

The Creeds and the Confessions

Our Lutheran Church has nine creeds and confessions in which we state what we believe.

The Ecumenical (or Universal) Creeds are:

1. The Apostles' Creed.
2. The Nicene Creed.
3. The Athanasian Creed.

The Confessions of the Evangelical Lutheran Church are:

1. The Augsburg Confession.
2. The Apology of the Augsburg Confession.
3. The Smalcald Articles.
4. The Small Catechism of Luther.
5. The Large Catechism of Luther.
6. The Formula of Concord.

These six Confessions and the Ecumenical Creeds form the Book of Concord which was first published in 1580. A more recent edition is available for purchase from any bookstore upon request. If you wish to order a copy ask for The Book of Concord, the Tappert edition, published by Fortress Press. You may also ask the church office to assist you.

The Church Year

The church year has been arranged to set before us the principal events in the Savior's life. Notice that the first half addresses Jesus, His ministry and His work for all mankind. The second half of the year highlights His bride the church and the response she is called to because of His death and resurrection.

You will notice festivals listed below which some congregations include and others do not include. Variations are acceptable because of the Lord's teaching that the Sabbath was made for man and that man was not made for the Sabbath.

The historic order is as follows:

Four Sundays in Advent.

Christmas.

Festival of Circumcision (January 1).

Epiphany (January)

From one to six Sundays after Epiphany (depending on the date of Easter).

Three Sundays before Lent: Septuagesima, Sexagesima, Quinquagesima.

Ash Wednesday (beginning of Lent).

Six Sundays in Lent (the sixth being Palm Sunday).

Holy Week, the week before Easter (including Holy Thursday, or Maundy Thursday, and Good Friday).

Easter

Five Sundays after Easter

Ascension Day (40 days after Easter).

Sunday after Ascension

Pentecost, or Whitsunday (50 days after Easter).

Trinity Sunday (and from 22 to 27 Sundays after Trinity).

The Lutheran Church typically observes the Festival of the Reformation on or around October 31.

A Short Form for Holy Baptism in Cases of Emergency

In urgent cases and in the absence of the pastor, any Christian may administer Holy Baptism.

Take water, call the child by name, pour or sprinkle the water on the head of the child, saying:

I baptize you in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

If there is time, the baptism may be preceded by the following prayer and the Lord's Prayer:

Eternal, merciful God, we pray that You extend Your goodness and mercy to this child, who now asks; open the door to him/her who knocks, that he/she may enjoy the everlasting blessing of Your heavenly washing and may come to the eternal kingdom which You have prepared through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

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 sins, as we forgive those who sin 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.

Biblical References

(For 21 Lesson Class)

Lesson One

What Does the Bible Teach About The Natural Knowledge of God?

Genesis 1:1
Psalm 14:1
Hebrews 3:4
Psalm 19:1

Romans 2:14,15
Romans 1:20
Psalm 104:24
Acts 14:17

Romans 1:32

Lesson Two

What Does The Bible Teach About Itself?

1 Thessalonians 2:13
1 Corinthians 2:9-13
2 Timothy 3:16
2 Peter 1:21
Psalm 119:105
Romans 3:20
2 Tim. 3:15
Titus 1:9

1 Pet. 2:2
Ps. 119:9
Ps. 119:92
Luke 2:19
Luke 11:28
John 5:39
John 14:23
Acts 4:20

Lesson Three

What Does the Bible Teach About God?

John 4:24
Psalm 90:1,2
Malachi 3:6
Genesis 17:1
Psalm 139:1-4
Jeremiah 23:24
Leviticus 19:2
Deuteronomy 32:4

2 Timothy 2:13
Psalm 145:9
1 John 4:8
Deuteronomy 6:4
Matthew 28:19
John 17:3
John 17:17
Psalm 31:14

Lesson Four

What Does the Bible Teach about Creation and Preservation?

Genesis 1:1-3
Hebrews 11:3
Exodus 20:11
1 (Gen. 1:3-5)
2 (Gen. 1:6-8)
3 (Gen. 1:9-13)
4 (Gen. 1:14-19)
5 (Gen. 1:20-23)
6 (Gen. 1:24-27)
Genesis 2:7

Genesis 2:18-25
Genesis 1:26-27
Colossians 3:10
Ephesians 4:24
Hebrews 1:3
Gen. 1:28
Psalm 145:15,16
Psalm 118:1
1 Peter 5:7
Psalm 116:12-14
Gen. 32:10

Lesson Five

What Does the Bible Teach About The Angels and the Devils?

Exodus 20:11
Genesis 1:31
Hebrews 1:14
Matthew 25:31
Revelation 5:11
Psalm 103:20-21
Psalm 91:11-12

Matthew 22:30
Revelation 22:8-9
Jude 6
2 Peter 2:4
Ephesians 6:11-12
Mark 5:9
1 Peter 5:8-9
John 8:44

Lesson Six

What Does the Bible Say About Man, the Fall of Man, and Sin?

Genesis 2:16-17
Genesis 3:4-13
Genesis 5:3
Psalm 51:3
Ephesians 2:1-3

Romans 8:7
Matthew 7:17
Matthew 15:19
Acts 10:43
Romans 1:16

Lesson Seven

What Does the Bible Teach About the Law and the Gospel?

Leviticus 19:2
Exodus 20:3,7,8
Deuteronomy 27:26
Ecc. 7:20
James 2:10
Romans 3:23
Romans 6:23
1 John 4:9
John 3:16
Romans 1:16

Romans 7:7,4
Romans 3:19,20,24,25
1 John 4:17
Matthew 18:11
Romans 6:23
Isaiah 43:1
Matthew 5:48
Habakkuk 2:4
Mark 16:16
Hebrews 4:11
Matthew 11:28

Lesson Eight

What Does the Bible Say That We Owe God?

Matthew 22:37
Exodus 20:3
John 5:23
Matthew 10:37
Psalm 33:8
Psalm 31:23
Psalm 118:8
Exodus 20:7
Exodus 20:7
Leviticus 24:15-16

Matthew 15:8
Matthew 10:32
Psalm 118:1
Exodus 20:8
Colossians 2:16-17
Matthew 12:8
John 8:47
1 Thessalonians 2:13
Colossians 3:16
Mark 16:15

Lesson Nine

What Does the Bible Say That We Owe Our Neighbor?

Luke 10:27
1 John 3:15
Exodus 20:12
Matthew 5:21-22
Proverbs 30:17
Romans 12:30
Romans 13:2
Ephesians 4:32
Colossians 3:20

Exodus 20:14
1 Peter 2:18
Genesis 2:18
Ephesians 6:4
Genesis 2:22-24
Colossians 3:21
Genesis 1:28
Exodus 20:13
1 Corinthians 7:2

Genesis 9:6
Romans 7:2
Ephesians 5:24-25
1 Corinthians 13:7
Matthew 19:6
Zechariah 8:16
Hebrews 13:4
Exodus 20:17
Philippians 4:8
Romans 7:7
Romans 7:2
1 Timothy 6:8-10
Exodus 20:15
Philippians 2:4

Leviticus 19:11
Galatians 5:13
Matthew 5:42
Romans 6:23
1 Peter 4:10
Psalm 14:3
Exodus 20:16
Galatians 3:11
Proverbs 19:5
Romans 10:4
Zechariah 8:17
Galatians 3:13
Luke 6:37
Proverbs 31:8-9
1 Peter 4:8

Lesson Ten
(Not Included)

Lesson Eleven

What Does the Bible Teach Concerning the Person, Jesus?

Matthew 1:21
Colossians 1:16-18
Acts 4:12
1 Timothy 2:5
1 John 5:20
Hebrews 4:15

Hebrews 13:8
Matthew 16:16
Matthew 28:18
Luke 19:10
John 1:3
Galatians 4:4-5
Hebrews 2:14

Lesson Twelve

What Does the Bible Teach Concerning the Work of Christ

John 2:11
John 3:16
Matthew 8:20
1 Peter 3:18-19
Philippians 2:5-8
Romans 1:4
Romans 5:19
John 2:19
Galatians 3:13
Romans 4:25
2 Timothy 1:10

John 14:19
1 John 3:8
Acts 1:9, 11
1 John 2:2
Ephesians 1:20-23
1 John 2:1

Lesson Thirteen

What Does the Bible Teach Concerning the Holy Spirit and His Work?

Acts 2:1-4	Ephesians 2:1
1 Thessalonians 4:3	1 Corinthians 10:31
Matthew 28:19	Romans 8:7
2 Corinthians 5:17	Matthew 7:21-27
1 Corinthians 12:3	Romans 10:17
Ephesians 2:10	1 Peter 1:5
Romans 6:12-14	Acts 16:29-31
John 15:5	Matthew 22:14
1 Corinthians 2:14	Romans 8:38-39
John 14:15	Matthew 22:37

Lesson Fourteen

What Does the Bible Teach Concerning the Forgiveness of Sins?
(The Doctrine of Justification)

Leviticus 19:2	(Matthew 27:46)
Ephesians 2:8, 9	Romans 3:28
Isaiah 59:2	John 20:31
Romans 8:38, 39	Galatians 5:4
Romans 8:33	Matthew 9:2
2 Corinthians 5:21	

Lesson Fifteen

What Do the Scriptures Teach Concerning the Church?

Romans 12:5	1 Corinthians 12:27 (21-26)
Romans 8:9	John 8:31-32
2 Timothy 2:19	2 Thessalonians 3:1
Ephesians 5:25-27	1 Thessalonians 5:12-13
John 14:6	Romans 12:6-8
Matthew 28:20	1 Corinthians 16:2
Acts 2:42	1 Corinthians 9:14
Ephesians 4:11-13	Acts 17:11
Acts 2:47	

Lesson Sixteen

What Does the Bible Teach Concerning Holy Baptism?

Matthew 3:11	Mark 10:13-16
Luke 11:38	Matthew 18:6
Mark 7:4	Galatians 3:26, 27
Acts 2:17, 18	Acts 22:16
Matthew 28:19	1 Peter 3:21
Acts 2:38, 39	Ephesians 5: 25, 26
Psalms 51:5	Mark 16:16
Ephesians 2:8	Romans 6:4
John 3:5, 6	Galatians 3:26, 27
	1 Corinthians 4:1

Lesson Seventeen

What Does the Bible Teach Concerning Prayer?

Psalms 19:14	2 Corinthians 12:8, 9
Psalms 10:17	John 2:4
Matthew 7:7, 8	1 Timothy 2:1
Psalms 50:15	1 Timothy 2:8
Matthew 4:10	1 Timothy 2:5
John 6:7-9	1 Thessalonians 5:17
James 1:6, 7	Psalms 26:12
1 John 5:14	James 5:16
Luke 22:42	Matthew 6:9-13

Lesson Eighteen

What Does the Bible Teach Concerning the Holy Communion?

Matthew 26:26-28	Matthew 26:28
Mark 14:22-24	2 Corinthians 5:17
Luke 22:19, 20	1 Corinthians 11:28, 29
1 Corinthians 11:23-25	Matthew 5:23, 24
1 Corinthians 10:16	Acts 2:42
1 Corinthians 11:27	Luke 22:19
1 Corinthians 11:29	Matthew 26:27, 28
1 Corinthians 11:26	Matthew 11:28

Lesson Nineteen

What Does the Bible Teach Concerning Confession and the Ministry?

Mark 16:15	1 Corinthians 4:17-21
Matthew 28:18-20	Matthew 18:15-17
John 20:22, 23	1 Corinthians 5:13
Matthew 18:17-20	Matthew 18:18
1 John 1:8-10	Psalms 32:5
Acts 20:28	Psalms 19:12
Acts 16:19, 20	Matthew 5:23, 24
Ephesians 4:11, 12	James 5:16

Lesson Twenty

What Does the Bible Teach Concerning the Last Things?

Matthew 10:28	2 Peter 3:10
Luke 16:22, 23	1 Corinthians 13:12
Luke 23:43	1 Corinthians 15:42
Matthew 24:3, 5-7	Romans 8:18
Matthew 24:9-12	Revelation 21:4
Matthew 24:14, 21, 22	2 Timothy 4:7, 8
Mark 13:32	1 Corinthians 15:41
Matthew 25:31	Revelation 22:12
Matthew 25:32	John 3:16
John 5:28, 29	John 3:36
Philippians 3:20, 21	Revelation 2:10
Matthew 25:41	Matthew 6:33
1 Corinthians 15:52	Mark 16:15

Lesson Twenty-One

What Does the Bible Teach Concerning the Christian Life?

2 Corinthians 5:17	Acts 1:8
Matthew 6:33	Acts 2:42, 46, 47
Matthew 7:17, 18	1 Corinthians 6:19, 20
Ephesians 4:13	Psalms 24:1
Ephesians 6:18	2 Corinthians 8:5
Ephesians 4:3, 29-32	2 Corinthians 8:8
Deuteronomy 6:6, 7	2 Corinthians 9:8
Luke 22:19	2 Corinthians 8:9
Acts 17:11	
John 17:17	
2 Timothy 3:16, 17	
1 Peter 5:7	