

TERM QUIZ 1A

Catechism Terms for the First through the Third Commandment

Directions: Write the term in the blank that best fits the definition.

1. _____ To be turned away from your sins to faith in Christ for the forgiveness of sins.
2. _____ Hoping that you will receive guidance or help from God through the clothes you wear, not stepping on a sidewalk crack, or other “good luck charms.”
3. _____ To proclaim the Word of God—calling sinners to repentance and faith in Christ.
4. _____ Rebellion against God and mistrust of His Word.
5. _____ Reliance or dependence upon God.
6. _____ What a person trusts in more than anything else.
7. _____ To condemn someone, or to use dirty words.
8. _____ To devote a day or time to the Word of God.
9. _____ The one true God whose nature is love.
10. _____ To receive from God all the good things He gives in His Word and sacraments, and to return to Him all glory, honor, thanksgiving, and praise.
11. _____ Belief in someone or something other than our Lord Jesus Christ.
12. _____ Trying to find out things from people who have died.
13. _____ This word refers to the “rest” and “peace” which God now gives through the Word of Jesus.
14. _____ The honor and respect of a child for a parent.
15. _____ To lie or deceive under oath.
16. _____ To desire the Lord with all your heart and soul.

Directions: Define the following terms. Be complete in your answers.

1. the Law

2. the name of God

3. the Word of God

TERM QUIZ 1B

Catechism Terms for the Fourth through the Eighth Commandment

Directions: Write the term in the blank that best fits the definition.

1. _____ Failing to help someone keep his property or possessions when someone is taking them from him.
2. _____ It includes your life's work and the calling of love you have been given by God toward others.
3. _____ To be faithful to your marriage vows, or any promises that you make.
4. _____ To lie, not to defend your neighbor when his reputation is being attacked, to use the truth to hurt your neighbor.
5. _____ Killing a child in the womb.
6. _____ The gift of being either male or female for the expression of love in marriage, and when it is God's will, for the procreation of children.
7. _____ When a nation goes to war to defend itself.
8. _____ All the material gifts which God has given you.
9. _____ A person's standing or reputation in the eyes of other people.
10. _____ Having voluntary sexual relations with someone who is not your spouse.
11. _____ Seeking sexual pleasure outside of marriage and in ways that are outside of God's design.
12. _____ That human life is holy because it is created in the image of God.
13. _____ To give respect, reverence, and obedience to authorities.
14. _____ The union created between a man and a woman through sexual intercourse.

15. _____ How modern man measures the worth of human life by how comfortable and happy people are.
16. _____ Those who punish evil doers and reward those who do good in the home and society.
17. _____ When the government puts to death criminals for the crimes that they commit.
18. _____ To be pure, faithful, modest, and disciplined in your body toward others.
19. _____ Killing a person to end their suffering.
20. _____ A person in need whom God has placed in your path, whether He is a friend or an enemy.
21. _____ The sexual desire for someone of one's own sex, which is sinful and contrary to God's design.

Directions: Write the answers to these questions on a separate piece of paper. Be complete in your answers.

- A. What is slander? What is gossip? Distinguish between these two forms of false witness.
- B. What are the three functions of the Law? Briefly define each.
- C. What is murder according to God's teaching on the Fifth Commandment?
- D. What is marriage? What are its purposes? How does one enter into marriage?
- E. What is stewardship?
- F. What is the Law of Love?

TERM QUIZ 1C

Catechism Terms for the Ninth Commandment through the Close of the Commandments

Directions: Write the term in the blank that best fits the definition.

1. _____ God's word to Adam and Eve that He would remove the curse of the fall and redeem the world from sin, death, and the power of the devil through the Seed of the woman.
2. _____ A bitterness, or resentment, toward another person because of who he is or what he is or has.
3. _____ The kindness and grace of God that does not hold our sins against us but freely forgives us for Christ's sake.
4. _____ The just anger of God against the sinner that demands payment for sins.
5. _____ The selfish desire to have or possess something or someone that is not given to you by God.
6. _____ To exact payment, or restitution, for sin.
7. _____ The demand of God's Law that we give all honor and glory to Him alone. The threat of God's Law to punish all who transgress His commandments.

Directions: Write the answers to these questions on a separate piece of paper. Be complete in your answers.

- A. What is a show of right? Give an example.
- B. What is original sin? How does it affect us?
- C. What is the curse of the fall? List the results of this curse.

TERM QUIZ 2A

Catechism Terms for the First Article of the Creed

1. almighty, all-powerful	
2. good, kind, desiring our welfare	
3. keeping promises	
4. without beginning and without end	
5. fair and impartial	
6. showing undeserved kindness, forgiving	
7. unchangeable	
8. all-knowing	
9. sinless and hating sin	
10. present everywhere	
11. full of pity	
12. What is God's nature?	

Directions: Write the term in the blank that best fits the definition.

13. _____ The creed which defends the doctrine of the Holy Trinity. It is usually confessed on Holy Trinity Sunday.

14. _____ The creed, usually associated with the Divine Service, which emphasizes the deity of Christ and the Holy Spirit.

15. _____ The children's creed associated with Holy Baptism and catechesis.

16. _____ This word means "true" in every time and place.

17. _____ The church's unchanging, public, and universal confession of faith that is drawn from the Word of God. Its very name means "I believe."

18. _____ The first person of the Holy Trinity.

19. _____ The name of God revealed to us at the burning bush.

20. _____ God's gracious activity in the world by which He preserves, upholds, and directs all things for our benefit.

21. _____ All that God made out of nothing.

22. _____ The object in the Garden of Eden which carried God's promise of life.
23. _____ The object in the Garden of Eden which carried God's curse of death.
24. _____ The eternal presence of our Lord Jesus; He will remove forever the effects of sin, and there will be no more death, disease, sorrow, or pain.
25. _____ Their name means "messenger." They are the powerful spirit beings whom God created.
26. _____ The place of torment and punishment for all eternity.
27. _____ To address God by this name is to confess, "You are my God, I belong to you."
28. _____ The "fatherly, divine goodness and mercy" of God. His undeserved love.

Directions: Write the answers to these questions on a separate piece of paper. Be complete in your answers.

- A. What is the Book of Concord? List its contents.
- B. Discuss what it means to be made in the image of God.
- C. What is a man?
- D. What is a woman?
- E. What is the order of creation?

TERM QUIZ 2B

Catechism Terms for the Second Article of the Creed

Directions: Write the term in the blank that best fits the definition.

1. _____ The name that means, “God with us.”
2. _____ This title designates Jesus as the sin bearer for the whole world, the true Passover Lamb, and the One to whom all the bloody sacrifices pointed.
3. _____ To be rescued or saved from sin, death, Satan, and hell.
4. _____ That Christ died in the place of sinful man to make satisfaction for sin.
5. _____ That Jesus paid for, or purchased, our release from sin, death, and hell with His holy precious blood and His innocent suffering and death.
6. _____ That in the death of Jesus the sins of the whole world were charged to His account, in order that His righteousness might be credited to the world.
7. _____ That God the Father offered up His Son in payment for sin, thereby fulfilling the Law’s demands for us.
8. _____ For Jesus’ sake, God declares us “not guilty,” but “righteous.”
9. _____ To suffer the punishment of eternal separation from God in hell.
10. _____ The second person of the Holy Trinity.
11. _____ The Roman official under whose authority Jesus was crucified.
12. _____ The eternal, unique sharing of the Father’s essence with the Son.
13. _____ When Jesus descended bodily to preach His victory over Satan and all his hellish powers.
14. _____ That time when all people will appear before the judgment seat of Christ, and He will announce publicly those who inherit eternal life and those who inherit eternal condemnation.

15. _____ That the Son of God took on human flesh and became man.
16. _____ The name that means “the LORD saves,” or “the LORD is salvation.”
17. _____ That time when Christ will appear again to put death and all His enemies under His feet, and to take to Himself His bride the church.
18. _____ That the Son of God was both conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of Mary’s flesh without the aid of a man, so that He is without sin.
19. _____ The title given to Jesus which means “Anointed One.”
20. _____ That Jesus was raised bodily to life again on the third day after His death.
21. _____ Jesus’ position of authority from the Father to reign over all things for the sake of His church.
22. _____ Jesus is both true God and true man in one person.
23. _____ The event in Christ’s exaltation forty days after His resurrection.
24. _____ That Jesus kept His divine nature hidden and submitted Himself to every human limitation in a fallen world.
25. _____ That Christ is glorified above all things by the Father for having completed the work of salvation.

TERM QUIZ 2C

Catechism Terms for the Third Article of the Creed

Directions: Write the term in the blank that best fits the definition.

1. _____ “God-breathed.” This term reminds us that the Holy Scriptures are given by the Holy Spirit through the apostles and prophets, and that they are the authoritative and inerrant Word of God.
2. _____ All that the Holy Spirit does to bring us to faith in Christ, preserve us in that faith, and cleanse us of all sin through the Gospel of Christ.
3. _____ To be brought from unbelief to faith in Christ.
4. _____ The immortal, incorruptible, eternal life with Christ that will be free of sin, pain, and sorrow.
5. _____ The “good news” of Jesus’ forgiveness of all our sin through His death and resurrection.
6. _____ That all the bodies of the dead will rise on the Last Day.
7. _____ The “holy fellowship in Christ’s forgiveness” in which all believers participate.
8. _____ That God for Christ’s sake no longer holds my sins against me.

Directions: Write a short definition for these terms. The definition should include what is unique to each office and what distinguishes it from the others.

9. apostles

10. prophets

11. evangelists

12. pastors and teachers

13. minister

14. missionary

15. deacons

Directions: Write complete answers to these questions.

A. Who is the Holy Spirit? What is His work?

B. What is “the holy Christian church”?

C. What is Pentecost? What happened on that day?

TERM QUIZ 3
Catechism Terms for the Lord's Prayer

Directions: Write the term in the blank that best fits the definition.

1. _____ God's prayer book from the Old Testament.
2. _____ A follower or believer in Jesus.
3. _____ A sinful habit or action that continually enslaves a person.
4. _____ Lives that are lived by faith in the Gospel.
5. _____ What God requires or promises in His Word.
6. _____ To call upon the name of God.
7. _____ The term describing this world as full of suffering.
8. _____ He desires to bring to ruin the faith of every Christian.
9. _____ Gifts of God that sustain us in our body and faith.
10. _____ Lives that are cleansed by the Word of God.
11. _____ The reign of Christ in a Christian's heart.
12. _____ The term for sins in the Lord's Prayer.
13. _____ The spiritual pain that arises from a bad conscience.
14. _____ The devastating belief that all hope for God's help is lost.
15. _____ The word, will, or desire which is against God and used to ensnare us in sin and unbelief.
16. _____ When a Christian looks away from Christ to someone or something else for help.
17. _____ To treat the name of God like dirt.
18. _____ Christians listen to the Word of God, they pray, they confess, they teach, and they offer the sacrifices of love to their neighbor.

19. _____ Let it be done as God has promised.
20. _____ The prayer in the Divine Service in which the congregation prays for all her needs, the sick, the dying, the world, etc.
21. _____ The prayer in the Divine Service that captures the central thought for the day.
22. _____ “The Lord be with you...”
23. _____ Prayer at the close of the day.
24. _____ The Morning Prayer of the church.
25. _____ The Evening Prayer of the church.
26. _____ “We praise you, O God, we acknowledge you to be the Lord.”
27. _____ “Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.”
28. _____ “Oh, come, let us sing to the Lord.”
29. _____ “Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel.”
30. _____ “Lord, now let your servant depart in peace.”
31. _____ “My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior.”

Directions: Write a short definition for these terms on a separate piece of paper. Be complete in your answers.

1. The Nunc Dimittis
2. The Benedictus
3. The Magnificat

Directions: Write complete answers to these questions on a separate sheet of paper.

- A. What is prayer?
- B. What is the theology of the cross?

TERM QUIZ 4

Catechism Terms for the Sacrament of Holy Baptism

Directions: Write the term in the blank that best fits the definition.

1. _____ Casting out Satan and his demons by the Word of Christ.
2. _____ Another phrase for “sacraments” that describes them as “vehicles” or “channels” through which the Holy Spirit gives us Christ.
3. _____ The word means “washing” and refers to the sacrament that joins us to Christ and names us the children of God.
4. _____ Baptized Christians who support their catechumens with prayer and counsel from God’s Word.
5. _____ To be “crushed” or “killed” by God’s Law.
6. _____ To be brought back to spiritual life.
7. _____ Because of this corruption man is spiritually dead and without free will to love God.
8. _____ That God the Father offered up His Son in payment for man’s sin.
9. _____ God’s way of teaching to convert sinners to the new life of faith in Christ.
10. _____ To be “born of water and the Spirit.”
11. _____ “You are not guilty! You are righteous for Jesus’ sake!”
12. _____ “Here is a Christian. He has been baptized. He confesses the faith. He is in communion with Christ and His church.”
13. _____ When fellow Christians speak to one another the comforting words of Christ’s forgiveness.
14. _____ The rebel “unbeliever” in the Christian who is an enemy of God.
15. _____ “You are guilty! Depart from me into everlasting fire!”

16. _____ Hearing the Word of God, confessing your sins, receiving absolution, believing the promises of the Gospel, and living in the freedom of God's forgiveness.

17. _____ The faithful "believer" in every Christian who trusts in Christ with all his heart, soul, mind, and strength.

Directions: Write complete answers to these questions.

A. What are sacraments?

B. What is the word of God that is "combined" with the water in Holy Baptism to give the water its saving power?

C. What is the "command" of Christ our Lord concerning Baptism?

TERM QUIZ 5
Catechism Terms for Confession

Directions: Write the term in the blank that best fits the definition.

1. _____ The authority of Christ to “open” or “close” heaven to sinners by forgiving the sins of penitent sinners, or withholding forgiveness from the impenitent.
2. _____ When the pastor “ties” the sins of an impenitent “around his neck” by withholding the word of forgiveness.
3. _____ When the pastor “unties” and “frees” a penitent sinner from his sins by forgiving him for Christ’s sake.
4. _____ When the pastor withholds Holy Absolution from an impenitent person within the congregation and forbids him to go to the Lord’s Supper until he repents and is absolved.
5. _____ When the pastor, with the advice, consent, and approval of the congregation, removes a person from the communion of the Christian church because of persistent impenitence and a life of unbelief.
6. _____ To admit that you have sinned against God and desire His forgiveness.
7. _____ To confess your sins before God in the Lord’s Prayer.
8. _____ “I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.”
9. _____ The “holy orders” Christ gives every minister to preach the Gospel and administer the sacraments faithfully.
10. _____ The authority given to a man from Christ, through the church, to preach and teach the Word of God and administer the sacraments in His stead.

Directions: Write complete answers to these questions.

A. What is private confession among Lutherans? Why do we offer it? How does it differ from the medieval practice of private confession?

B. What is the Office of the Holy Ministry? What is the proper work of the minister of Christ? Why do Christians need pastors?

C. What is the difference between an impenitent sinner and a penitent sinner?

TERM QUIZ 6

Catechism Terms for the Sacrament of the Altar

Directions: Write the term in the blank that best fits the definition.

1. _____ When Christ serves us through preaching and the sacraments.
2. _____ The term for the Lord's Supper in the book of Acts.
3. _____ The promise of the Lord's Supper that the body and blood of Christ was given and shed in our place for the forgiveness of all our sins.
4. _____ The term for the Lord's Supper that says that we have "fellowship with Christ" and share in everything that He has done for us.
5. _____ The term for the Sacrament of the Altar that speaks of it as spiritual "food" for the Christian.
6. _____ When the pastor questions a person to find out what he believes before absolving him and admitting him to the Lord's Supper.
7. _____ To confess doctrinal agreement with a church by attending the Lord's Supper in one of its congregations.
8. _____ When pastors preach in the pulpits of other churches, thereby confessing agreement with them in doctrine.
9. _____ To be joined together with other Christians in hearing preaching and receiving the Lord's Supper. Or, to be joined to Christ and all Christians by true faith and the gift of the Holy Spirit in our hearts.
10. _____ The prayer of faith sung in response to the Word of God after the sermon.
11. _____ "O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us."
12. _____ "Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us."
13. _____ "Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Sabaoth...Blessed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord...Hosanna in the highest."

14. _____ “Glory be to God on high: And on earth peace, good will toward men.”

15. _____ The Old Testament feast of slaughter and eating that corresponds to the death of Christ and the Sacrament of the Altar.

Directions: Write complete answers to these questions.

A. What is the “real presence” in the Lord’s Supper? What words of Jesus teach this?

B. What is “worthy reception” of the Lord’s Supper?

C. What is closed Communion? Why do we practice it?

DISCUSSION EXAMINATION 3

The Lord's Prayer

Directions to Sponsors or Parents: Discuss each question with your catechumen. When you are satisfied that you and your catechumen understand what a particular question is asking, you or he may write down what he has said in response to the question. The language of the catechism and class discussions will help you and your catechumen form the answers to these questions. Let your catechumen “practice” with you in his own words what he might say in answer to these questions. Feel free to discuss these questions with your catechumen and others in your family before writing anything down. By discussing these questions together and speaking the answers to you, your catechumen will begin to learn how to confess the faith with his mouth.

1. What is prayer?
2. Why does the Christian pray?
3. How can Christians be certain that God hears and answers their prayers?
4. Why is the life of prayer described as a “holy life” or “holy living”?
5. How did Jesus teach His disciples to pray? What do we learn from this?
6. Why was the midnight visitor persistent in asking his neighbor for bread? How is God different from the neighbor who finally gave his persistent visitor bread? What do we learn from this?

7. Why did the Canaanite woman continue to pray to Jesus for mercy even though everything seemed to be against her? What do we learn from this?

8. Why did Jesus still the storm even though His disciples were filled with doubt and fear? What do we learn from this?

9. In what ways are learning by heart Bible verses, catechism, liturgy, hymns, and prayers helpful to us in our prayers and meditation?

DISCUSSION EXAMINATION 4

The Sacrament of Holy Baptism

Directions to Sponsors or Parents: Discuss each question with your catechumen. When you are satisfied that you and your catechumen understand what a particular question is asking, you or he may write down what he has said in response to the question. The language of the catechism and class discussions will help you and your catechumen form the answers to these questions. Let your catechumen “practice” with you in his own words what he might say in answer to these questions. Feel free to discuss these questions with your catechumen and others in your family before writing anything down. By discussing these questions together and speaking the answers to you, your catechumen will begin to learn how to confess the faith with his mouth.

1. The catechism states: “Baptism is not just plain water, but it is the water included in God’s command...” To what specific command from God does this refer?

2. The catechism states: “Baptism is not just plain water, but it is the water included in God’s command and combined with God’s word.” What specific word from God is combined with the water in Holy Baptism?

3. By the authority of His holy name, what benefits does God pledge to give us in Holy Baptism?

4. The catechism asks, “How can water do such great things?” What “great things” is the catechism talking about? What gives the water the power to do these great things?

5. Who is revealed to us in Jesus’ Baptism? Jesus was baptized “to fulfill all righteousness.” What does this mean?

6. What do we learn about the power of Holy Baptism from the cleansing of Naaman the leper?

7. Why did the disciples want to send the little children away from Jesus? Why does Jesus take them up in His arms and bless them? What does this teach us about Holy Baptism?

8. What does it mean to live in our Baptism every day of our lives?

DISCUSSION EXAMINATION 5

Confession

Directions to Sponsors or Parents: Discuss each question with your catechumen. When you are satisfied that you and your catechumen understand what a particular question is asking, you or he may write down what he has said in response to the question. The language of the catechism and class discussions will help you and your catechumen form the answers to these questions. Let your catechumen “practice” with you in his own words what he might say in answer to these questions. Feel free to discuss these questions with your catechumen and others in your family before writing anything down. By discussing these questions together and speaking the answers to you, your catechumen will begin to learn how to confess the faith with his mouth.

1. What are the two kinds of confession commanded by God that are a necessary part of the Christian faith and life? In what way is confession of sins “necessary”?

2. Why do Lutherans retain the practice of Private Confession and Absolution?

3. What was it in the father that called the prodigal son home?

4. Why did David need a minister like the prophet Nathan?

5. How do the terms “Gospel,” “Holy Absolution,” and “preaching” involve the same thing? What does the word of the Gospel actually give?

6. Who is always at work through the word of the Gospel, and for what purpose?

7. In whose place and by whose command do our ministers preach the Gospel and administer the sacraments to us? Why is this important for us to believe?

8. What does Christ require of His ministers? What does Christ require of those who hear the Word and receive the sacraments?

DISCUSSION EXAMINATION 6

The Sacrament of the Altar

Directions to Sponsors or Parents: Discuss each question with your catechumen. When you are satisfied that you and your catechumen understand what a particular question is asking, you or he may write down what he has said in response to the question. The language of the catechism and class discussions will help you and your catechumen form the answers to these questions. Let your catechumen “practice” with you in his own words what he might say in answer to these questions. Feel free to discuss these questions with your catechumen and others in your family before writing anything down. By discussing these questions together and speaking the answers to you, your catechumen will begin to learn how to confess the faith with his mouth.

1. What did the children of Israel celebrate in the Passover? What two great actions constituted the celebration of the Passover? How does the Passover find its fulfillment in Christ?

2. What is the Lord’s Supper? For what purpose was it instituted?

3. Do you believe that the true body and blood of Christ are in the Sacrament? What convinces you to believe this?

4. Who is worthy or prepared to receive the Sacrament?

5. What does it mean to “examine yourself” before partaking of the Sacrament?

6. What should encourage a Christian to receive the Sacrament frequently?

7. Why do we practice closed Communion? To whom is our table open?

8. What is the basic structure of the Divine Service? What is the purpose of preaching, and how does it relate to the worthy reception of the Lord's Supper?

DISCUSSION EXAMINATION 1 — ANSWER KEY

The Ten Commandments

Directions to Sponsors or Parents: Discuss each question with your catechumen. When you are satisfied that you and your catechumen understand what a particular question is asking, you or he may write down what he has said in response to the question. The language of the catechism and class discussions will help you and your catechumen form the answers to these questions. Let your catechumen “practice” with you in his own words what he might say in answer to these questions. Feel free to discuss these questions with your catechumen and others in your family before writing anything down. By discussing these questions together and speaking the answers to you, your catechumen will begin to learn how to confess the faith with his mouth.

1. What is the most important function of God’s Law? Why?

The most important function of the Law is to condemn us as sinners and teach us that we cannot save ourselves. The Law teaches us that all our righteousness is really filth before God. The Law teaches us that we need a Savior from all our sin. Unless the Law convicts us of our sin, we cannot come to believe that Christ alone is our Savior. The Law must lead us to salvation in Christ.

2. What does it mean to be brought to repentance and faith in Christ?

Repentance is the acknowledgment or belief that one is a sinner. Repentance means that one confesses his sin and turns to Christ for the forgiveness of sins. Repentance is another word describing faith in Christ. To believe in Christ means that we believe that we are sinners who cannot save ourselves, and that Christ alone is our Savior. God works repentance and faith in the hearts of sinners through the preaching of His Law and Gospel.

3. Why is the term “beggar” a good description of a Christian, or a Christian’s faith in Christ?

A beggar is completely helpless and dependent upon someone else, since he has nothing of his own. Like a beggar, a Christian believes that he is a sinner who is totally dependent upon the mercy of God in Christ. Unless God is merciful to us for Jesus’ sake, we have nothing. To have faith in Christ is to receive, like a beggar, the Lord Jesus with all His gifts of forgiveness, life, and salvation.

4. In what way did Jesus keep the Law perfectly?

Jesus kept the Law perfectly in two fundamental ways:

1. He never broke the Commandments. He was without sin. (Active obedience to the Law)
2. He became sin for us and bore the punishment that the Law demanded of the sinner. (Passive obedience to the Law)

5. How can “our righteousness” exceed “the righteousness of the Scribes and Pharisees”?

Our righteousness cannot exceed the righteousness of the Scribes and Pharisees, unless our righteousness is the righteousness of Christ. Although the Scribes and Pharisees were thought to be the most god-fearing, pious people on earth, they could not save themselves by their own good works. They were sinners as we all are. Christ alone is righteous because He died the sinner’s death demanded by the Law. We receive His righteousness as our very own through faith in Christ. His righteousness is a gift of God’s grace.

DISCUSSION EXAMINATION 2A — ANSWER KEY

The Creed—The First Article

Directions to Sponsors or Parents: Discuss each question with your catechumen. When you are satisfied that you and your catechumen understand what a particular question is asking, you or he may write down what he has said in response to the question. The language of the catechism and class discussions will help you and your catechumen form the answers to these questions. Let your catechumen “practice” with you in his own words what he might say in answer to these questions. Feel free to discuss these questions with your catechumen and others in your family before writing anything down. By discussing these questions together and speaking the answers to you, your catechumen will begin to learn how to confess the faith with his mouth.

1. Who is the only true God? (Be complete in your answer.)

The only true God is the Triune God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. There is only one God, but He is three persons. The Father is the source, or before all things. The Son is begotten of the Father, or receives His essence from the Father. The Holy Spirit proceeds from the Father and the Son. Together they are worshiped and glorified as one God, eternal and equal in power and glory. Love is the nature of the only true God.

2. Why did God create the heavens and the earth?

God created all things because His nature is love. Creation is a demonstration of His selfless and self-giving love. He created to give of Himself to man, that man might live in Him and enjoy His love forever.

3. What does it mean that man is made in “the image of God”?

To be made “in the image of God” means that man is a reflection of the one God of love who is three persons. Man is one, and yet male and female. Man was created by God to “reflect” the love of God in the world in two ways: 1) by being “be fruitful and multiplying”; and, 2) by having “dominion” over the creation. Man was created to reflect God’s image of love in the world by giving of himself in the procreation of children and the benevolent dominion over the creation.

4. How did man fall into sin?

Man fell into sin by turning away from God’s Word of love that gave Him life. He was tempted in the Garden of Eden by the devil in the form of a serpent to eat of the fruit that God in His love had not given him. By listening to the word of the devil and eating that which God had not given, man turned away from the Word of God that gave him life and all things. The result of turning away from God’s Word is death. By this original sin Adam became a sinner. We are all sinners because his sin and corruption is passed on to us.

5. What is the first promise of salvation?

The first promise of salvation is in the Lord’s Word to the serpent, “I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your seed and her Seed. He shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise His heel” (Genesis 3:15). This was the promise of the virgin birth of the Savior (the Seed of the woman) and His death upon the cross. The Seed of the woman would free man from condemnation and the devil’s power, by suffering at the hands of Satan the death demanded of all sinners.

DISCUSSION EXAMINATION 2B — ANSWER KEY

The Creed—The Second Article

Directions to Sponsors or Parents: Discuss each question with your catechumen. When you are satisfied that you and your catechumen understand what a particular question is asking, you or he may write down what he has said in response to the question. The language of the catechism and class discussions will help you and your catechumen form the answers to these questions. Let your catechumen “practice” with you in his own words what he might say in answer to these questions. Feel free to discuss these questions with your catechumen and others in your family before writing anything down. By discussing these questions together and speaking the answers to you, your catechumen will begin to learn how to confess the faith with his mouth.

1. Who is Jesus Christ?

Jesus Christ is the Son of God. He is true God, begotten of the Father from eternity, and also true man, born of the virgin Mary. He is the second person of the Holy Trinity. He is my Lord, because He has redeemed me from sin, death, and the power of the devil with His Holy precious blood and His death upon the cross. He did this that I may be His own and live under His righteousness, innocence, and blessedness forever and ever.

2. Why did the Son of God become man?

The Son of God became man to die upon the cross. He became man to redeem us to God by taking our sin upon Himself and suffering the punishment that we deserved. By His death and the shedding of His blood we have the forgiveness of sins and our lives are restored to God in Him.

3. What does it mean when we say, “Jesus died for us” or “Jesus died for me”?

“Jesus died for us” or “for me” means that He died in our place, taking the punishment demanded of us by the Law. The Law cannot condemn us because Christ has fulfilled the Law’s demands on our behalf. His death is our salvation from sin. We are set free from the condemnation of the Law through the forgiveness of sins that He earned for us upon the cross.

4. Why did Jesus rise from the dead and what does this mean for us?

Jesus rose from the dead precisely because His death paid the price for sin demanded by the Law. Where there is sin there is death, but where sin is taken away through the forgiveness of sins there must be life and salvation from death. Since Jesus’ death paid the price for sin, death could not hold Him. The victory over sin is ours through faith in Christ. We shall rise from the dead to eternal life, because He atoned for our sin. In Christ’s death we died to sin and shall rise bodily from the dead by the power of His forgiveness.

5. Explain the meaning of the phrase, “The Lord is our righteousness”?

Jesus, the Lord, is “our righteousness” because He fulfilled the whole will and Law of God for us in His obedient suffering and death upon the cross. His righteousness is the unblemished offering up of Himself in death upon the cross. His righteousness is a gift of God’s grace that covers all our sin and becomes our very own righteousness through faith in Him. We are saved because “the Lord is our righteousness.”

6. What hope are we given through our Lord’s ascension into heaven?

Our Lord’s Ascension gives us the hope that we shall rise bodily from the dead and sit with Him at the Father’s right hand in heaven. In Christ we are victorious over all our enemies. Sin, death, and the devil no longer have dominion over us. He shall wipe away all tears from our eyes. Life with God is restored to us through Christ. Our mortal and corruptible flesh shall put on the immortal and incorruptible flesh of Christ.

DISCUSSION EXAMINATION 2C — ANSWER KEY

The Creed—The Third Article

Directions to Sponsors or Parents: Discuss each question with your catechumen. When you are satisfied that you and your catechumen understand what a particular question is asking, you or he may write down what he has said in response to the question. The language of the catechism and class discussions will help you and your catechumen form the answers to these questions. Let your catechumen “practice” with you in his own words what he might say in answer to these questions. Feel free to discuss these questions with your catechumen and others in your family before writing anything down. By discussing these questions together and speaking the answers to you, your catechumen will begin to learn how to confess the faith with his mouth.

1. Who is the Holy Spirit and what is His work?

The Holy Spirit is God, the third person of the Holy Trinity. He is the Spirit of the Father and the Son. He is worshiped and glorified with the Father and the Son. He calls us to faith, gathers us into the Holy Christian Church, enlightens us with the forgiveness of sins through Word and sacrament, and sanctifies us by that same Gospel. His work is to “shine on Christ”—to bring Christ to us and us to Christ.

2. What are the “spiritual things” through which the Holy Spirit accomplishes His work?

The preaching and teaching of the Gospel, Holy Baptism, Holy Absolution, and Holy Communion are the concrete “spiritual things” through which the Holy Spirit does His work of sanctification. Sanctification encompasses all that the Holy Spirit does to minister Christ’s forgiveness to us. By the Gospel and sacraments He calls us to faith in Christ, cleanses us of sin, and strengthens and preserves us in faith and love.

3. Explain how the sacred Scriptures are a gift of the Holy Spirit. What is their purpose?

The Scriptures are a gift of the Holy Spirit because He inspired the apostles, prophets, and evangelists to write them. This means that they are the very Word of God, “inspired” by the Holy Spirit and “inerrant.” The church and her ministers are bound to the Scriptures. Their purpose is to tell us of Christ and our need for Him. Christ and the forgiveness of sins, by grace alone through faith in Him, is the message of the Scriptures.

4. Explain how the Office of the Holy Ministry is a gift of the Holy Spirit. What is its purpose?

The Office of the Holy Ministry is a gift of the Holy Spirit because Christ gave this office to the church, in order that His Word might be preached and His sacraments administered. Through these gifts of Christ the Holy Spirit works faith in Christ for the forgiveness of sins, creates the holy Christian Church, and bestows all the blessings of salvation in Christ.

5. Explain how “the holy Christian church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting” are all the fruits of the Holy Spirit’s work.

They are the result of the preaching of the Gospel, Holy Baptism, Holy Absolution, and the Lord’s Supper. The preaching of the Gospel and the administration of the sacraments of Christ create the holy Christian Church and the communion of saints through the forgiveness of sins. Where the Holy Spirit bestows the forgiveness of sins, there is the resurrection of the body and the life everlasting.

6. Where is the true church of Jesus Christ to be found?

The true church of Christ is found wherever the Holy Gospel is preached in its truth and purity and the Holy Sacraments are administered faithfully according to the Gospel. Faith in Christ is created and nourished by the pure Gospel of Christ and His life-giving sacraments.

DISCUSSION EXAMINATION 3 — ANSWER KEY

The Lord's Prayer

Directions to Sponsors or Parents: Discuss each question with your catechumen. When you are satisfied that you and your catechumen understand what a particular question is asking, you or he may write down what he has said in response to the question. The language of the catechism and class discussions will help you and your catechumen form the answers to these questions. Let your catechumen “practice” with you in his own words what he might say in answer to these questions. Feel free to discuss these questions with your catechumen and others in your family before writing anything down. By discussing these questions together and speaking the answers to you, your catechumen will begin to learn how to confess the faith with his mouth.

1. What is prayer?

Prayer is calling upon God on the basis of His promises to us in Christ. Prayer is the voice of faith. In prayer believers claim all of the promises that God has made to them for Jesus' sake. In prayer we ask God to preserve His Word among us, to strengthen our faith in Christ, to do His good and gracious will, to give us all that we need to support us in this body and life, to forgive our sins, and to deliver us from temptation and all evil.

2. Why does the Christian pray?

The Christian prays because of God's promises to him. The Christian prays because he believes in Christ. God has commanded us to pray and has promised to hear our prayers for the sake of His Son. Where there is faith in Christ's Word, there the heart cries out to God asking that He give and do all that He has promised.

3. How can Christians be certain that God hears and answers their prayers?

We can be certain that God hears and answers our prayer because we have His command to pray and His promise to hear us. The strength of prayer is not our faith but God's promises. When our prayers are based upon the promises of God's Word we know with certainty that God will give us all the things for which we pray. The “amen” means “yes,” what we have prayed for is God's will, because He has promised us these things in His Word.

4. Why is the life of prayer described as a “holy life” or “holy living”?

The life of prayer is described as a “holy life” because it is the life of faith in God's Word. The Word of God cleanses our hearts, minds, and wills when it is received and believed. By God's Word alone, the very Gospel of Christ, we learn to call upon the promises of God in prayer and live by faith in those promises every day of our lives in the freedom and joy of Christ's forgiveness.

5. How did Jesus teach His disciples to pray? What do we learn from this?

Jesus taught His disciples to pray by giving them the Lord's Prayer. The Lord's Prayer is first God's Word before it becomes our prayer. Each petition of the Lord's Prayer is an invitation to faith. It encompasses every need for which Christians pray. We are certain that God hears our prayer on the basis of the promises of the Lord's Prayer, because they are Jesus' very Words given us to pray. The Lord's Prayer is the prayer of the baptized, for it draws us outside ourselves to address God as our dear Father for the benefit of one another.

6. Why was the midnight visitor persistent in asking his neighbor for bread? How is God different from the neighbor who finally gave his persistent visitor bread? What do we learn from this?

God is not like the man who gave his neighbor bread. If a man gives his neighbor bread, not because he cares for his neighbor, but only because he wants to get rid of him, how much more will our heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit and every good thing to us because He does care for us and love us in His Son.

7. Why did the Canaanite woman continue to pray to Jesus for mercy even though everything seemed to be against her? What do we learn from this?

The Canaanite woman continued to believe in Jesus and pray to Him for mercy even though everything in her experience seemed to teach her that God did not love her and that she was excluded from His salvation. From this we learn that the world and our experiences often contradict the promises of God's Word. The Christian clings to the promises of the Gospel, even though feelings and experiences seem to be against us.

8. Why did Jesus still the storm even though His disciples were filled with doubt and fear? What do we learn from this?

Jesus stilled the storm, not because of the strength of the disciples' faith, but because of His love for them. He came to their rescue precisely when their faith was weak and they were trembling with fear. Our prayers are often mingled with great doubts and fears. God acts for our salvation and preservation, not because of the strength of our faith, but because of Christ who comes to save and help us in our weakness.

9. In what ways are learning by heart Bible verses, catechism, liturgy, hymns, and prayers helpful to us in our prayers and meditation?

Memorizing Bible verses, sections from the catechism and liturgy, and stanzas from hymns are helpful to us in prayer because they contain the very promises of God's Word upon which both our faith and prayers are based. God's Word always draws us outside ourselves to find our help in Christ alone. The Holy Spirit continues to minister to us through the Word of God that we have learned by heart, so that we might be strengthened in our faith and learn to call upon the Lord in prayer. These texts give faith and prayer its foundation. They teach us to understand the Scriptures and to know with certainty all that God has done for us in Christ.

DISCUSSION EXAMINATION 4 — ANSWER KEY

The Sacrament of Holy Baptism

Directions to Sponsors or Parents: Discuss each question with your catechumen. When you are satisfied that you and your catechumen understand what a particular question is asking, you or he may write down what he has said in response to the question. The language of the catechism and class discussions will help you and your catechumen form the answers to these questions. Let your catechumen “practice” with you in his own words what he might say in answer to these questions. Feel free to discuss these questions with your catechumen and others in your family before writing anything down. By discussing these questions together and speaking the answers to you, your catechumen will begin to learn how to confess the faith with his mouth.

1. The catechism states: “Baptism is not just plain water, but it is the water included in God’s command...” To what specific command from God does this refer?

God’s specific command concerning Baptism is: “Go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.”

2. The catechism states: “Baptism is not just plain water, but it is the water included in God’s command and combined with God’s word.” What specific word from God is combined with the water in Holy Baptism?

The word from God that is combined with the water in Baptism is the name of the Holy Trinity: I baptize you “in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.”

3. By the authority of His holy name, what benefits does God pledge to give us in Holy Baptism?

In Holy Baptism God “works forgiveness of sins, rescues from death and the devil, and gives eternal salvation to all who believe this, as His Words and promises declare.” These benefits have been won by the death and resurrection of Christ and are given to us in Holy Baptism.

4. The catechism asks, “How can water do such great things?” What “great things” is the catechism talking about? What gives the water the power to do these great things?

The “great things” of Baptism are the gifts of the forgiveness of sins, rescue from death and the devil, and eternal salvation to all who believe this. The Word of God gives Baptism its power to do these great things.

5. Who is revealed to us in Jesus’ Baptism? Jesus was baptized “to fulfill all righteousness.” What does this mean?

The Triune God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, is revealed to us in Jesus’ Baptism. Jesus fulfilled all righteousness by becoming our sin-bearer, the very Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world by offering up His own life in death for us.

6. What do we learn about the power of Holy Baptism from the cleansing of Naaman the leper?

The Word of God alone makes Baptism what it is and gives Baptism its power. A person's faith does not make Baptism what it is. Baptism is the Word of God combined with the water. Faith either receives or rejects the benefits that Baptism gives. The power to cleanse Naaman of his leprosy was in the water according to God's promise. He received the water's benefits when He was brought to faith in God's Word.

7. Why did the disciples want to send the little children away from Jesus? Why does Jesus take them up in His arms and bless them? What does this teach us about Holy Baptism?

The disciples wanted to send the little children away from Jesus because they did not believe that they were old enough to understand or believe in Him. Jesus blessed them to teach the disciples that faith and salvation are gifts of God, rather than our own accomplishments. Children are held up as the pattern for God's gift of faith and salvation in Baptism. Just as a child receives life and is born into this world as a gift, so the sinner receives salvation and is born again in Baptism as a gift. Becoming a Christian is God's work, not man's.

8. What does it mean to live in our Baptism every day of our lives?

To live in our Baptism means to live in daily repentance, confessing our sins and clinging to God's Word of forgiveness in Christ. Our baptismal faith is renewed in us through the hearing of God's Word. The Law shows us our sin and how much we need our Savior. The Gospel proclaims to us the forgiveness of sins and renews our faith in the promises of our Baptism. By the Word of the Gospel we are raised up again and again to the new life promised us in our Baptism.

DISCUSSION EXAMINATION 5 — ANSWER KEY

Confession

Directions to Sponsors or Parents: Discuss each question with your catechumen. When you are satisfied that you and your catechumen understand what a particular question is asking, you or he may write down what he has said in response to the question. The language of the catechism and class discussions will help you and your catechumen form the answers to these questions. Let your catechumen “practice” with you in his own words what he might say in answer to these questions. Feel free to discuss these questions with your catechumen and others in your family before writing anything down. By discussing these questions together and speaking the answers to you, your catechumen will begin to learn how to confess the faith with his mouth.

1. What are the two kinds of confession commanded by God that are a necessary part of the Christian faith and life? In what way is confession of sins “necessary”?

The two kinds of confession commanded by God are the general confession of sins that we make before Him, as in the Lord’s Prayer, and the confession of sins we make to our brother whom we have sinned against. Confessing sins to God and one another is part of our confession of faith that we are sinners and that Christ alone is our Savior. Our confessions are made before God and one another because we believe in Christ for the forgiveness of sins. To refuse to confess one’s sin is to deny one’s faith in Christ.

2. Why do Lutherans retain the practice of Private Confession and Absolution?

Private Confession is offered among Lutherans for the sake of the opportunity for troubled Christians to hear the Absolution. Private Confession is not a good work that merits God’s grace. We are not required to go to confession and enumerate all our sins. We go to hear the Word of the Gospel proclaimed to us personally. The Gospel strengthens faith, comforts a bad conscience, and renews our life.

3. What was it in the father that called the prodigal son home?

The love of the father called the prodigal son home to his father. He remembered that he was his father’s son and that this relationship with his father was a gift of undeserved love. In the same way, the baptized Christian is called to return to God’s love when he has fallen into sin. Confession and Absolution is a return to Baptism wherein God made us His children and clothed us with the righteousness of His Son.

4. Why did David need a minister like the prophet Nathan?

David was an impenitent sinner. He was denying his sin and need for the Gospel. David needed a minister to preach to him repentance and the forgiveness of sins. Nathan’s ministry of the Word of God brought David to contrition and repentance, so that he could be saved from his sins by the absolution. Sinners cannot bring themselves to repentance and faith. They need the ministry of the Word of God from outside themselves.

5. How do the terms “Gospel,” “Holy Absolution,” and “preaching” involve the same thing? What does the word of the Gospel actually give?

The Gospel, Holy Absolution, and preaching all involve the proclamation of the forgiveness of sins for Jesus’ sake. The word of the Gospel, in whatever context it is proclaimed, actually gives and conveys the forgiveness of sins, new life, and salvation.

6. Who is always at work through the word of the Gospel, and for what purpose?

The Holy Spirit is always at work through the word of the Gospel to call us to faith in Christ, to strengthen our faith, to comfort our troubled consciences with the forgiveness of sins, and to bestow upon us all the treasures of life and salvation that Christ has won for us in His death upon the cross. The Holy Spirit is always at work through the Gospel to lead us to Christ, creating and strengthening our faith in Him.

7. In whose place and by whose command do our ministers preach the Gospel and administer the sacraments to us? Why is this important for us to believe?

Pastors preach the Gospel and administer the sacraments to us in the stead and by the command of Christ. The Word of God is their only authority. We need preachers of the Word of God in order that we might continually hear the call to repentance and faith in Christ. We cannot minister to ourselves. Christ gave us pastors in order that we might have the certainty and comfort of the Word of God from outside ourselves.

8. What does Christ require of His ministers? What does Christ require of those who hear the Word and receive the sacraments?

Christ requires His ministers to preach the Gospel faithfully and administer the sacraments according to His institution for the salvation of sinners. Those who hear and believe the Gospel are required to receive their ministry of Word and sacrament eagerly and support them with their gifts of love and prayer.

DISCUSSION EXAMINATION 6 — ANSWER KEY

The Sacrament of the Altar

Directions to Sponsors or Parents: Discuss each question with your catechumen. When you are satisfied that you and your catechumen understand what a particular question is asking, you or he may write down what he has said in response to the question. The language of the catechism and class discussions will help you and your catechumen form the answers to these questions. Let your catechumen “practice” with you in his own words what he might say in answer to these questions. Feel free to discuss these questions with your catechumen and others in your family before writing anything down. By discussing these questions together and speaking the answers to you, your catechumen will begin to learn how to confess the faith with his mouth.

1. What did the children of Israel celebrate in the Passover? What two great actions constituted the celebration of the Passover? How does the Passover find its fulfillment in Christ?

In the Old Testament Passover the children of Israel were delivered by the Lord from slavery and death in Egypt by the blood of the Passover lamb that was slaughtered and eaten. The two great actions of the Passover were the shedding of the lamb’s blood and the eating of the Passover meal. The Angel of Death passed over the homes that were covered in the lamb’s blood, and the children of Israel were released from bitter bondage. The Passover is fulfilled in Christ. He is the true Passover Lamb. His blood was shed upon the cross to redeem us from sin and death, and in the Lord’s Supper we feast upon Him for the forgiveness of all of our sins, eternal life and salvation.

2. What is the Lord’s Supper? For what purpose was it instituted?

The Lord’s Supper is the true body and blood of Christ under the bread and wine for us Christians to eat and to drink. The Lord’s Supper was instituted so that we might partake with certainty in all the benefits of Jesus’ death upon the cross. The words “given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins” show us that the forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation are given us in the Sacrament.

3. Do you believe that the true body and blood of Christ are in the Sacrament? What convinces you to believe this?

Yes, Christ’s true body and blood are in the Sacrament, because of the words of Christ, “this is My body which is given for you...this cup is the New Testament in My blood which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins.” The bread and wine are not symbols of Christ’s body and blood; they are Christ’s true body and blood because of His word and promise.

4. Who is worthy or prepared to receive the Sacrament?

A person is worthy or prepared to receive the Sacrament, not because of his merit or good works, but solely by faith in Christ and His words, “given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins.” The Sacrament is intended for baptized sinners who know their need and believe in Christ.

5. What does it mean to “examine yourself” before partaking of the Sacrament?

To examine oneself before partaking of the Sacrament simply means to reflect upon one’s faith in Christ, “Am I a sinner? Am I sorry that I have sinned against God? Is Christ my only Savior from sin? Does He give me His body and blood for my salvation in the Sacrament? Do I desire to receive His forgiveness, help, and comfort?” The Christian who answers “yes” to these questions is worthy to receive the Sacrament.

6. What should encourage a Christian to receive the Sacrament frequently?

The Christian's need should encourage him to receive the Sacrament frequently. His flesh is sinful and corrupt. The world in which he lives is full of sin and trouble that threaten his faith. The devil is constantly about him with his temptations. The Lord's Supper is medicine, help, comfort, and strength against the devil, the world, and our flesh. The Sacrament strengthens us through the forgiveness of sins to believe in Christ and love God and our neighbor.

7. Why do we practice closed Communion? To whom is our table open?

We practice closed Communion in order to care for the spiritual welfare of every communicant. We desire every communicant to partake of the Sacrament firmly believing the Words of Christ, so that they do not eat and drink to their condemnation. We also desire that all communicants be nurtured and fed in their faith by belonging to churches whose preaching and teaching will strengthen and preserve true faith in Christ. The Lord's Supper is open to those (a) who have been baptized; (b) who confess faith in Christ alone for salvation; (c) who confess faith in the real presence of Christ's body and blood in the Sacrament for the forgiveness of sins; (d) who are penitent sinners; and (e) who confess the faith of the church at whose altar they are communing.

8. What is the basic structure of the Divine Service? What is the purpose of preaching, and how does it relate to the worthy reception of the Lord's Supper?

The basic structure of the Divine Service revolves around the two great readings of the Gospel: the Holy Gospel for the day and the Words of Institution. In the sermon the pastor preaches repentance and faith in Christ based upon the words and works of Jesus, so that the baptized can faithfully eat of the Sacrament. The Divine Service moves from the preaching of the Holy Gospel to its climax in the reception of Christ's body and blood in the Sacrament.