

Memory Work

(Elementary Version for Children Grades 2+)

From Luther's Small Catechism (©1986)
and the ESV Bible



Children will have the opportunity to earn award certificates when they learn and recite memory work from this booklet. The memory work passages are from Luther's Small Catechism and the Bible.

Here's how it works:

- Choose the memory work version that is right for your child. There are two options – an easy version and an elementary version.
- Children in grades 2 and younger should start with the easy version. When completed, they may move on to the elementary version.
- Children in grades 2 and above are encouraged to begin with the elementary version, but may start with the easy version if they wish. An extended version will be available for those who finish the elementary version.
- Confirmation students already have assigned memory work. But they may choose to do this memory work to earn award certificates. Students in grades 5+ may only use the elementary version.
- The student will have the opportunity to recite their memorized passage(s) to their Shepherd during the 'Shepherd Time' of any given Sunday school workshop.
- The Shepherd will record the child's success in a master notebook – as well as in the child's memory booklet if it is brought to class.

- The child may recite as many of the memory work items on a sheet as he/she wishes on any given Sunday. Once a sheet is complete (anywhere from 1-4 memory items, depending on length), the Shepherd will fill in the date completed (if returned) and award the child a memory award certificate.
- This certificate may be saved and redeemed, along with attendance award certificates, toward gifts from the awards cabinet.
- If your child has recited memory work from this list in past years, the master list will be marked with the last passage your child recited. Check with your child's Shepherd to see the last passage recited by your child. It is your choice whether to begin again or continue where he/she left off.

This memory work program is completely voluntary and children will not be penalized for not doing memory work.

God's Word is the water and sunshine of the Holy Spirit which enables the seed of faith to grow. I pray that you will consider encouraging and supporting your child(ren) with this memorization program.

Bible passages are from the ESV translation.

Questions may be directed to: Brenda Hugo

brenda.hugo@stmatthew-ch.org or 763-788-9427.

The Ten Commandments

The First Commandment

- • You shall have no other gods.
What does this mean? We should fear, love, and trust in God above all things.

- Matthew 4:10b – ...You shall worship the Lord your God, and Him only shall you serve.

- Psalm 96:4 – For great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised; he is to be feared above all gods.

Completed on _____

The Second Commandment

- • You shall not misuse the name of the Lord your God.
What does this mean? We should fear and love God so that we do not curse, swear, use satanic arts, lie or deceive by His name, but call upon it in every trouble, pray, praise and give thanks.

- Leviticus 19:12 – You shall not swear by My name falsely, and so profane the name of your God: I am the LORD.

- Psalm 103:1 – Bless the LORD, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless his holy name!

Completed on _____

The Third Commandment

- • Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy.
What does this mean? We should fear and love God so that we do not despise preaching and His Word, but hold it sacred and gladly hear and learn it.

- Psalm 26:8 – O LORD, I love the habitation of your house, and the place where your glory dwells.

- Matthew 11:28 – Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.

Completed on _____

The Fourth Commandment

- • Honor your father and your mother.

What does this mean? We should fear and love God so that we do not despise or anger our parents and other authorities, but honor them, serve and obey them, love and cherish them.

- Colossians 3:20 – Children, obey your parents in everything, for this pleases the Lord.

- Acts 5:29b – We must obey God rather than men.

Completed on _____

The Fifth Commandment

- • You shall not murder.
What does this mean? We should fear and love God so that we do not hurt or harm our neighbor in his body, but help and support him in every physical need.

- Romans 12:19 – Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, “Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.”

- Ephesians 4:32 – Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you.

Completed on _____

The Sixth Commandment

- • You shall not commit adultery.
What does this mean? We should fear and love God so that we lead a sexually pure and decent life in what we say and do, and husband and wife love and honor each other.

- Matthew 19:6 – So they are no longer two but one flesh. What therefore God has joined together, let not man separate.

- 1 Corinthians 6:19-20 – Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit, within you, whom you have from God? You are not your own, for you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body.

Completed on _____

The Seventh Commandment

- • You shall not steal.
What does this mean? We should fear and love God so that we do not take our neighbor's money or possessions, or get them in any dishonest way, but help him to improve and protect his possessions and income.

- 2 Thessalonians 3:10b – If anyone is not willing to work, let him not eat.

- Matthew 7:12 –So whatever you wish that others would do to you, do also to them, for this is the Law and the Prophets..

Completed on _____

The Eighth Commandment

- • You shall not give false testimony against your neighbor. *What does this mean?* We should fear and love God so that we do not tell lies about our neighbor, betray him, slander him, or hurt his reputation, but defend him, speak well of him, and explain everything in the kindest way.

- Proverbs 19:5 – A false witness will not go unpunished, and he who breathes out lies will not escape.

- 1 Corinthians 13:7 – Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things

Completed on _____

The Ninth Commandment

- • You shall not covet your neighbor's house.

What does this mean? We should fear and love God so that we do not scheme to get our neighbor's inheritance or house, or get it in a way which only appears right, but help and be of service to him in keeping it.

- Hebrews 13:5 – Keep your life free from love of money, and be content with what you have, for he has said, “I will never leave you nor forsake you.”

Completed on _____

The Tenth Commandment

- • 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 does this mean? We should fear and love God so that we do not entice or force away our neighbor's wife, workers, or animals, or turn them against him, but urge them to stay and do their duty.

- Luke 12:15 – And he said to them, “Take care, and be on your guard against all covetousness, for one's life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions.”

Completed on _____

The Close of the Commandments

- *What does God say about all these commandments?* He says: “I, the Lord your God, am a jealous God, punishing the children for the sin of the fathers to the third and fourth generation of those who hate Me, but showing love to a thousand generations of those who love Me and keep My commandments.” (Exodus 20:5-6)

- *What does this mean?* God threatens to punish all who break these commandments. Therefore, we should fear His wrath and not do anything against them. But He promises grace and every blessing to all who keep these commandments. Therefore, we should also love and trust in Him and gladly do what He commands.

- John 3:16 – For God so loved the world, that He gave His only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.

Completed on _____

The Apostle's Creed

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

- 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.

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

Completed on _____

The First Article – Creation

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

What does this mean? I believe that God has made me and all creatures; that He has given me my body and soul, eyes, ears, and all my members, my reason and all my senses, and still takes care of them.

- He also gives me clothing and shoes, food and drink, house and home, wife and children, land, animals, and all I have. He richly and daily provides me with all that I need to support this body and life.

He defends me against all danger and guards and protects me from all evil.

- All this He does only out of fatherly, divine goodness and mercy, without any merit or worthiness in me. For all this it is my duty to thank and praise, serve and obey Him.

This is most certainly true.

- Colossians 1:16a – For by Him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible.

Completed on _____

The Second Article – Redemption

- • 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.

- *What does this mean?* I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from eternity, and also true man, born of the Virgin Mary, is my Lord,

- who has redeemed me, a lost and condemned person, purchased and won me from all sins, from death, and from the power of the devil; not with gold or silver, but with His holy, precious blood and with His innocent suffering and death,

Completed on _____

- that I may be His own and live under Him in His kingdom and serve Him in everlasting righteousness, innocence and blessedness, just as He is risen from the dead, lives and reigns to all eternity.

This is most certainly true.

- John 11:25-26 – Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die. Do you believe this?”

Completed on _____

The Third Article – Sanctification

- • I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.
- *What does this mean?* I believe that 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.
- In the same way He calls, gathers, enlightens, and sanctifies the whole Christian church on earth, and keeps it with Jesus Christ in the one true faith.
In this Christian church He daily and richly forgives all my sins and the sins of all believers.
- On the Last Day He will raise me and all the dead, and give eternal life to me and all believers in Christ.
This is most certainly true.

Completed on _____

- 1 Corinthians 12:3b – ...no one can say “Jesus is Lord” except in the Holy Spirit.

The Lord’s Prayer

- 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.

Completed on _____

The Introduction

- • Our Father who art in heaven.
What does this mean? With these words God tenderly invites us to believe that He is our true Father and that we are His true children, so that with all boldness and confidence we may ask Him as dear children ask their dear father.

- 1 John 3:1a – See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are.

- Galatians 3:26 – ...for in Christ Jesus you are all sons of God, through faith.

Completed on _____

The First Petition

- • Hallowed be Thy name.
What does this mean? God's name is certainly holy in itself, but we pray in this petition that it may be kept holy among us also.

- *How is God's name kept holy?*
God's name is kept holy when the Word of God is taught in its truth and purity, and we, as the children of God, also lead holy lives according to it. Help us to do this, dear Father in heaven! But anyone who teaches or lives contrary to God's Word profanes the name of God among us. Protect us from this, heavenly Father!

- Matthew 5:16 – Let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.

Completed on _____

The Second Petition

- • Thy kingdom come.
What does this mean? The kingdom of God certainly comes by itself without our prayer, but we pray in this petition that it may come to us also.

- *How does God's kingdom come?*
God's kingdom comes when our heavenly Father gives us His Holy Spirit, so that by His grace we believe His holy Word and lead godly lives here in time and there in eternity.

- Mark 1:15 – “The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel.”

- Philippians 3:20 – But our citizenship is in heaven, and from it we await a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ.

Completed on _____

The Third Petition

- • Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

What does this mean? The good and gracious will of God is done even without our prayer, but we pray in this petition that it may be done among us also.

- *How is God's will done?* God's will is done when He breaks and hinders every evil plan and purpose of the devil, the world, and our sinful nature, which do not want us to hallow God's name or let His kingdom come; and when He strengthens and keeps us firm in His Word and faith until we die.

This is His good and gracious will.

- 1 Timothy 2:3b-4 – God our Savior, who desires all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.

Completed on _____

The Fourth Petition

- • Give us this day our daily bread.
What does this mean? God certainly gives daily bread to everyone without our prayers, even to all evil people, but we pray in this petition that God would lead us to realize this and to receive our daily bread with thanksgiving.

- *What is meant by daily bread?*
Daily bread includes everything that has to do with the support and needs of the body, such as food, drink, clothing, shoes, house, home, land, animals, money, goods, a devout husband or wife, devout children, devout workers, devout and faithful rulers, good government, good weather, peace, health, self-control, good reputation, good friends, faithful neighbors, and the like.

- 1 Peter 5:7 –casting all your anxieties on him, because he cares for you.

Completed on _____

The Fifth Petition

- • And forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us.

What does this mean? We pray in this petition that our Father in heaven would not look at our sins, or deny our prayer because of them. We are neither worthy of the things for which we pray, nor have we deserved them, but we ask that He would give them all to us by grace, for we daily sin much and surely deserve nothing but punishment. So we too will sincerely forgive and gladly do good to those who sin against us.

- Psalm 32:5b – I said, “I will confess my transgressions to the Lord,” and you forgave the iniquity of my sin.

Completed on _____

The Sixth Petition

- • And lead us not into temptation.
What does this mean? God tempts no one. We pray in this petition that God would guard and keep us so that the devil, the world, and our sinful nature may not deceive us or mislead us into false belief, despair, and other great shame and vice. Although we are attacked by these things, we pray that we may finally overcome them and win the victory.

- Ephesians 6:11 – Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil.

Completed on _____

The Seventh Petition

- • But deliver us from evil.
What does this mean? We pray in this petition, in summary, that our Father in heaven would rescue us from every evil of body and soul, possessions and reputation, and finally, when our last hour comes, give us a blessed end, and graciously take us from this valley of sorrow to Himself in heaven.

- 2 Corinthians 12:9 – But he said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.”

- Revelations 21:4 – He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away.

Completed on _____

The Conclusion

- • For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

What does this mean? This means that I should be certain that these petitions are pleasing to our Father in heaven, and are heard by Him; for He Himself has commanded us to pray in this way and has promised to hear us. Amen, amen means “yes, yes, it shall be so.”

- Philippians 4:6 - Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.

- 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 – Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances, for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.

Completed on _____