

Memory Work for Confirmation 2016-17

Grade 8

The Small Catechism was written in 1529 by Martin Luther for the purpose of equipping parents with a tool to teach their children about the faith. It is meant as a primer, laying out the basic tenets of the Lutheran faith by outlining the meaning of the Ten Commandments, the Apostles' Creed, the Lord's Prayer, Baptism, the Office of the Keys (confession and forgiveness), and Holy Communion. For Luther these represented basic Christian beliefs and practices.

Justification by grace through faith means Lutherans don't need to do anything to win God's love, not even attend confirmation or memorize the Small Catechism! While the value of rote memorization is debatable, the central elements of Christian faith set forth in the Small Catechism are worth knowing well. Our bottom line is that the gospel of Jesus Christ is heard and the practices that sustain faith are learned generation after generation.

While many of our lessons in Confirmation will explore the topics in the Small Catechism, we are asking our families to help in the process of verifying the memory work. Use the forms below to verify your child has memorized the different teachings of the Small Catechism. Please note, there is no set order of memorization, you can move through the memory work as you see fit. Memorization is not a requirement of the Confirmation Ministry at First Lutheran. When you are finished please turn into the church office or to Michael Beckmann.

Confirmation Memory Work Form

The Apostle's Creed

_____ who is in grade _____ has completed this memory work.

(Youth First/Last Name)

Parent Signature _____ Date _____

Office Use Only _____