

Luther`s Six Chief Parts:

The Creed
The Lord's Prayer
The Ten Commandments

Sacrament of Holy Baptism
The Lord's Supper
The Office of the Keys

Doctrine of the Trinity

Proof Passage: Matthew 28, "Baptize in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit."

The Father, Son and Holy Spirit are **One God in Three Persons.**

The Father, Son and Holy Spirit are **equal.**

The Father, Son and Holy Spirit are **eternal.**

The church uses a triangle to symbolize this mystical presence.

Doctrine of Creation

Proof Passage: Genesis 1:1 "God created the heavens and the earth." He did so in 6 days and rested on the seventh so creation took six days but creation is not complete without the day of rest

The Trinity was present at Creation:

Genesis 1:2 "and the Spirit of God hovered over the waters."

Colossians 1:16 "By Him (Christ) all things were made."

Genesis 1:26 "Let US make man in OUR image."

When Man and Woman were created, they were perfect and had a perfect relationship with God.

Doctrine of Inspiration

Proof Passage: 2 Timothy 3:16 "All Scripture is inspired by God."

We believe that Holy Scripture is the inspired, inerrant Word of God. It was given by God through His prophets, apostles and evangelists through the Holy Spirit and the original manuscripts were without error. Today there are no doctrinal errors in the accepted canonical books of the Bible.

Primary author of Scripture is God

Secondary author is the prophet or apostle that God used to write the book.

The purpose of all Scripture is to lead us to Christ!

Old Testament is the prophecy of Christ's coming.

New Testament is the fulfillment of the prophecy.

Doctrine of Original Sin and Sins

Proof Passage: Psalm 51:1 "in sin did my mother conceive me." All people from conception are spiritually dead and unable to save themselves.

Sins of **Commission** are thoughts, words and deeds that we do. Sins of **Omission** are thoughts, words and deeds we should have done but did not.

There is only **one unforgivable Sin**, Denying the Holy Spirit which means to reject Christ before you die.

Romans 6:23 says, "THE WAGES OF SIN IS DEATH." Physical and Spiritual death. Romans 3:23 says, "All have sinned and fallen short of the Glory of God."

Books of the Bible

O.T. = 39 books N.T. = 27 books Entire Bible = 66 books

Law and Gospel

The law **Shows us our Sin** (Condemnation), The Gospel **Show us Our Savior**.

Law and Gospel can never be mixed. The **Law cannot save** you and the **Gospel cannot condemn** you.

Law acts as a mirror, curb and rule.

Mirror shows your sins

Curb slows you down (conscience)

Rule gives you a straight and God pleasing line to guide your walk by.

The Ten Commandments

The Commandments were given to us to help us live a better life.

Jesus **summarized the Commandments** by saying: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and all your soul and all your mind, and love your neighbor as yourself."

Know all ten commandments for the test.

Church Membership

Proof Passage: Hebrews 10:25 "Do not forsake the gathering together of the saints as some have done, but rather let us encourage one another as the day draws nearer."

Church membership consists of three things:

The hearing of God's Word on a regular basis.

The giving of time, talent and treasure to extend the Lord's kingdom.

A faithful walk according to Gods' Word.

God does not need us, but we do need God.

Doctrine of Salvation

The **primary work of Jesus** is Redemption or Salvation.

Jesus is true God and True Man. (**Two Natures of Christ**)

Jesus was born of the virgin Mary making Him the **Son of Man** (Luke 2)
He was conceived by the Holy Spirit and has always existed with God the Father making Him the **Son of God** (Luke 1)

Jesus came into this world for one reason: **to save us** from sin, death and the devil.

He did this by doing two things:

He lived the perfect life (**fulfilled the law**).

He offered Himself as a **sacrifice** paying the penalty for our sins.

The Holy Spirit

The **primary work of the Holy Spirit** is Sanctification

The Spirit creates faith in us and continues to nourish us throughout our life.
The Spirit does so through the Word (Scriptures), preaching and by prayer. We are not to neglect these things (3rd Comm.)

Sacraments

The Lutheran Church has two sacraments: Baptism and the Lord's Supper.

Holy Baptism

Proof Passage: Mt 28 Says "baptizing them in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit"

How much water does it take: very little, Scripture isn't specific.

How many times should you be baptized? Only once!

What sin does baptism forgive? All sin: original and actual

Sacrament must be three things if it is valid:

Physical element combined with the Word of God

Forgive sins

Commanded by our Lord

If you were baptized a Catholic, does that count in the Lutheran Church? **YES!**

Lord's Supper

Bread and Wine become Body and Blood only = Catholic Transubstantiation

Bread and Wine stay Bread and Wine = Reformed Memorial Meal

Bread and Wine Become Bread, Wine, Body and Blood = **Lutheran Real Presence**

1 Corinthians 11 explains our policy on communion:

unrepentant (unconfessed) sinners should not commune.

little children should not commune because they cannot examine themselves.

sinners should commune (we are all sinners) to receive the forgiveness of sins.

Open communion = anyone can take communion

Close communion = anyone in the church body can take communion

Closed communion = only the congregation can take communion

We practice Close communion. Why? We believe it is a confession of faith and unity. People should be in agreement with us on our doctrinal practices and beliefs.

Church Discipline

Proof Text: Matthew 18 "When a brother sins against you..."

Church Discipline steps

1. Go to an unrepentant sinner alone to confront him
2. Go with two or three others to confront him
3. Publicly confront them in the congregation
4. Excommunicate them until they repent (agree with Scripture)

Church discipline is always practiced with love in order to return the erring to the church for the sake of their salvation.