

Come, my children, listen to me; I will teach you the fear of the Lord.

PSALM 34:11 (NIV)

Dear parent, teacher, grandparent, beloved in the Lord...

Whatever your station or vocation in life may be, you have requested this resource because God has blessed you with the role of teaching a child (or children) in the faith. In addition to reading to them the Scriptures, which are able to make them wise for salvation (2 TIM. 3:15) and bringing them into contact with God's free-flowing gifts in His holy house, you have also begun to introduce them to *Luther's Small Catechism*.

The catechism is a teaching companion and learning tool for children and adults alike. Luther's intent was for his catechism to be read, memorized and referenced on repeat, as he himself said: "I must remain a child and pupil of the catechism, and am glad so to remain."

These catechism memory cards have been compiled to help make what may seem like an insurmountable task in our hurried, fast-paced 21st century context feel more achievable: coming to learn and love the main tenets of the faith. The point, of course, is not to achieve simple rote memorization for the sake of personal achievement. The goal is loftier. With eyes fixed to eternity, we memorize Scripture, the catechism and the truths of what we believe so that by internalizing and impressing such things upon our lips and hearts, our lives may be conformed to the words we discipline our minds to learn. We also commit these things to memory so that we are armed with words that bring truth and life when we are faced with temptation, doubt, even death itself. Finally, we memorize these things with our neighbors always on our mind — so that we are ready to confidently witness the Gospel, defend the faith, and serve our neighbor in deed and in truth (1 JOHN 3:18).

The accompanying catechism memory cards largely follow the pattern and layout of *Luther's Small Catechism*. Most of the answers are taken verbatim from Scripture and from the catechism.

You will find additional "discussion cards" included as well. These are not straight memory work cards, but are meant to launch discussions based on the catechism and Scripture that have been memorized.

It is the hope and prayer of LCMS Family Ministry in producing this resource that Christian families across the globe would be reinvigorated to see the home (and the local church) as the primary contexts through which the faith is passed down from one faithful generation to the next. Take heart, be strong and have courage! You can do this — piece by piece, little by little — "for it is not necessary to teach everything at once, but one thing after the other." So says Luther himself.

HOW TO USE THIS RESOURCE

Children are in their prime memorization years in early childhood, especially from ages two to seven. That means that learning, including spiritual learning, begins at a very early age.

Already at Baptism, the Holy Spirit works to call, gather, enlighten and sanctify the individual believer along with the body of believers — His church. Learning the fear of the Lord begins at the font, and then never ends! From infancy, through early childhood and adolescence, and then into adulthood, the Christian is called to grow in knowledge of God and in good works toward neighbor (COL. 1:10).

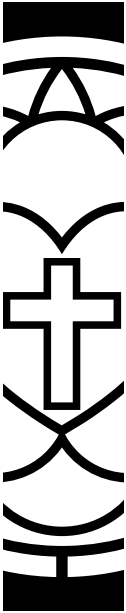
It is never too early to introduce your little ones to the Lord's Prayer, the Ten Commandments, the Creed, the Psalms, Luther's Morning and Evening Prayers, the hymns ... these can be used from infancy on. Speak them, sing them, pray them. In the car, while changing a diaper, rocking to sleep, brushing teeth, before or after meals. *It is never too early.*

You can begin to use these cards with very young children (ages 2–5). Once they know the Lord's Prayer, the Creed, Luther's Morning and Evening Prayers, and a few hymns by heart, introduce the Ten Commandments, the Six Chief Parts of the catechism, the books of the Bible, and the days of creation. Work together to think of a fun rhyme, create a catchy song or make your own flashcards. Some songs for learning the books of the Bible can even be found online! Take these with you in the car, quiz each other at mealtime or before bed, incorporate them into family devotional time.

Older children (ages 6–12) can move on from the basics and work on the whole card set, taking a section at a time, and then supplement with full pages from the catechism. Again, these can be used in the car on the way to school, at mealtimes or during family devotions. The goal is to have this whole card set memorized by the time a child is ready for confirmation class.

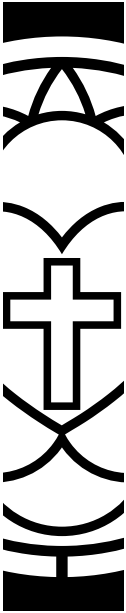
These cards are intended to be printed off for household use. We recommend laminating them, hole punching in the left-hand corner, and putting a key ring through the entire deck so that they all stay together. Allow these cards to be a *launching point* for family conversation. Together, think of questions to ask your pastor. Pray together, grow together, and have fun doing it!

*Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart
be acceptable in your sight,
O LORD, my rock and my redeemer.
—Psalm 19:14*

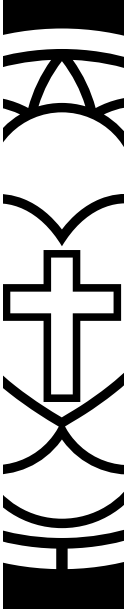


CATECHISM MEMORY CARDS

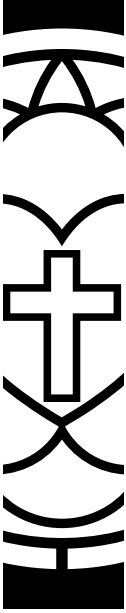
God has blessed you with the role of teaching a child (or children) in the faith. These memory cards have been compiled to help you introduce them to Scripture and Luther's Small Catechism.



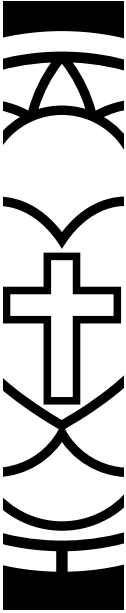
How many
chief parts
are there in
Luther's Catechism?



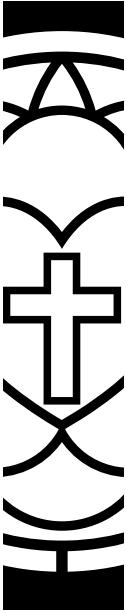
What are the
Six Chief Parts
in Luther's Catechism?



How many books
are in the Bible?



How many books are in the
Old Testament?



How many books are in the
New Testament?



6



You will find additional “discussion cards” included as well, which are marked with a “★.” These are meant to launch discussions based on the catechism and Scripture that have been memorized.



66



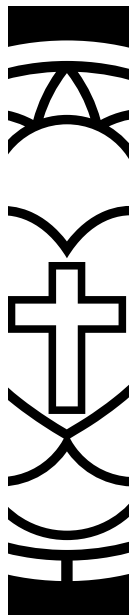
The Ten Commandments, the
Apostles’ Creed, the Lord’s
Prayer, Baptism, Confession and
Absolution, and the Lord’s Supper



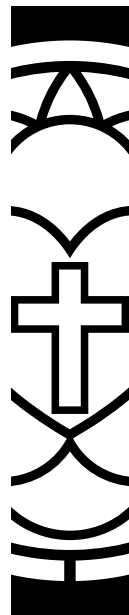
27



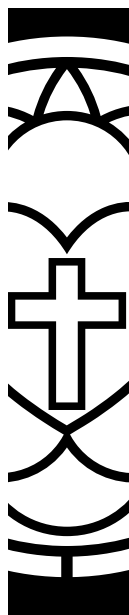
39



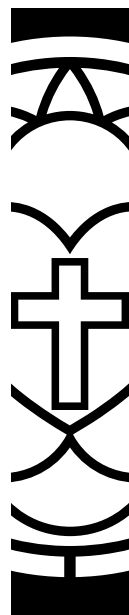
What is the
Pentateuch?



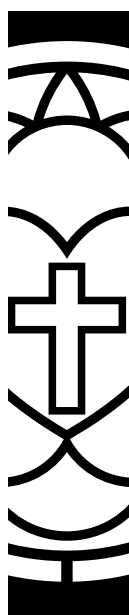
What are Scripture's
historical books
(after the Pentateuch)?



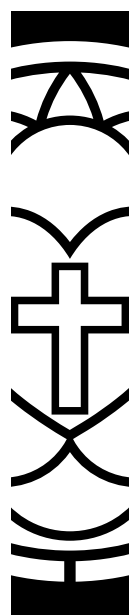
What are Scripture's
poetic books?



What are the
Major Prophets?



What are the
Minor Prophets?



What are the
Four Gospels?



Joshua to Esther



The first five books of the Bible
(written by Moses)



Isaiah to Daniel



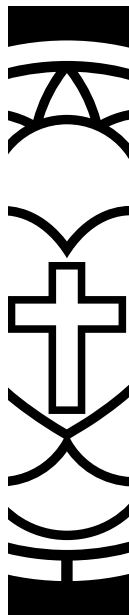
Job to Song of Songs



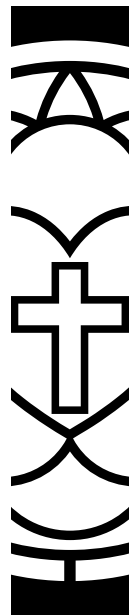
Matthew, Mark, Luke, John



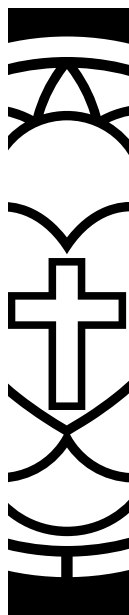
Hosea to Malachi



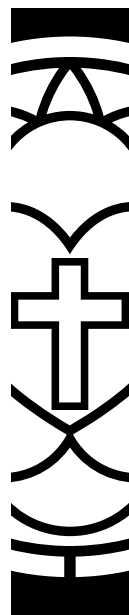
What are the
Synoptic Gospels?



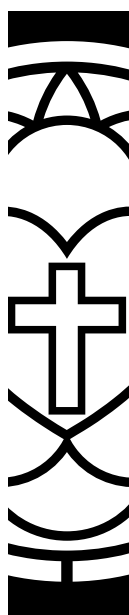
Name all of the
New Testament
books.



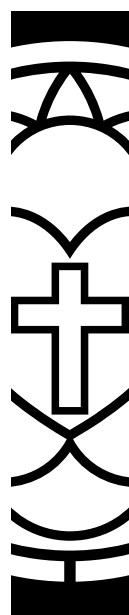
Who wrote
most of the Epistles?



What do we
believe
about the Bible?



What is the
Law?



What are the
three uses
of the Law?



Matthew, Mark, Luke, John,
Acts, Romans, 1 Corinthians,
2 Corinthians, Galatians,
Ephesians, Philippians,
Colossians, 1 Thessalonians,
2 Thessalonians, 1 Timothy,
2 Timothy, Titus, Philemon,
Hebrews, James, 1 Peter,
2 Peter, 1 John, 2 John,
3 John, Jude, Revelation



Matthew, Mark, Luke



It is the true and inspired Word of
God. It is inerrant and immutable.



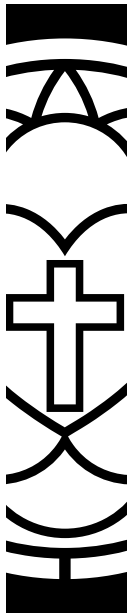
Paul



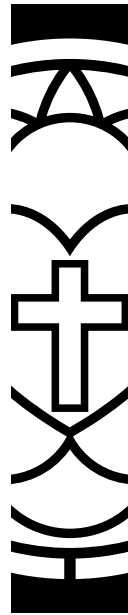
Curb, mirror, guide



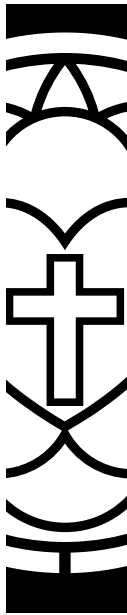
God’s will; His instruction
and design



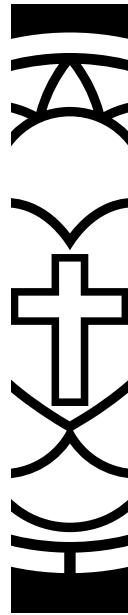
What is the
difference
between the
Law and the Gospel?



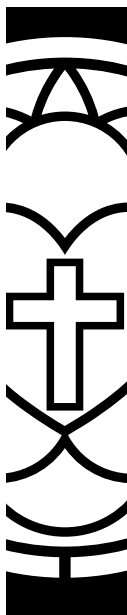
What is the
First Table
of the Law?



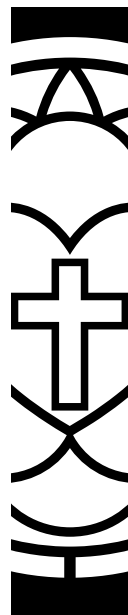
What is the
Second Table
of the Law?



What do the
First Table
commandments deal with?



What do the
Second Table
commandments deal with,
primarily?



Who is
our neighbor?





Commandments 1–3



The Law says “do this.” The Gospel says what Christ has done.



Our relationship with God



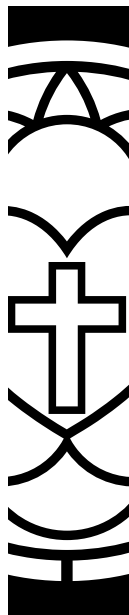
Commandments 4–10



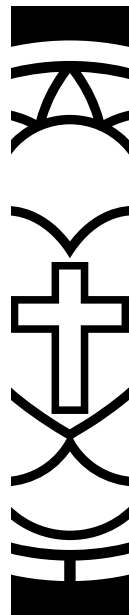
We must ask these two questions:
Where are we? And who are we
with? That is our neighbor.



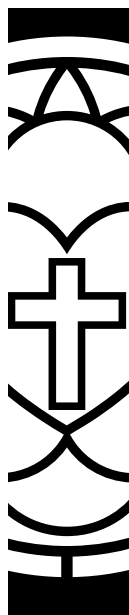
Our relationship with our neighbor



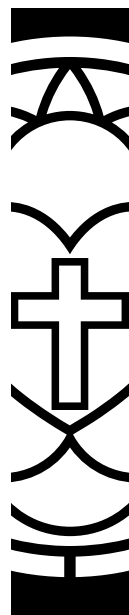
What commandment do we
always break
when we sin?



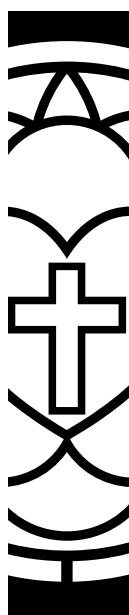
What is the
First
Commandment?



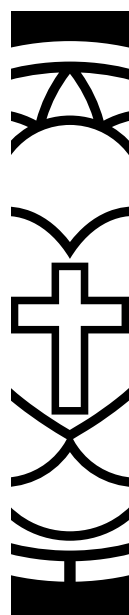
What does the First
Commandment
mean?



What is the
Second
Commandment?



How do we honor
the Second Commandment?



What is
God's name?



You shall have no other gods.



The First Commandment



You shall not misuse the
name of the Lord your God.



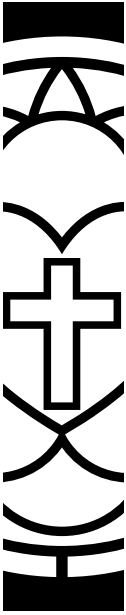
We should fear, love, and trust
in God above all things.



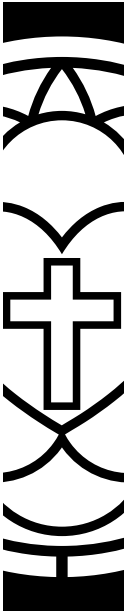
Yahweh, which means “I am”



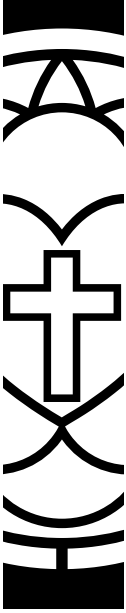
When we use God’s name rightly
— when we call upon it in prayer,
praise, and thanks.



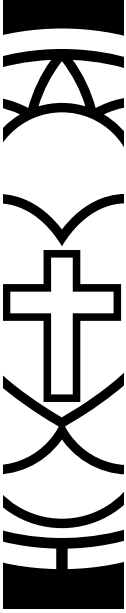
What is the
Third
Commandment?



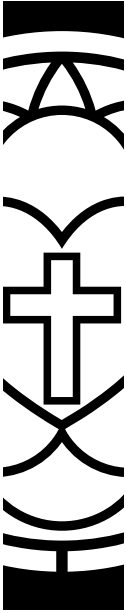
How do we keep the
Sabbath Day holy?



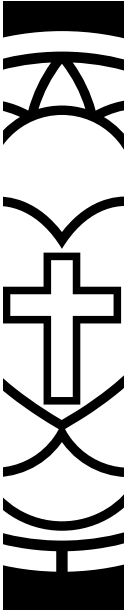
What is the commandment
with a **promise** attached?



What is the
Fourth
Commandment?



In addition to our parents,
who are we instructed to
obey and honor
in the Fourth Commandment?



What is the
Fifth
Commandment?



When we gladly hear and learn
God's Word; attend church and
Bible study.



Remember the Sabbath Day by
keeping it holy.



Honor your father and mother.



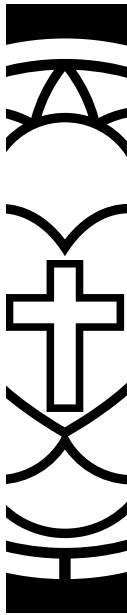
The Fourth Commandment



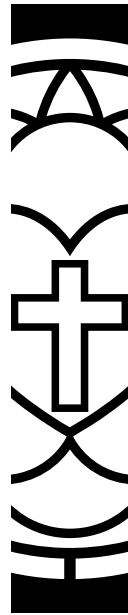
You shall not murder.



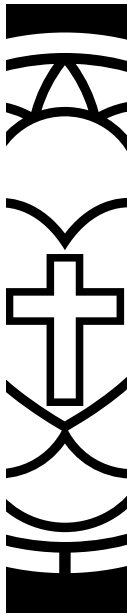
All people in positions
of authority over us



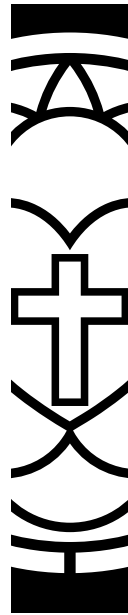
How do we honor
the Fifth Commandment?



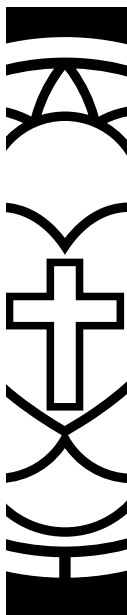
What is the
Sixth
Commandment?



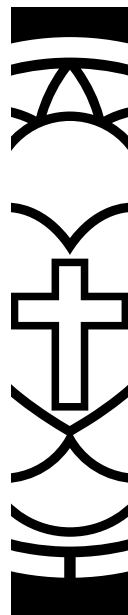
How do we honor
the Sixth Commandment?



What does **marriage**
between a husband and
wife reflect?



When does God create us as
a boy OR a girl?



What is the
Seventh
Commandment?



You shall not commit adultery.



Help and support our neighbor
in every physical need



The true marriage that is between
Christ and His Bride, the church



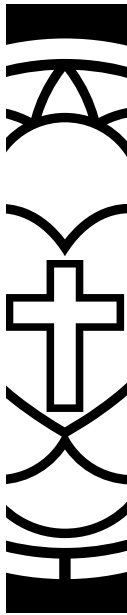
Lead sexually pure and chaste
lives in singleness and in marriage



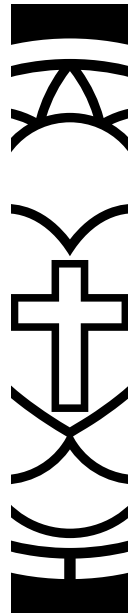
You shall not steal.



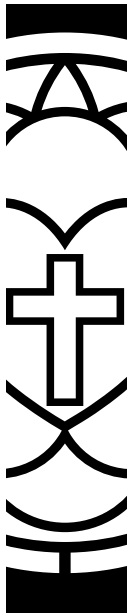
When we are conceived
in our mother's womb



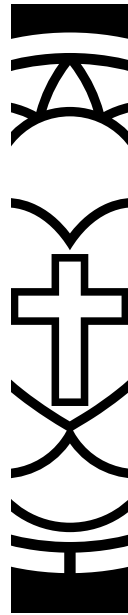
How do we honor
the Seventh Commandment?



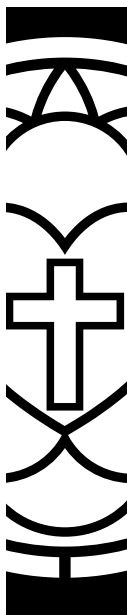
What is the
Eighth
Commandment?



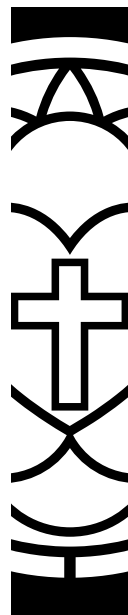
How do we honor
the Eighth Commandment?



What is the
Ninth
Commandment?



What is the
Tenth
Commandment?



Who is the **only one**
who has kept the Law perfectly?





You shall not give false testimony
against your neighbor.



Help our neighbor improve and
protect his possessions



You shall not covet your
neighbor's house.



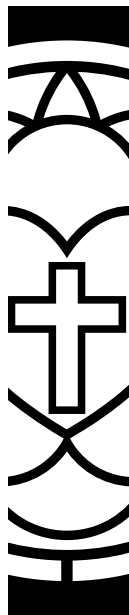
Protect our neighbor's reputation
— defend them, speak well of
them, and explain everything
in the kindest way



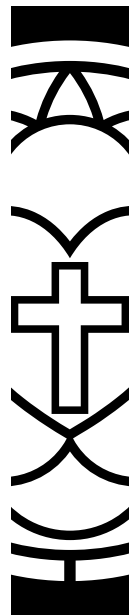
Jesus Christ



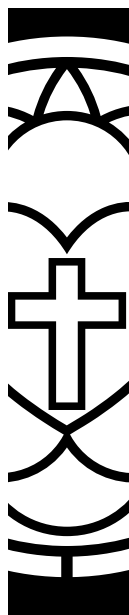
You shall not covet your
neighbor's wife, or his manservant
or maidservant, his ox or
donkey, or anything that belongs
to your neighbor.



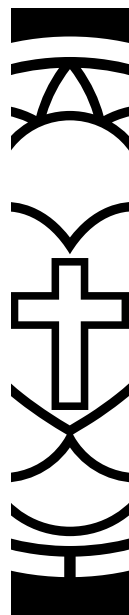
What is the summary of the Law,
according to Jesus
in Matthew?



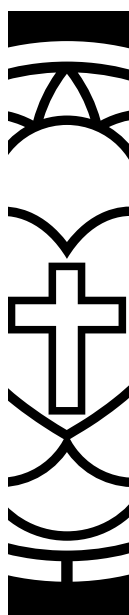
What is a **creed**?



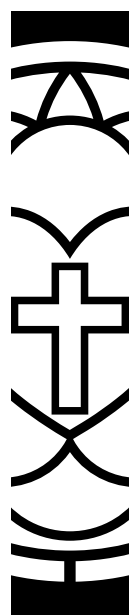
How many
creeds do we confess?



What are the
three creeds?



When was the
Nicene Creed
adopted?



How many articles are in the
Apostles Creed?



A confession of what we
believe about God



“You shall love the Lord your God
with all your heart and with all your
soul and with all your mind. This is
the great and first commandment.
And a second is like it: You shall
love your neighbor as yourself”
(Matt. 22:37–40).



The Apostles’ Creed, the Nicene
Creed, the Athanasian Creed



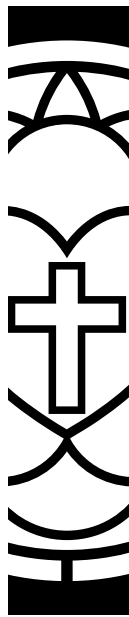
3



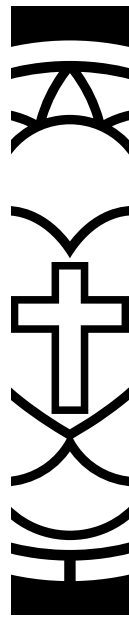
3



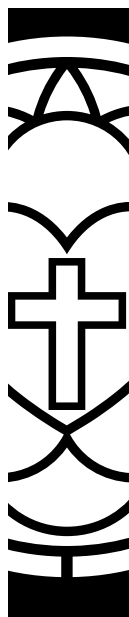
The Council of Nicaea in A.D. 325,
to address the Arian heresy about
Jesus’ nature and godhood



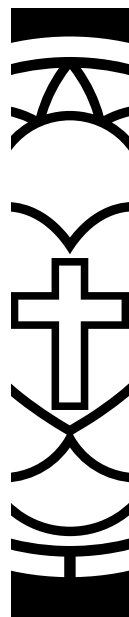
What is the
First Article
of the Creed?



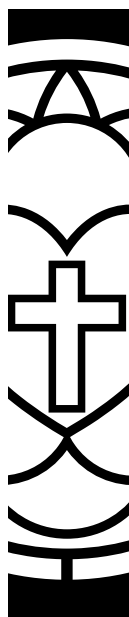
Who is the
First Person
of the Trinity?



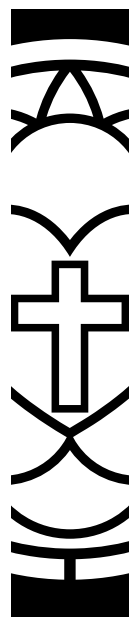
Who created
all things?



In how many days did God
create **all things**?



What did God do
on day 7?



What are **days 1-3**
of Creation known as?





God the Father



I believe in God, the Father
Almighty, Maker of heaven
and earth.



6



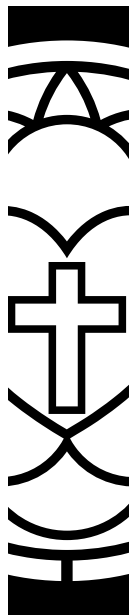
God (Father, Son and Holy Spirit)



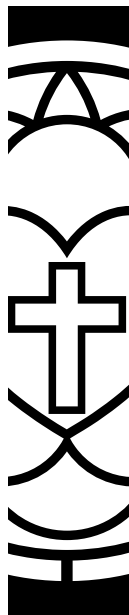
The Days of Distinction



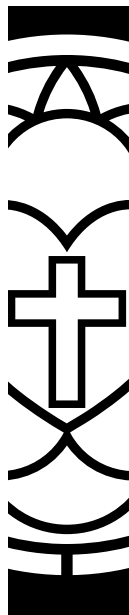
He rested.



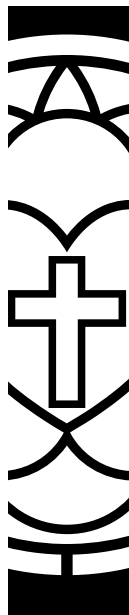
What did God create on the
first day?



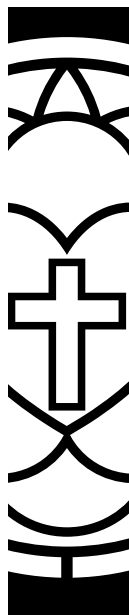
What did God create on the
second day?



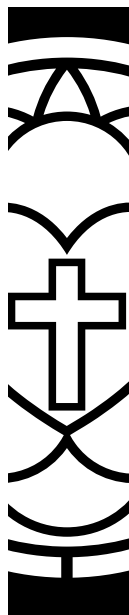
What did God create on the
third day?



What are **days 4-6**
of Creation known as?



What did God create on the
fourth day?



What did God create on the
fifth day?



Expanse/Heaven
(Separation of sky and water)



Light
(Separation of darkness and light)



The Days of Adornment



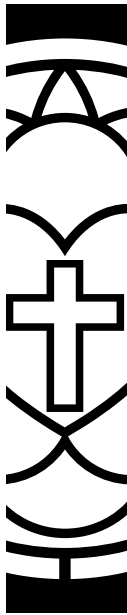
Dry land, waters gathered
into the sea, plants



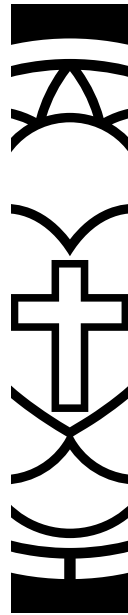
Birds and fish



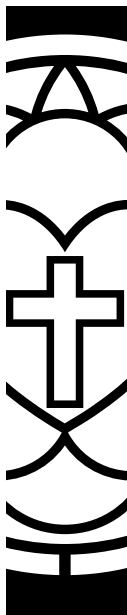
Sun, moon and stars



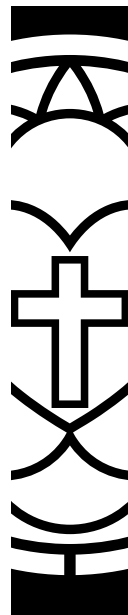
What did God create on the
sixth day?



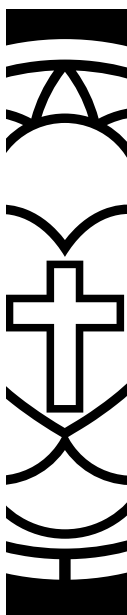
Who were the
first people?



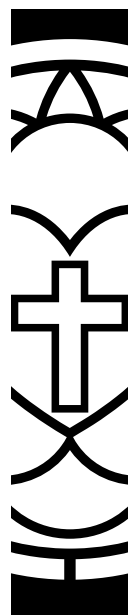
What does
Adam's name
mean?



What does
Eve's name
mean?



When do we hear
of the first Gospel in Scripture?



What is the
Second Article
of the Creed?



Adam and Eve



Land animals, people



“Mother of the Living/
Mother of Life”



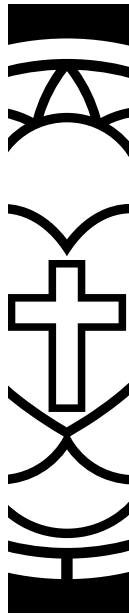
“Earth” (He was made
from the dust of the ground.)



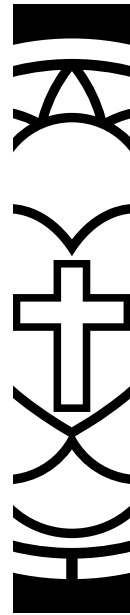
And in Jesus Christ, His only Son
Our Lord, who was conceived by
the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin
Mary, suffered under Pontius
Pilate, was crucified, died, and
was buried. He descended into
Hell; the third day He rose again
from the dead; He ascended into
Heaven, and sits at the right hand
of God, the Father Almighty; from
thence He will come to judge the
living and the dead.



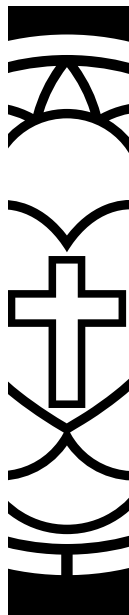
Genesis 3:15:
“He will crush your head ...”
(He = Christ, the Serpent-crusher)



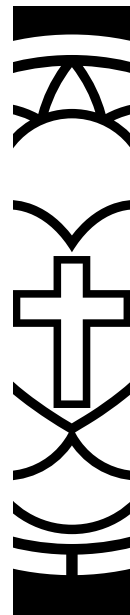
Who is the
Second Person
of the Trinity?



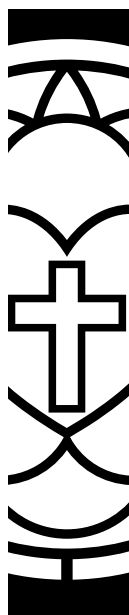
What are the
two natures
of Jesus?



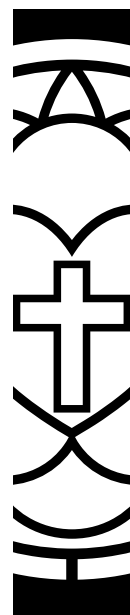
What does it mean that Jesus is
our **Prophet, Priest
and King?**



How did Christ
redeem you?



What is our
purpose in life?



What is the
Third Article
of the Creed?



Fully God, fully man



God the Son — Jesus Christ



With His holy precious blood
and with His innocent suffering
and death.



Prophet:
Jesus proclaims God's Word to us;
He is the Word made flesh.

Priest:
Jesus offered Himself as the
sacrifice for our sins; He speaks to
the Father on our behalf.

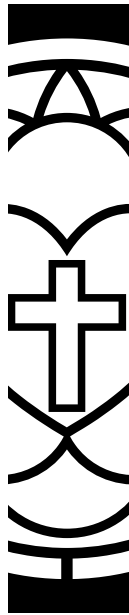
King:
Jesus rules over all creation and
cares for the church.



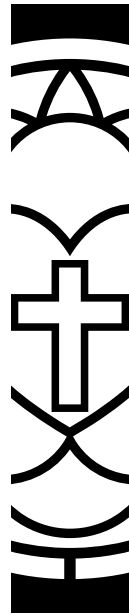
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy
Christian Church, the communion
of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body and
the life everlasting.



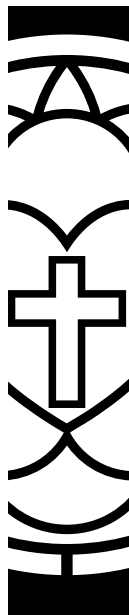
To live under Christ in His kingdom
and serve Him in everlasting
righteousness, innocence, and
blessedness.



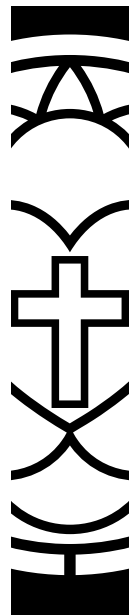
Who is the
Third Person
of the Trinity?



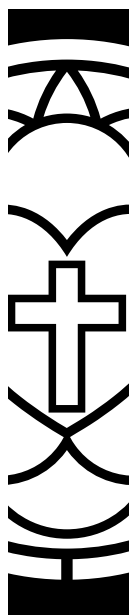
How do we
come to know God?



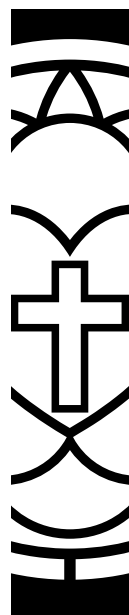
What does it mean to be
sanctified?



What is the
church?



What is the **job**
of the church?



Why do we value
human life?





"I cannot by my own reason or strength believe in Jesus Christ, my Lord, or come to Him; but the Holy Spirit has called me by the Gospel, enlightened me with His gifts, sanctified and kept me in the true faith."



God the Holy Spirit



The communion of saints
(those resting with Christ and
alive on earth)



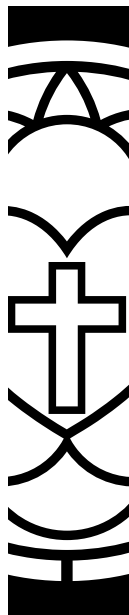
To be made holy. The Spirit
makes us holy by bringing us to
Jesus, strengthening our faith,
and by helping us to lead lives
pleasing to God.



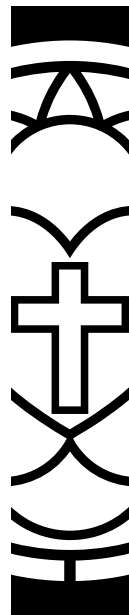
God the Father created life,
God the Son redeemed life with
His precious blood, and God
the Holy Spirit sanctifies our life
through Baptism



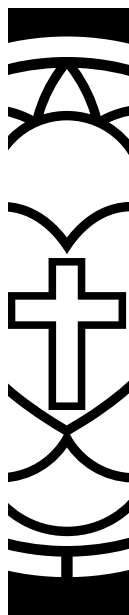
To proclaim God's Word/
forgiveness, administer
Sacraments and live as
God's people



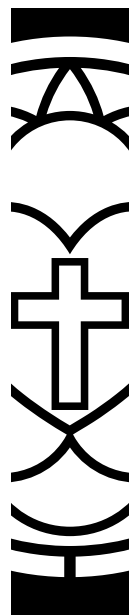
What happens
when we die?



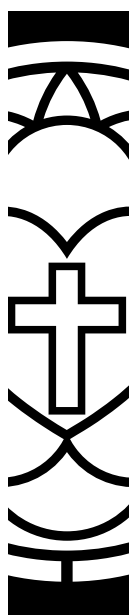
What is Christ's promise
even in death?



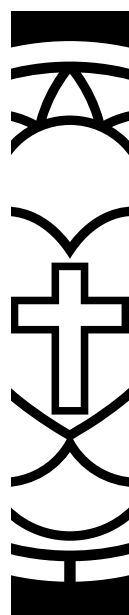
What will happen
on the Last Day?



What is the
Lord's Prayer?



How many
petitions
are in the Lord's Prayer?



What do the **first three**
petitions of the Lord's Prayer
concern themselves with?



That those who die in Christ will be raised bodily on the Last Day



Our bodies return to the earth; our souls rest in perfect peace with Christ, awaiting the Last Day.



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.

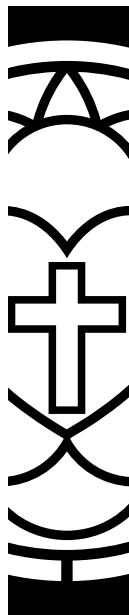


On the Last Day God will raise me and all the dead, and give eternal life to me and all believers in Christ. The heavens and earth will be made new; God will once again dwell with His people.

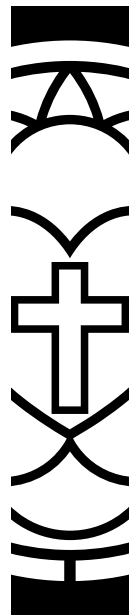


Things about God

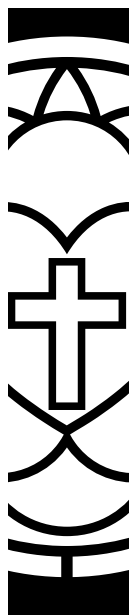




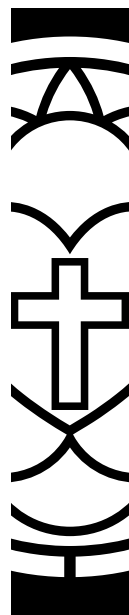
What do we pray in the
last four petitions
of the Lord's Prayer?



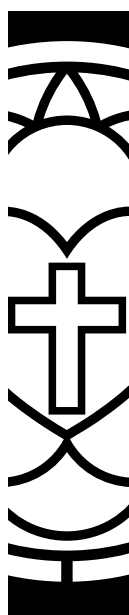
What is the
First Petition
of the Lord's Prayer?



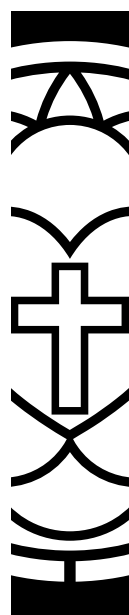
What does **"Amen"** mean?



What are the
means of grace?



What is a
Sacrament?



What are
the Sacraments?



Hallowed be Thy name



For our physical and spiritual
needs



The Word and Sacraments



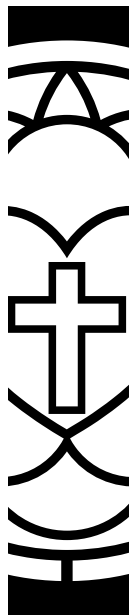
“This is most certainly true,” or
“Yes, yes, it shall be so!”



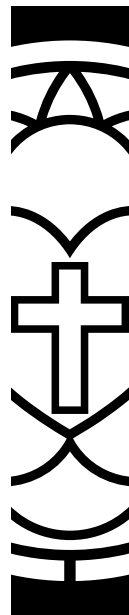
Baptism and the Lord’s Supper



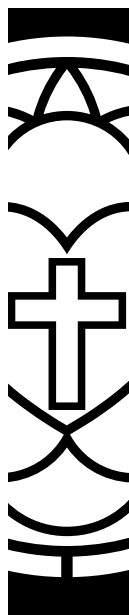
God’s Word + an earthly element;
delivers forgiveness of our sins



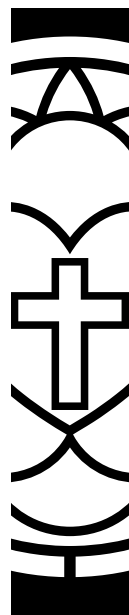
What two things
are needed to make
a Baptism?



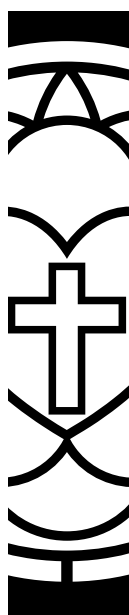
What gifts
does Baptism deliver?



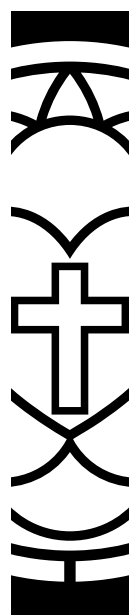
Recite
Romans 6:4.



Why can **Baptism** be
considered God's "label maker"?



Is Baptism a
one-time event?



When is your
Baptism birthday?



Forgiveness of sins, rescues from death and the devil, and eternal salvation to all who believe this



Water and God's Word



In Baptism, God writes His name on us. ("As many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ" [Gal. 3:27]).

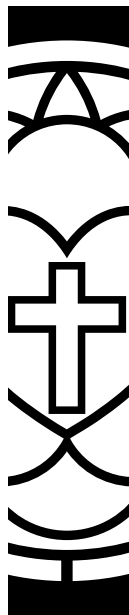


"We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life."

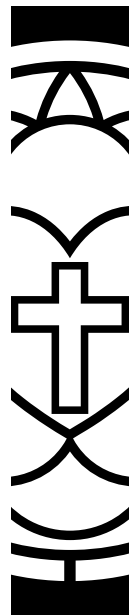




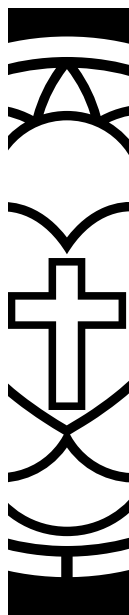
Yes ... and no. Though we are baptized once, we daily live in our Baptism: By daily contrition and repentance, we drown the Old Adam with all sins and evil desires, that a new man should daily emerge and arise.



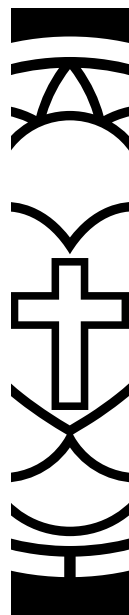
Why do we make the
sign of the cross?



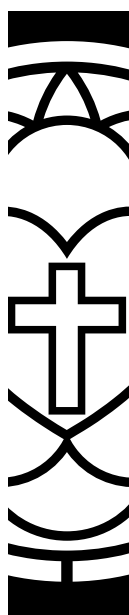
What is the
Lord's Supper?



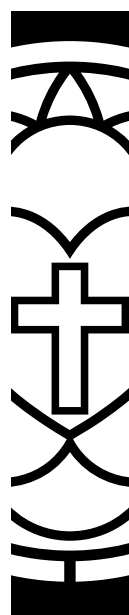
Where can we find the
Words of Institution?



What are
two things we see
at the Lord's Supper?



What are two things
that are present at the
Lord's Supper, though we
cannot see them?



What are the **benefits**
of the Lord's Supper?



The very body and blood of
Jesus in, with and under the
bread and wine



To remember that we
belong to Christ



Bread and wine



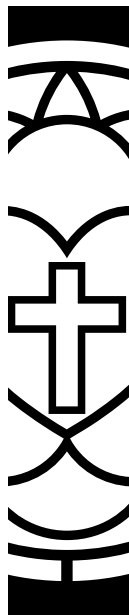
Matthew 26, Mark 14, Luke 22
and 1 Corinthians 11



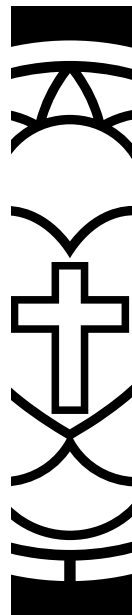
Forgiveness of sins, life
and salvation



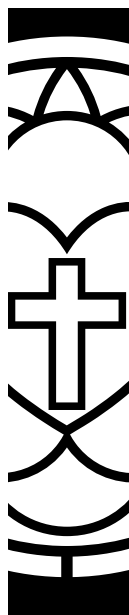
Christ's body and blood are
present with the bread and wine



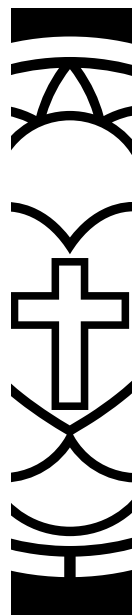
Recite
1 Corinthians 10:16.



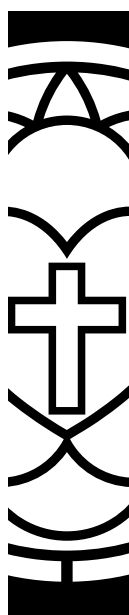
What are the
**two parts of
Confession?**



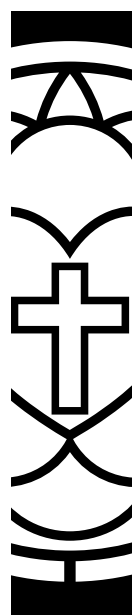
Recite
1 John 1:8-9.



What is the
Table of Duties?



What is the meaning
of **"vocation"?**



What is
worship?





Confessing our sins
Receiving absolution



“The cup of blessing that we bless,
is it not a participation in the blood
of Christ? The bread that we break,
is it not a participation in the body
of Christ?”



Bible verses that tell us what
we should be doing in our daily
lives and vocations



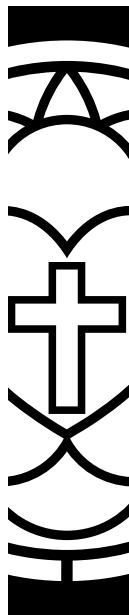
“If we say we have no sin, we
deceive ourselves, and the truth
is not in us. If we confess our sins,
he is faithful and just to forgive us
our sins and to cleanse us from
all unrighteousness.”



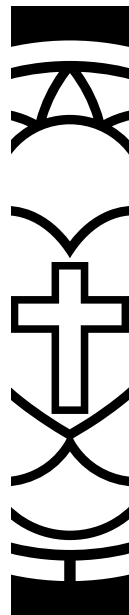
Worship is God at work: He gives
us His gifts (the Divine Service)
and we respond.



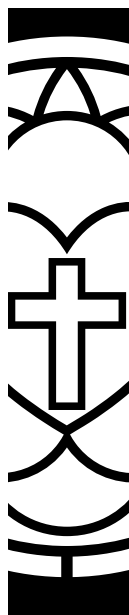
The positions God has given to us



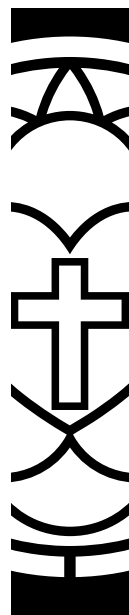
What is the
"Invocation"
at the start of the
Divine Service?



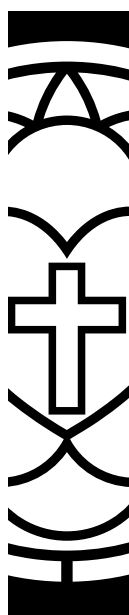
What does
"Kyrie, eleison"
mean?



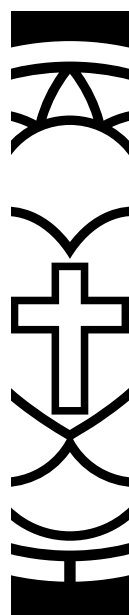
What is the **"Sanctus"**
in the Divine Service and
when is it sung?



What does
"Hosanna" mean?



What is the
"Agnus Dei"
in the Divine Service?



What is the
"Nunc Dimittis"
in the Divine Service and
when is it sung?



“Lord, have mercy.”



“In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.”
We call upon the Triune name into which we were baptized.



“Save us now”



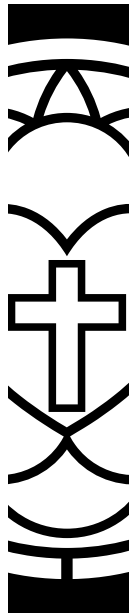
“Holy, Holy, Holy.” Sung at the beginning of the Service of the Sacrament.



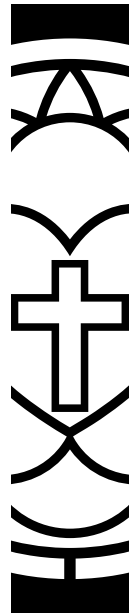
The Song of Simeon: “Lord, now you let your servant depart in peace.” Sung after the reception of the Lord’s Supper.



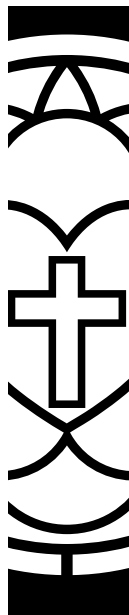
“Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world.” Sung as we prepare to partake in the Lord’s Supper.



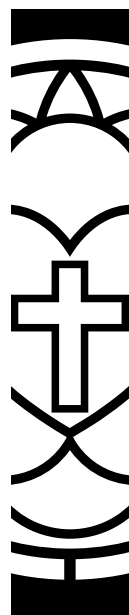
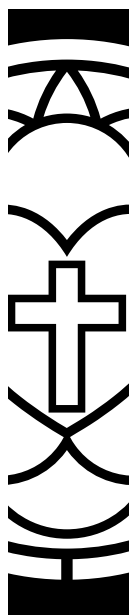
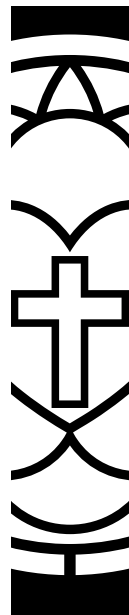
What is the
"Benediction"
at the end of the
Divine Service?



What are Luther's
3 "Solas"?



lcms.org/catechism-memory-cards
Copyright © LCMS 2023





Sola gratia — Grace alone
Sola fide — Faith alone
Sola scriptura — Scripture alone



The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine
upon you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor
and grant you His peace.



lcms.org/catechism-memory-cards
Copyright © LCMS 2023

