LUKE 9:23

The “Old Adam” is a term that is used to describe that sinful nature that still lives within us, and with which we must wrestle every day. This is not our identity. It is not who we are. Yet it is something with which we must contend. How do we do that? Through remembering our baptism with daily contrition and repentance. This is not supposed to be beating ourselves up. Rather it is a humble acknowledgment that we are imperfect, and that life is not all about us. Whenever we ask God to forgive us, we can know that he always does.

# THE SACRAMENTS

# THE SACRAMENTS



## PSALM 51:1-4

What is confession?

Confession has two parts:  
First, a person admits his sin  
Second, a person receives absolution or forgiveness from the confessor, as if from God Himself, without doubting it, but believing firmly that their sins are forgiven by God in Heaven through it.

Which sins should people confess?

When speaking to God, we should plead guilty to all sins, even those we don't know about, just as we do in the "Our Father," but when speaking to the confessor, only the sins we know about, which we know about and feel in our hearts.

Which are these?

Consider here your place in life according to the Ten Commandments. Are you a father? A mother? A son? A daughter? A husband? A wife? A servant? Are you disobedient, unfaithful or lazy? Have you hurt anyone with your words or actions? Have you stolen, neglected your duty, let things go or injured someone?

Go to Isaiah 1:18



## ISAIAH 1:18

Confession and absolution are great gifts that God gives to us. This is not something that is used to hurt us or get us in trouble. Rather, it is a way for us to know that our sins really are forgiven, and that God will not hold them against us.

We do not have confession without absolution. After we confess our sins, we receive absolution. That is, they are forgiven and no longer counted against us.

Go to Matthew 18:18

# THE SACRAMENTS

# THE SACRAMENTS



## MATTHEW 18:18

Jesus gave us the ability to forgive sins. Therefore, when we receive absolution, we are to hear those words as if they were coming from Jesus himself.

Go to Psalm 103:12



## PSALM 103:12

We do not have to go to another person to know that our sins are forgiven. When we confess our sins to God, he truly does forgive them and removes them from us as far as the east is from the west. Sometimes it is nice to be able to hear the words from another person who will show us and remind us that God's forgiveness is real, sure, and certain.

Go to Matthew 16:19



# THE SACRAMENTS

# THE SACRAMENTS



## MATTHEW 16:19

Jesus gives his church the ability to forgive sins. This ability he refers to as the office of the keys. This is because the forgiveness of sins opens to people the gates of heaven.

Go to 1 Peter 2:9



## 1 PETER 2:9

As the forgiven and baptized people of God, we have a place and role in his mission in this world. We have a place in the ministry of the forgiveness of sins. This is very important and a big deal.

# THE SACRAMENTS

# THE SACRAMENTS



## MATTHEW 26:26-28

What is the Sacrament of the Altar?

It is the true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ under bread and wine for us Christians to eat and to drink, established by Christ Himself.

Where is that written?

The holy apostles Matthew, Mark and Luke and St. Paul write this:

**“The Lord Jesus on the night in which he was betrayed took bread, and after he had given thanks he broke it and said, ‘This is my body, which is for you. Do this in remembrance of me.’ In the same way, he also took the cup after supper, saying, ‘This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, every time you drink it, in remembrance of me.’”**

Go to 1 Corinthians 11:23-24



## 1 CORINTHIANS 11:23-25

Jesus gives to his church this gift of the sacrament. Through this gift we receive his very body and blood, and thus we receive forgiveness, life, and salvation.

Go to Luke 22:19-20



## LUKE 22:19-20

The presence of Jesus' body and blood in the sacrament is a mystery. We know that he is truly there because he told us that he would be. Therefore, we believe what he says and take him at his word. Yet we know that the bread and wine do not cease to be bread and wine. In this beautiful and wonderful mystery, the body and blood of Jesus are truly present in, with, and under the bread and wine.

Go to 1 Corinthians 11:26

# THE SACRAMENTS

# THE SACRAMENTS



## 1 CORINTHIANS 11:26

When we receive the gifts that Jesus gives in communion, we are proclaiming his death until he comes. That is, we are saying that these gifts show that the benefits of his death are given and received until time ends.

Go to 1 John 1:8-9



## 1 JOHN 1:8-9

We are to receive the sacrament whenever we are able because we are people who sin. We are not perfect, and the gift of forgiveness that God gives in the sacrament is always a good thing for us.

# THE SACRAMENTS

# THE SACRAMENTS



## COLOSSIANS 1:22

What good does this eating and drinking do?

These words tell us: "Given for you" and "Shed for you to forgive sins." Namely, that the forgiveness of sins, life and salvation are given to us through these words in the sacrament. Because, where sins are forgiven, there is life and salvation as well.

Go to 1 Peter 1:18-19



## 1 PETER 1:18-19

In this sacrament, Jesus gives us forgiveness. It is one of the means that he uses to pour out his grace into our lives. Thus, we call communion one of the means of grace.



# THE SACRAMENTS

# THE SACRAMENTS



## LUKE 1:45

How can physical eating and drinking do such great things?

Of course, eating and drinking do not do these things. These words, written here, do them: "given for you" and "shed for you to forgive sins." These words, along with physical eating and drinking are the important part of the sacrament. Anyone who believes these words has what they say and what they record, namely, the forgiveness of sins.

Go to Luke 11:27-28



## LUKE 11:27-28

The gift of God in the sacrament is not there because we believe it. The gift of God in the sacrament is there because what God says is true. This means that we can simply take God at his word and believe the things that he tells us are true. That is how we can know with great confidence that communion is what it is.

Go to 1 Timothy 4:8

# THE SACRAMENTS

# THE SACRAMENTS



## 1 TIMOTHY 4:8

Who, then, receives such a sacrament in a worthy way?

Of course, fasting and other physical preparations are excellent disciplines for the body. But anyone who believes these words, "Given for you," and "Shed for you to forgive sins," is really worthy and well prepared. But whoever doubts or does not believe these words is not worthy and is unprepared, because the words, "for you" demand a heart that fully believes.

Go to 1 Corinthians 11:27-29



## 1 CORINTHIANS 11:27-29

We do not want to mistreat this gift that Jesus gives. Therefore, it is important to examine ourselves before we receive it. This means that we understand that we have sinned and need forgiveness, we believe that Jesus is truly present, and we desire the help of the Holy Spirit to change our sinful ways.

Go to Matthew 6:14-15



## MATTHEW 6:14-15

When we receive communion, we are receiving forgiveness. Therefore, it is important to understand what is happening here. To not really want forgiveness (we do not think what we are doing is wrong or needs to be changed) or to not forgive someone else (holding a grudge against them) means that our hearts are in a place where we should not receive communion. Doing so would be like saying that God's forgiveness does not matter or is not important.



# CONFIRMATION INTRODUCTION

This confirmation experience has two components: in the home, and in community.

## **In the home**

The Bible Margins are meant to be completed during the week at home. These give the confirmands an opportunity to become familiar with their bible and to see where in Scripture our doctrine is found.

These margins contain the text of the Small Catechism and some simple explanations of the text. Each section has an assigned color: Ten Commandments - Gray or Black, Apostles Creed - Green, The Lord's Prayer - Yellow, Baptism - Blue, Confession and Absolution/Office of the Keys - Orange, Communion - Red. Each margin fits into the side margin of a journaling Bible. The student looks up the Bible reference on the top of the margin. They underline the reference in the same color as the margin. Then they tape the margin into their Bible. If the tape is only used on the side of the margin that faces the center of the book, then the margin can be folded over and used as extra writing space.

## **In community**

This set of resources is designed to be used in a devotional context. This time is spent primarily in reflection and conversation. Each Handout is formatted the same way and is meant to be used in the context of the Devotions & Reflections. The instructor can choose to have the confirmands fill them out first and then come together for discussion. Or the handouts can be filled out together as a class. The process of reflecting and discussing is more important than filling out the handouts.

These handouts help the confirmation student to interact with the material in a more personal way. The first page has the text of the Small Catechism, and the Catechism reflection questions. The Catechism here is in the public domain and is free to use. In the places where the Catechism quotes scripture, the Scripture translation from the New English Translation (NET) has been inserted.

Catechism Notes. This is the text from the Catechism Margins. This provides opportunity to discuss the meaning of the Catechism reading.

Catechism Application. This section can be used for a praying in color or some other visual faith exercise.

Reflection questions. These are designed to get the confirmation student to think through the material on a practical day-to-day level. It also encourages them to think through what these things mean for them.

Worship reflection and missional living reflection questions. The worship reflection questions are designed to help the confirmand understand their experiences in worship. The missional living reflection is based on the questions from *Joining Jesus in His Mission*. These are designed to help the confirmands see opportunities for sharing the love of Jesus with the people in their lives.

Scripture reading. This page has been left blank so that the instructor can use the reading of their choice. They can use a bible story that reflects the topic for the day. Or they can use one of the readings used in the worship service. If the second option is used, it is best to choose the text that was preached on that week. The scripture reading can be pasted into the Word Document before it is printed, or it can be printed separately and taped into the booklet.

Scripture reflection questions and the God action reflection. The Scripture reflections get the confirmands to think through what the text is saying. The God action reflection helps the confirmands to see the presence of God in their day-to-day life.

Prayers. This can be filled out throughout the week. It gives the confirmands a record of their prayers and helps them to think about prayer as more than just asking God to do things.

Ideally, the confirmands would have opportunities to review and reflect on this material in the home as well as in the community time.

# CONFIRMATION FAITH EXPRESSION PROJECT

Every confirmation student is expected to complete one faith expression project each year. These projects provide different ways for the students to think about and interact with their faith. So be creative and have fun.

After the student has completed his or her project, they will construct a display board that will show their project. Somewhere on the board they must list their name, their year in confirmation, and answer the following questions.

- Why did I choose this project?
- What did I learn about God from this project?
- What did I learn about myself through this project?
- What do I hope others will learn, experience, or remember from my project?

## Book Review

Pick a book of the Bible. Who wrote it? To whom was it written? Why was it written? When was it written? What are the major theological points of the book? What does this book have to say about life today? Outline the book. There are many books in the church library that you can use to help you with this. Write out the responses in a paper format. List which references you used.

## Expressing Your Faith

There are many forms of faith expression. If you are the more artistic type do an art piece. You may paint or draw a picture, create a sculpture, write music, take a photograph, etc. Explain your work in a paper format. What are you trying to show? How well do you think you pulled it off? What do you hope others will take away from your work? How has this experience impacted the way you think about your own faith?

## For All the Saints

All Christians are saints. They can be living or dead. Pick a saint that is important to you (this could be anyone from a professional athlete to a family member). Write in a paper format about your favorite saint. Who is the person? What do they do? How does their faith impact their life? How important is God in their life? What can you learn from them? Give as many examples through stories as you can.

The text of the Small Catechism was translated in 1994 for Project Wittenberg by Robert E. Smith and has been placed in the public domain by him.

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Luther's Little Instruction Book: The Small Catechism of Martin Luther Translation by Robert E. Smith From the German text, printed in: Triglot Concordia: The Symbolical Books of the Ev. Lutheran Church. St. Louis: Concordia Publishing House, 1921, pp. 538-559. Note: This version of the Small Catechism is under continuous revision. Please check your source for this file from time to time to obtain updated versions of this text. Project Wittenberg Fort Wayne, Indiana 2002, Libronix Format 2004, PDF 2010 I. This text was translated in 1994, revised in 2002 and revised and expanded in 2004 for Project Wittenberg by Robert E. Smith. It has been placed in the public domain by him. You may freely distribute, copy or print this text. Please direct any comments or suggestions to Rev. Robert E. Smith of the Walther Library at: Concordia Theological Seminary Email: [robert.smith@ctsfw.edu](mailto:robert.smith@ctsfw.edu) Surface Mail: 6600 N. Clinton St.. Ft. Wavne. IN 46825 USA Phone: (260) 452-3149 Fax: (260) 452-2126