

What is Confirmation?

As one of the Common Rites in the Lutheran Church, *Lutheranism 101* (2010, Concordia Publishing House) states:

For people who were baptized as young children, confirmation provides an opportunity to study what we believe, publicly declare our faith in Jesus, and to promise lifelong faith in Him.

Confirmation Basics (2009, Concordia Publishing House) explains it in this way:

...a recognition of the necessity to strengthen faith created by Holy Baptism through instruction, to make confession of sins and to receive Absolution, and to prepare for participation in the Lord's Supper led to the present practice of confirmation.

To assist the student in this process, instruction in Luther's Small Catechism with a corresponding curriculum and supplemental information will be studied. The curriculum will change each year so the student may study the Catechism in a different way in order to promote deeper understanding. Memorization is required at different levels each year as noted below. During class, material beyond the standard coursework will be presented to further educate the students about the Lutheran Church and to encourage them with the message of the grace and faith we receive through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Confirmation class is intended to be a 3 year exercise but it may be completed in 2 years with family involvement and permission by the Pastor. Determining when to start a student in Confirmation class and which path to follow is the decision of the parents, students, and the Pastor. It should be based on how much time and effort can be expended during the school year. An older student who was unable to start the process earlier and who is willing, along with his or her family, to commit to intensive study may complete the class in 1 year after receiving permission from the Pastor.

2017-2018 Prince of Peace Confirmation Class

Along with *Luther's Small Catechism*, the primary textbook will be *Keeping the Faith* by Terry K. Dittmer. Material in class will be presented using PowerPoint with embedded videos. The first class will be on August 20th starting at 9:45. After the 20th, the students will need to complete reading and worksheet assignments before coming to class. Answers to the worksheets are found in "An Explanation of the Small Catechism" beginning on page 45 of *Luther's Small Catechism*. Refer to the question numbers on the top of the worksheets to locate the answers. At times, parental help may be needed. Memorization practice will be done at home.

Responsibilities of the Student and Their Family

Core 3 (for those to be confirmed in 2018):

1. Complete each reading assignment before class.
2. Complete the worksheet assignment and turn in the page at the beginning of class (9:45). They will be returned at the end of class.
3. Memorize the Ten Commandments, the Apostles' Creed, and the Lord's Prayer. Each student will recite these to the confirmation leader or pastor.
4. Learn the meanings of the Ten Commandments, the Apostles' Creed, and the Lord's Prayer as provided in *Luther's Small Catechism*. Understanding will be assessed in class by completing a fill-in-the-blank assignment (difficulty level 3) for each topic with 80% accuracy required. Answers may be provided in writing or orally by the student.
5. Understand the Sacrament of Holy Baptism and the Sacrament of the Altar as provided in *Luther's Small Catechism*. Understanding will be assessed in class by completing a fill-in-the-blank assignment (difficulty level 3) for each topic with 80% accuracy required. Answers may be provided in writing or orally by the student.

After the study of each part of the Catechism is completed, an opportunity to recite the memory material and complete the fill-in-the-blank assignments will be scheduled during class. Repeating these is always an option. The goal is for the students to learn the material to the best of their ability. Students may complete these requirements in class at any time they are ready but all must be completed by May 13, 2018.

Core 2 (for those to be confirmed in 2019):

1. Read each assignment before class.
2. Complete the worksheet assignment and turn in the page at the beginning of class (9:45). They will be returned at the end of class.
3. Memorize the Ten Commandments, the Apostles' Creed, and the Lord's Prayer. Each student will complete a fill-in-the-blank assignment for each in class (80% accuracy required). Answers may be provided in writing or orally by the student.
4. Learn the meanings of the Ten Commandments, the Apostles' Creed, and the Lord's Prayer as provided in *Luther's Small Catechism*. Understanding will be assessed in class by completing a fill-in-the-

blank assignment (difficulty level 2) for each topic with 80% accuracy required. Answers may be provided in writing or orally by the student.

5. Understand the Sacrament of Holy Baptism and the Sacrament of the Altar as provided in *Luther's Small Catechism*. Understanding will be assessed in class by completing a fill-in-the-blank assignment (difficulty level 2) for each topic with 80% accuracy required. Answers may be provided in writing or orally by the student.

After the study of each part of the Catechism is completed, an opportunity to complete the fill-in-the-blank assignments will be scheduled during class. Repeating these is always an option. The goal is for the students to learn the material to the best of their ability. Students may complete these requirements in class at any time they are ready but all must be completed by May 13, 2018.

Core 1 (for those to be confirmed in 2020):

1. Read each assignment before class.
2. Complete the worksheet assignment and turn in the page at the beginning of class (9:45). They will be returned at the end of class.
3. Begin memorizing the Ten Commandments, the Apostles' Creed, and the Lord's Prayer. Each student will complete practice assignments in class after the study of each part of the Catechism is completed.
4. Begin learning the meanings of the Ten Commandments, the Apostles' Creed, and the Lord's Prayer as provided in *Luther's Small Catechism*. Each student will complete practice assignments in class with word banks and other cues provided.
5. Begin studying the Sacrament of Holy Baptism and the Sacrament of the Altar as provided in *Luther's Small Catechism*. Each student will complete practice assignments in class with word banks and other cues provided.

No recitation will be required for Core 1 nor will assignments be given a grade.

Please contact us if you have any questions!

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