



Der kleine  
Catechismus für  
die gemeine Pfar-  
herr vnd Pre-  
diger.  
Mart. Luther.  
Wittenberg.

# **THE CATECHISM OF THE CHRISTIAN FAITH**

Sunday after the Reformation + November 5, 2023

Our Redeemer Lutheran Church

Santa Barbara, California

**IN THE NAME OF THE FATHER, AND OF THE SON, AND OF THE HOLY SPIRIT.** Welcome to our post-Reformation worship. This morning we turn our attention to the Small Catechism of Martin Luther. With it we have the principle parts of Christian doctrine, and in it, we have a source of instruction which the head of the household can teach.

Our service follows a special order of worship to commemorate the gift of God's grace through Martin Luther. For your convenience the service is printed in this folder. Spoken and sung responses by the congregation are marked. Hymns are also printed in the copies of Christian Worship that are in the racks on the benches.

May our gracious Lord and Savior bless our worship!

## The Order of Worship

### **Pre-Service Music**

### **Welcome & Prologue**

“The catechism is the Bible of the layman, which contains the whole body of Christian teaching necessary to bring every Christian to salvation . . . For that reason we should hold the catechism honorable and worthy, then use it diligently among the youth, because in it has been gathered together all the true, real, ancient, pure and godly teachings of the holy Christian Church.”

*Martin Luther*

## In God's Grace We Gather as Baptized People

### *The Sacrament of Holy Baptism*

P: God saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit, whom he poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that, having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs having the hope of eternal life.

**C: As we come together to worship, we remember that we gather as baptized people. Our baptism in the name of the Triune God offers comfort in distress, hope in adversity, and strength in time of temptation. It is God's gracious covenant with us through which he declares that we are his children and heirs of life in heaven.**

P: Therefore, as baptized people, we worship in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen!**

### **Opening Hymn**

“O Word of God Incarnate”

*Christian Worship 279*

## God holds Us before the Mirror of His Law

### *The Ten Commandments*

P: In the Law, that is the Ten Commandments, the righteous, immutable will of God is revealed to all people. In that Law our disobedience and rebellion is clearly revealed, and we are forever bound to our sins. We are sentenced to punishment and shackled eternally to death and Satan. It is not the purpose of the Law to save, but to condemn.

**C: St. Paul declares, “no one will be declared righteous in his sight by observing the Law; rather, through the Law we become conscious of sin.”**

P: Because our hearts are laid bare and our secrets are revealed,

we must acknowledge our sinfulness to the Lord, and seek his mercy.

**C: O Lord, hear my prayer, listen to my cry for mercy,  
And in your faithfulness, come to my relief;  
Do not bring your servant into judgment,  
For no one living is righteous before you.  
Answer me quickly, O Lord; my spirit fails.  
Do not hide your face from me,  
for I have put my trust in you.  
Show me the way I should go,  
For to you I lift up my soul.**

### God's Grace Leads Us to Confess Our Sins

#### *Confession*

P: Confession, as Luther writes, has two parts. The one is that we confess our sins; the other, that we receive absolution or forgiveness from the pastor as from God himself, not doubting but firmly believing that our sins are thus forgiven before God in heaven.

**C: Almighty God, merciful Father, I, a troubled and repentant sinner, confess that I have sinned against you in my thoughts, my words, and my actions. I have not loved you with my whole heart; I have not loved others as I should. I am distressed by the sins that trouble me and am deeply sorry for them.**

**Response by Congregation**

“Jesus Sinners Does Receive”

*Christian Worship 304 st. 5*

I, a sinner, come to you  
With a penitent confession.  
Savior, show me mercy, too;  
Grant for all my sins remission.  
Let these words my soul relieve --  
Jesus sinners does receive.

## God's Grace Proclaims that We are Forgiven

*The Use of the Keys*

P: The use of the Keys is that special power and right which Christ gave to his church on earth: to forgive the sins of penitent sinners but to refuse forgiveness to the impenitent as long as they do not repent.

**C: We believe Jesus when said to his church: “If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven.” We also believe his death has paid for the guilt of our sins, as well as the sins of the whole world.**

P: May it be to you as you have believed. Therefore, as a called servant of the Word, and because of the promise of our Savior Jesus Christ, together with his death and resurrection, I forgive you all your sins. Be assured that you are a dear child of God and an heir of eternal life.

**C: Amen!**

**Response by Congregation**

“Jesus Sinners Does Receive”  
*Christian Worship 304 st. 6*

Oh, how blest it is to know,  
Were as scarlet my transgression,  
It shall be as white as snow  
By your blood and bitter passion,  
For these words I do believe --  
Jesus sinners does receive.

## God Grace Guides Us in Love and Service

*The Third Use of the Law*

**Old Testament**

*Micah 3:5-12*

<sup>5</sup>This is what the LORD says concerning the prophets who mislead my people:

Give them something to chew with their teeth, and they de-

clare peace, but they declare a holy war against anyone who doesn't put something into their mouths.

<sup>6</sup>Therefore, a night without prophetic vision will come upon you. Darkness will come upon you, without any omens from God. The sun will set for the prophets, and daytime will become dark for them. <sup>7</sup>The seers will be ashamed, and the fortune tellers will hide in disgrace. They will all cover their mouths, because there will be no answer from God.

<sup>8</sup>I, on the other hand, I am full of power from the Spirit of the LORD, full of judgment and strength, to declare Jacob's sinful rebellion to him and Israel's sin to him.

<sup>9</sup>Hear this, you heads of the house of Jacob. Listen attentively, leaders of the house of Israel, you who have contempt for justice and pervert everything that is right, <sup>10</sup>you who build Zion with blood and Jerusalem with injustice. <sup>11</sup>Her leaders render verdicts for a bribe, and her priests issue rulings for a payoff. Her prophets foretell the future for silver, yet they lean on the LORD and say, "The LORD is in our midst, isn't he? Disaster will not come upon us."

<sup>12</sup>Therefore, because of you, Zion will be plowed like a field. Jerusalem will become a heap of ruins, and the Temple Mount will become a wooded hill.

### **Children's Message**

*"There are Consequences for Not Listening!"*

### **Psalm Reading**

P: Give ear, O my people, to my instruction. Turn your ear to the words of my mouth. I will open my mouth to share a lesson.

### ***Congregation response***



Your Word is a lamp to my feet and a light for my path.

## Epistle

*1 Thessalonians 2:1–13*

<sup>1</sup>Indeed, brothers, you yourselves know that our visit to you was not a waste of time. <sup>2</sup>Even though we had suffered previously and were treated shamefully in Philippi (as you know), we were bold in our God to speak the gospel of God to you in the face of great opposition. <sup>3</sup>For our appeal does not come from error or impure motives, or by way of deceit. <sup>4</sup>Instead, just as we have been approved by God to be entrusted with the gospel, so we speak, not to please people but God, who examines our hearts. <sup>5</sup>Indeed, as you know, we never at any time used flattering speech, nor did we act with greed as a motive. God is our witness. <sup>6</sup>Also, we did not seek the praise of people (neither yours nor anyone else's), <sup>7</sup>even though we could have been a burden as Christ's apostles. On the contrary, we were gentle among you, like a nursing mother taking care of her own children. <sup>8</sup>We yearned for you so much that we were delighted to share with you not only the gospel of God, but also our own lives, because you had become dear to us.

<sup>9</sup>Surely, brothers, you remember our labor and hardship! We worked night and day so that we would not be a burden to any of you, while we preached the gospel of God to you. <sup>10</sup>You are witnesses, and so is God, of how devout, righteous, and blameless we were toward you who believe. <sup>11</sup>In the same way, you know that we treated each of you as a father deals with his own children: <sup>12</sup>encouraging, comforting, and urging you to live lives worthy of God, who is calling you into his kingdom and glory.

<sup>13</sup>There is also another reason we give thanks to God unceasingly, namely, when you received God's word, which you heard from us, you did not receive it as the word of men but as the word of God (as it really is), which is now at work in you who believe.

## Theme for the Day

P: The LORD set up a testimony for Jacob. In Israel he established the law. He commanded our fathers to make it known to their children. Then they would put their confidence in God,

and they would not forget the deeds of God, but they would keep his commands. Then they would not be like their fathers, a stubborn, rebellious generation.

***Congregation response***



Your Word is a lamp to my feet and a light for my path.

**Gospel**

*Matthew 23:1–12*

<sup>1</sup>Then Jesus spoke to the crowds and to his disciples. <sup>2</sup>He said, “The experts in the law and the Pharisees sit in Moses’ seat. <sup>3</sup>So practice and observe whatever they tell you. But do not do as they do, because they do not practice what they preach. <sup>4</sup>They tie up heavy loads, burdens that are hard to carry, and place them on people’s shoulders, but they will not lift a finger to help them. <sup>5</sup>They do all their works to be seen by people. They make their phylacteries wide and lengthen the fringes of their garments. <sup>6</sup>They love the place of honor at feasts, the best seats in the synagogues, <sup>7</sup>the greetings in the marketplaces, and being called ‘Rabbi’ by people. <sup>8</sup>But you are not to be called ‘Rabbi,’ for you have one Teacher, and you are all brothers. <sup>9</sup>Also do not call anyone on earth your ‘Father,’ for you have one Father, and he is in heaven. <sup>10</sup>And you are not to be called ‘leaders,’ for you have one Leader, the Christ. <sup>11</sup>But the greatest among you will be your servant. <sup>12</sup>Whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and whoever humbles himself will be exalted.”

P: This is the Word of our God;

**C: Sanctify us by the truth; your Word is truth!**

**Hymn of the Day**

“Lord Jesus Christ, with Us Abide”  
*Christian Worship 541 st. 1-6*

1. *Men of the Congregation*  
Lord Jesus Christ, with us abide,



For round us falls the even-tide,  
Nor let your Word, that heav'nly light.  
For us be ever veiled in night.

2. *Congregation*

O God, how sin's dread works abound!  
Throughout the earth no rest is found,  
And falsehood's spirit wide has spread,  
And error boldly rears its head.

3. *Ladies of the Congregation*

In these last days of sore distress  
Grant us, dear Lord, true steadfastness  
That pure we keep, till life is spent,  
Your holy Word and Sacrament.

4. *Congregation*

Lord Jesus, help, your Church uphold,  
For we are sluggish, thoughtless, cold.  
Oh, prosper well your Word of grace,  
And spread its truth in ev'ry place.

5. *Men of the Congregation*

Oh, keep us in your Word, we pray;  
The guile and rage of Satan stay!  
Oh, may your mercy never cease!  
Give concord, patience, courage, peace.

6. *Congregation*

The cause is yours, the glory, too,  
So hear us, Lord, and keep us true.  
Your Word alone is our defense,  
The Church's glorious confidence.

**Sermon**

**“Lord, Keep Us Humble!”**

As we hear your Word  
As we follow your Will

*Matthew 23:12*

God's Grace Leads us to Confess our Faith  
*The Apostles Creed*

P: A creed is a statement of what we believe, teach, and confess. The creed with which we confess our faith is the Apostles Creed. It is called the Apostles Creed, not because it was written by the apostles, but because it briefly states the doctrine which God proclaimed through the apostles and taught through the Scriptures. It is this teaching that leads us to believe in the Triune God - God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit.

**C: We confess our faith in the Triune God, because St. Paul writes: "For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you confess and are saved."**

*(the congregation will rise for the Confession of Faith)*

P: I now ask you, all you who are gathered here today: Do you believe in God the Father?

**C: Yes, I believe in God the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth.**

P: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**C: Yes, I believe 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 is seated  
at the right hand of God the Father almighty.  
From there he will come to judge  
the living and the dead.**

P: Do you believe in God, the Holy Spirit?

**C: Yes, 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!**

## God's Grace Invites us to Pray

*The Lord's Prayer*

P: Luther writes: "You must base your prayer on God's Word and promise, yes, on his own command and bidding, and say: Dear Lord, you know that I do not appear before you of my own accord and out of personal presumption, or because of any worthiness in me. For if I were to look at those things, I would not dare raise my eyes to you and would not know how to begin to pray. But I come because you yourself have bidden and earnestly requested us to call on you and have also promised us a hearing. Besides this, you have sent your own Son, who has taught us what we are to pray, and has spoken the very words for us."

**C: Our Father in heaven;**

P: With these words God tenderly invites us to believe that he is our true Father and that we are his true children, so that we may pray to him as boldly and confidently as dear children ask their dear father.

**C: Hallowed be your name;**

P: God's name is certainly holy by itself, but we pray in this petition that we too may keep it holy.

**C: Your kingdom come.**

P: God's kingdom certainly comes by itself even without our prayer, but we pray in this petition that it may also come to us.

**C: Your will be done on earth as in heaven.**

P: God's good and gracious will certainly is done without our prayer, but we pray in this petition that it may be done among us also.

**C: Give us today our daily bread.**

P: God surely gives daily bread without our asking, even to all the wicked, but we pray in this petition that he would lead us to realize this and to receive our daily bread with thanksgiving.

**C: Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us.**

P: We pray in this petition that our Father in heaven would not look upon our sins or because of them deny our prayers; for we are worthy of none of things for which we ask, neither have we deserved them, but we ask that he would give them all to us by grace; for we daily sin much and surely deserve nothing but punishment. So we too will forgive from the heart and gladly do good to those who sin against us.

**C: Lead us not into temptation.**

P: God surely tempts no one to sin, but we pray in this petition that God would guard and keep us, so that the devil, the world, and our flesh may not deceive us or lead us into false belief, despair, and other great and shameful sins; and though we are tempted by them, we pray that we may overcome and win the victory.

**C: But deliver us from evil.**

P: We pray in this petition that our Father in heaven would deliver us from every evil that threatens body and soul, property and reputation, and finally when our last hour comes, grant us a blessed end and graciously take us from this world of sorrow to himself in heaven.

**C: For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen!**

P: We can be sure that these petitions are acceptable to our Father in heaven and are heard by him, for he himself has commanded us to pray in this way and has promised to hear us. Therefore we say, "Amen! Yes, it shall be so."

**Hymn of Preparation** "Jesus, Your Blood and Righteousness"

1. Jesus, your blood and righteousness  
My beauty are, my glorious dress;  
Mid flaming worlds, in these arrayed,  
With joy shall I lift up my head.
3. Lord, I believe your precious blood,  
Which at the very throne of God,  
Forever will for sinners plead,  
For me—e'en for my soul—was shed.
4. Lord, I believe, we're sinners more  
Than sands upon the ocean shore,  
You have for all a ransom paid,  
For all a full atonement made.

### God's Grace Assures Us We can Live in Peace

#### *The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper*

P: To bring us into his family of believers, our Savior has blessed us with the gift of Baptism. To keep us in his family he has also blessed us with the gift of the Lord's Supper. In this Sacrament he gives us his true body and his true blood, in, with, and under the bread and the wine. Scripture teaches us to prepare ourselves for the proper reception of this holy and precious gift.

**C: God's Word assures me that Jesus led a pure and holy life for me, and died on the cross for me to pay the full price for all my sins. Through faith in Jesus, I have been clothed in my Savior's perfect righteousness and holiness.**

P: Through faith Jesus gives me his body and his blood together with the bread and the wine as a truly life-giving food and drink to unite me with him and my fellow believers. By means of this sacrament, Jesus not only forgives my sins but sweeps away all my doubts about his love for me, gives me his own strength to live a God-pleasing life, and grants me a joyful foretaste of

heaven.

**C: How can I be sure that I receive all these blessings in the Lord's Supper?**

P: I have his own word spoken as his last will and testament on the night before he died. There he tells me: "Take and eat; this is my body. Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this in remembrance of me."

**C: In response to this priceless gift, I will daily thank and praise him for his love to me. With his help I will fight temptation, do my best to correct whatever wrongs I have done, and serve him and those around me with love and good works.**

**The Words of Institution:**

P: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me.

P: The peace of the Lord be with your always!

**The Song of the Lamb**

*(the hymn used will be "I Lay My Sins on Jesus"  
Christian Worship 372 st. 1 & 3)*

1. I lay my sins on Jesus, the spotless Lamb of God;  
He bears them all and frees us from the accursed load.  
I bring my guilt to Jesus to wash my crimson stains  
White in his blood most precious till not a spot remains.

3. I rest my soul on Jesus, this weary soul of mine.  
His right hand me embraces; I in his arms recline.  
I love the name of Jesus, Immanuel, Christ, the Lord;  
Like fragrance on the breezes his name abroad is poured.

*The congregation may be seated*

***To our Visitors***

The Lord's Supper is means of grace through which Christ our Savior strengthens our faith and forgives our sins. In it we receive His actual body and blood, as we receive the bread and the wine. If you have not communed with us before, or if you are not familiar with our procedure, we kindly ask you not to come to the Lord's Table today. Rather, please speak with our pastor following the service. He will be happy to share with you the necessary preparations to receive our Savior's body and blood in a future service.

**The Distribution**

*(Please come to the altar as directed by the usher)*

**Song of Simeon**

*(the melody used will be "Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus"  
Christian Worship 474)*

O Lord, now let your servant  
Depart in peace, assured:  
For I have seen your promised  
Incarnate, saving Word --  
A light that will enlighten  
All gloom where Gentiles dwell;  
The brilliant, crowning glory  
Of those in Israel!

All glory to the Father,

All glory to the Son,  
All glory to the Spirit,  
Forever Three-in-One!  
For as in the beginning,  
Is now, shall ever be,  
God's triune name resounding  
Through all eternity.

### Closing Prayer

P: O God our Father, you are the source of all that is good. In your loving kindness you sent Jesus to become the faithful servant of all. We thank you that through him you have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament. We also pray that you will not forsake us, but will rule our hearts and minds by your Holy Spirit to willingly, faithfully, and joyfully live to your glory day after day, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen!

### The Benediction:

P: Brothers and sisters, go in peace; live in harmony with one another; serve the Lord in gladness.

The Lord bless you and keep you;

The Lord makes his face shine on you

and be gracious to you;

The Lord look on you with favor, and give you peace.



C: A -- men, A ---- men, A ----- men.

### Closing Hymn

“Lord, Help Us Ever to Retain”  
*Christian Worship 514*

### Silent Prayer



## **Announcements**

**Today** - In our Savior's name welcome. May the blessing and peace of our gracious Savior, and his precious Word be with you. If you are visiting us this morning, please sign our guest book, or use a visitor card and hand. Also, come and visit us again, soon!

- Everyone is invited to enjoy some snacks and a cup of coffee following the worship service. They will be served outside.
- After you get a cup of coffee, please return to the sanctuary. Christian Education will focus on the words of Micah—"God's Last Word to His People."

**Monday** - Handbell Choir practice at 7:00 pm.

**Tuesday**—Church Council meeting at 7:00 pm. Committees will meet at 8:00 if needed.

**Wednesday**—Bible Class at 7:00 pm. We will continue with the second part of the study on Luther. Part 2 focuses on the trip to Rome and the 95 Theses against the sale of indulgences.

**Friday** - Office hours: 10:30 am - 2:30 pm

**Saturday** - Cleaning: Proeber

- Lawn beginning November 12<sup>th</sup>—C. Schueler

**Sunday, November 12<sup>th</sup>—In-person Worship and Live-streaming at 9:30 am.** As we come closer to the end of the church year we are reminded of the Last Judgment. This is the time when Jesus will return to judge all people. We want to be wise in regard to these last days. We also want to be prepared.

- Christian Education will consider the clothing in which we want to be found when Jesus returns in glory.

## **Thank You**

To Al Todd, our Hymnsoft operator; to Josh Schueler and Jim Everson for controlling the audio and video portions of our live stream; to Sue Proeber for placing flowers on the altar—given to the glory of God and in thanksgiving for his rich blessing; and to Pam Schueler and Marrison Schueler for serving refreshments after the service.

## What's Happening . . .

In the coming months we will have a number of special opportunities through which we can invite others to come to know their Savior Jesus Christ and what he has done for them. Make sure you take the opportunity to “share the good news!”

- **November 19<sup>th</sup>** is the pre-Thanksgiving pot-luck and fellowship evening at 5:30 pm. There is an information and sign-up sheet on the table. Make sure you plan to be part of this enjoyable evening. There is always good food among good friends.
- **November 23<sup>rd</sup>** is our Thanksgiving Day worship service. It begins at 9:30 am.
- December begins our Advent season of preparation to welcome our Savior. This year we will follow the theme: “Prepare My Heart, Lord Jesus.” This preparation comes through repentance, forgiveness, the Word of God, and the working of the Spirit.
- Christmas Eve will be 7:00 pm, December 24th, and Christmas day will be 9:30 am. While there are many traditions which can be a part of Christmas, make the worship of our new-born Savior your first priority.

ALL ARE WELCOME!

## Acknowledgements

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