

Confirmation Questioning Night

Memory Work:

1. The Lord's Prayer (p.18 of Small Catechism)
2. Books of the Bible in order (p.253-254 of Small Catechism)
3. The Ten Commandments and Luther's explanation to each commandment. (p.11-14 of Small Catechism)
4. The Apostles Creed: First Article and Luther's explanation. (p.15-16 of Small Catechism)
5. The Apostles Creed: Second Article and Luther's explanation (p.16-17 of Small Catechism)
6. The Apostles Creed: Third Article and Luther's explanation (p.17 of Small Catechism)
7. Bible passages: John 3:16, Romans 3:23, Romans 6:23

Individual Questions:

1. Why is the Bible so important to Christians? **The Bible is the source of all Christian doctrine**
2. What is a doctrine? **Doctrine is a teaching**
3. What are the 6 chief parts of the Lutheran Catechism? **I. The 10 Commandments II. The Apostles' Creed III. The Lord's Prayer IV. the Sacrament of Holy Baptism V. The Office of the Keys & Confession VI. The Lord's Supper**
4. What is the main purpose of the Bible? **To make us wise unto salvation**
5. How many books are in the Bible? **66: 39 OT & 27 NT**
6. Who wrote the Old Testament? **Moses & the prophets**
7. Who wrote the New Testament? **The Evangelists and the Apostles**
8. Why is the Hebrew language significant to study the Bible? **Because the OT was primarily written in Hebrew**
9. Why is the Greek language significant to study the Bible? **Because the NT was written in Greek**
10. How is the Bible different from any other book? **All Scripture is inspired by God.**
11. What does it mean to say that the Bible is "inspired by God?" **God used men to write the words of the Bible, but the words are the words God wanted to be written.**
12. What does it mean to say that the Bible is inerrant? **It means there are no errors in the Bible**
13. What does it mean that the Bible is infallible? **It means that the Bible is incapable of error,**
14. What are the two chief doctrinal divisions (teachings) of the Bible? **Law and Gospel**

15. What does God tell us in the Law and what does it show us? **It tells us what to do and not do because it shows us our sins.**
16. What is the Gospel and what does it show us? **It tells us the GOOD NEWS that Jesus died for our sins because the Gospel shows us our Savior.**
17. Recite the verse that is known as "the Gospel in a nutshell." **"For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, so that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life." John 3:16**
18. What are the 3 uses of the Law? **Curb, Mirror, and Guide**
19. Romans 6:23 tells us what the *punishment* is for sin. Please recite this Romans 6:23. **"For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."**
20. The Bible says death is the penalty for sin. What does this refer to, other than the stopping of our pulse and brain waves? **It is also referring to a never-ending separation from God and His love and mercy.**
21. Romans 3:23 tells us *who* is guilty of sin. Please recite this verse. **For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.**
22. What is sin? **Every thought, word, and deed which is contrary to God's Law**
23. Name and define the two kinds of sin? **Original sin is the sin we were born with (inherited). And actual is the sinful acts done by thought, word, or deed.**
24. Name and define the two kinds of actual sins? **Sins of Omission are the things we don't do that we should do. And sins of commission are the things we do that we shouldn't do.**
25. Can we earn forgiveness by doing good deeds? **Absolutely NOT**
26. What does "GRACE" mean? **Undeserved love; God's Riches At Christ's Expense**

TEN COMMANDMENTS

27. Where in the Bible are the 10 Commandments found? **Exodus 20 & Deuteronomy 5**
28. Who was the leader of God's people in Exodus 20, and where did he deliver the 10 Commandments? **Moses was their leader who delivered the 10 Commandments at Mt. Sinai.**
29. Which commandments are in the first table of the Law, and what relationship do they describe? **Commandments 1-3 are the first table of the law, and they describe our relationship with God.**
30. Which commandments are in the second table of the Law, and what relationship do they describe? **Commandments 4-10 are the second table of the Law and they describe our relationship with other people.**
31. Who is the only true God? **The Triune God- Father, Son, and Holy Spirit**
32. What does it mean to confess belief in the Triune God? **I believe in one God, but that God has three persons.**
33. What is "committing idolatry"? **Fearing, loving, and trusting something or someone more than God; placing it/them above God in our lives.**

34. What does it mean to "**fear**" God? **To respect, esteem, revere Him**
35. What does it mean to "**love**" God? **To give Him first place in our lives.**
36. What does it mean to "**trust**" God? **To rely on Him and put our confidence in Him.**
37. What was the Sabbath day in the Old Testament, and why is it different from our Sabbath day today? **The Sabbath in the OT was Saturday, but Sunday is our Sabbath day because Jesus rose from the dead on Sunday.**
38. When we call our worship service a "Divine Service," who is serving whom in this divine service? **God is serving us.**
39. How do we "despise preaching and God's Word."? **Not going to church at all or going rarely; coming but not listening; coming and listening, but not believing; or coming, listening, and believing, but not doing as God's Word commands.**
40. The 7th commandment says, you shall not to steal. How can workers steal from their employer, and employers steal from their workers? **Workers steal by being lazy and not working for the pay they receive. Employers steal by not paying a decent wage for the work they are receiving.**
41. How might you protect your neighbor's reputation? **By not telling lies about them, keeping their secrets private, speaking well of them, and standing up for their reputation.**
42. What does it mean **to covet**? **To passionately desire to have something**
43. Is God a jealous God? Why or why not? **Yes because He loves us and will not "share us" with any false gods.**

APOSTLES CREED

44. What does the Latin word "credo" mean? **I believe.** So then what is a creed? **A statement of belief**
45. What are the 3 universal creeds? **Apostles, Nicene, Athanasian**
46. How are the Nicene and Apostles' Creeds divided? **Into 3 parts or articles**
47. Who is primarily described in each of the three articles of the Apostles Creed? **The first article is about God the Father, the second is about Jesus, and the third is about the Holy Spirit.**
48. What are the 3 primary duties of God the Father? **Creator, Protector, Provider**
49. What are some of God's qualities? **Eternal, unchangeable, omnipresent, omnipotent, omniscient, Holy, just, faithful, kind...**
50. By whom Jesus conceived and why does this matter? **He was conceived by the Holy Spirit, and this shows that He is not just man**
51. What are the two natures in Jesus, and which one is He more? **Divine and Human. He is not more of either nature, He is 100% God and 100% man.**
52. Define Jesus' name, "Jesus" and His title, "Christ". **Jesus means "the Lord saves" and Christ means "Anointed One"**
53. Why was it necessary for our Savior to be true God, and how did He prove this? **So He might overcome sin, death, and the devil. Which He proved by dying and rising from the dead.**

54. Why was it necessary for Him to be true man? **That He might be under the law, suffer, and die in our place**
55. Describe the three offices of Christ? **Prophet is the office of Jesus predicting the future and preaching the Word of God. Priest is the office of Jesus offering the ultimate sacrifice for the sins of the world. And King is the office of Jesus ruling over the Church and world.**
56. Name the two states of Jesus in His threefold office with examples. **His state of Humiliation was when He was hungry, suffered, was crucified, and any other human things. His state of exaltation was all the God things like miracles, descending into hell, rising from the dead, and ascending into heaven.**
57. What does "redeem" mean, and from what did He redeem you from? **Redeem means to purchase back, buy back. And Jesus purchased me back from sin, death, and the devil.**
58. Why did Jesus descend into hell? **To proclaim victory**
59. Will we ever see Jesus? If so, when? **Yes, when He returns, but we don't know when**
60. Can anyone call Jesus "Lord" on their own? If not, how then? **No, not on their own but only by the Holy Spirit**
61. What are jobs are attributed to the Holy Spirit? **Calls, gathers, enlightens, sanctifies, keeps us in the true faith – Gives and sustains our faith.**
62. Can a baby believe Jesus is their Lord? If so, how? **Yes, by the Holy Spirit.**
63. Is the Holy Spirit willing to work in everyone? Why then is anyone lost to Satan and hell? **Yes, because those people resist the Holy Spirit (Mk 3:29)**
64. How does God give His Spirit and His gifts to His people? What are they and where are they found? **Through the Means of Grace. Which are Word and Sacrament found in the Christian Church**
65. What are the Sacraments? And what is the Word? **Baptism and the Lord's Supper. And the Word is the Gospel**
66. What is the invisible and the visible church? **The invisible church is all believers in Jesus Christ. The visible church is all people gathered around the Word and Sacraments – both believers and unbelievers**
67. What does "catholic" mean, and why do we confess belief in a "holy catholic church"? **It means "universal." We use it to confess belief in the whole Christian church which confesses the same teaching**
68. What is the central theme of the Bible, and what does it mean? **Justification by faith alone. Which means we are made right before God by grace through faith in Jesus ONLY as our Lord and Savior.**

Holy Christian Church

69. What two types of "churches" do we consider when we say "the Holy Christian Church?" **The *church militant* and the *church triumphant***
70. What is the church militant, and why is it called that? **It is the church here on earth. And it's called that because it is being attacked daily by Satan and all his allies.**
71. What is the church triumphant? **The church in heaven.**

72. Who is credited for someone being saved? Is God then also credited with someone *not* being saved? **Being saved is credit to God. But not being saved is credit to that person for rejecting God's offer of salvation.**

FORGIVENESS OF SINS

73. Do we deserve forgiveness? Why or why not? **No because we are sinful and have no righteous on our own.**
74. Why does God forgive us our sins? **Because of Jesus' death and resurrection**
75. For whom did Jesus win forgiveness, and where does God tell them that they are forgiven? **For all mankind who believe in Jesus. And they can know this from the Gospel**

Resurrection of the Body

76. What happens at death? **Soul departs and is with the Lord; body remains here awaiting the resurrection.**
77. Will our soul and body ever be reunited again? **Yes, but it will be a glorified body.**
78. What do we mean by a "glorified body?" **A body without any of the effects of sin.**
79. When will the resurrection of all the dead take place? **On the day when Christ returns to judge between the living and the dead.**
80. When will Christ return to this earth? **We do not know. It will be at an unexpected time, like a "thief in the night."**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

81. Why do we call it the "Lord's Prayer?" **Christ taught it to His disciples and us.**
82. What are the different parts of the Lord's Prayer? **Introduction, 7 petitions, Closing.**
83. What does the first petition mean? **God's name is indeed holy in itself; but we ask that it may be holy among us also.**
84. How is God's name made holy among us? **When His Word is taught in truth and purity and when we live holy lives according to that Word.**
85. What is the one thing we know for sure when it comes to temptation? **God never tempts anyone to sin**
86. What is the only physical blessing requested in the Lord's Prayer, and what does it mean? **Daily bread. Which means everything we need to support this body and life.**
87. What does "AMEN" mean, and why do we say it after our prayers? **Let it be so! Because we believe God will hear and answer our prayers.**

SACRAMENTS

88. Name the sacraments. **Baptism and the Lord's Supper**

89. What three characteristics must a holy act have to be considered a sacrament? **1. Something commanded or instituted by God, 2. with a visible element(s), and 3. provides the forgiveness of sins.**
90. What is baptism? **Baptism is not just plain water, but it is the water included in God's command and combined with God's word.**
91. What is the Word that is used in baptism? **"In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit."**
92. Who is to be baptized, and how? **All nations, or all people, are to be baptized by washing, sprinkling, or immersing of water with the Word**
93. Why do Lutherans, Roman Catholics, and many other Christian churches baptize infants? **1. They are included in "all nations" who are to be baptized; 2. They are conceived and born 'sinful' and in need of forgiveness; 3. Scripture records how the Holy Spirit entered Elisabeth and John the Baptist leaped in the womb of Elizabeth when Mary, bearing Christ, visited her. Entire "households" were baptized in the Book of Acts, which likely included infants.**
94. What about the fact that there is no specific passage in the Bible that commands us to baptize infants? **There is also to specific passage in the Bible that tells us to baptize older people, men, women, or any other specific group of people. All people are to be baptized according to Christ's command.**
95. How can children actually believe? **By the Holy Spirit**
96. How can water do such great things as cleanse us from all sins? **It is not the water that does such things but the Word of God connected with the water.**
97. Who receives the blessings of Baptism, and what does baptism make that person? **All who believe receive the blessing of baptism, which means you become a child of God.**
98. How often should you be Baptized? And why? **Once because God's Word is powerful and always works**
99. If someone were to come to us and not be sure if they were baptized, and there was no way to whether or not they were baptized, what would we do and why? **Baptize him/her because we don't want to withhold God's blessing in baptism from someone who may not have been baptized.**
100. How do you renew it daily? **By repenting of our sins and trusting in Christ for forgiveness.**
101. What are the visible and invisible elements of the Lord's Supper? **Bread & Wine and Jesus' Body and Blood**
102. What is this union of bread with the body, of the wine with the blood called and why? **Real Presence, because Jesus' body and blood is really, truly, present in, with, and under the bread and wine**
103. How can the bread and wine give life, forgiveness of sins, and salvation? **It is the Word which gives it such power. "Given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins"**
104. Who is a worthy communicant? **He who has faith in Christ and His words, "Given and shed for you for the forgiveness of your sins."**
105. Should a person who is weak in faith go to the Lord's Table? Why or why not? **Yes, because one of the gifts of holy communion is strengthening of faith**

106. What questions should a communicant ask himself before receiving the Lord's Supper? **a. Am I a sinner? b. Am I sorry for my sins? c. Do I believe Jesus died to forgive my sins? d. Am I resolved, by the power of the Holy Spirit to amend my sinful life? e. Do I believe in the real presence?**
107. Why is it important to believe what is received with the bread and wine? **Because the apostle Paul said, "If you do not discern the bread and wine you will be guilty of His body and blood." (1 Cor 11:29)**
108. What is the teaching of the Reformed church called and what do they say is received in the Lord's Supper? **It is called "the symbolic understanding." Which means you receive only bread and wine**
109. What is the teaching of the Roman Catholic Church about the Lord's Supper? **It is called transubstantiation. Which means you receive only the Body and Blood**
110. What do Lutherans believe? **You receive the Bread and Body AND the Wine and Blood**
111. What is "open communion?" **When anybody is allowed to take communion together, even though they do NOT believe the same meaning of the Lord's Supper**
112. How would you describe St. Paul's practice for who goes to communion? **Only those who believe the same, true meaning of the Lord's Supper commune. That it is our Savior Jesus' body and blood with the bread and wine for a repentant sinner's forgiveness.**
113. Why do we practice communion this way? **This is done out of love so that no one will receive the Sacrament to their harm.**

THE OFFICE OF THE KEYS

114. Describe to whom Christ gives the Office of the Keys? **The Church. Which is all people who believe in Jesus.**
115. What power has Christ given through them? **The power to preach the gospel; administer the sacraments; & to forgive and retain sins.**
116. Why is this power called the "Office of the Keys?" **Because it gives the church the power to lock and unlock the door of heaven.**
117. Whose sins are to be forgiven? **All penitent sinners. Which are people who are sorry for their sins, want forgiveness, and want to change their ways.**
118. Whose sins are to be retained? **Sins of the impenitent. Which are people who are not sorry for their sins and refuse to repent.**
119. To whom does the church entrust the Office of the Keys, and why? **The pastor because he is the shepherd of God's people and the steward of the mysteries of God.**
120. Can anyone forgive someone else's sins? If so, how? **Yes, but only through the power of Christ**
121. What is the purpose of church discipline? **To save the sinner.**
122. What are the steps of church discipline according to Matthew 18? **1. Go to the sinner in private alone. 2. Then with one or more. 3. Then to the church. 4. Then, if all else fails, excommunication.**
123. What is the last step of church discipline, and why would it be used? **Excommunication. So that the person may come to a true recognition of their sin, desire repentance, and hear the Gospel again.**

124. What is confession? **Confession has two parts: first that we confess our sins, and second that we receive absolution from our pastor as from God Himself.**
125. What does it mean to confess your sins? **To plead guilty of sins, even those we do not know about.**
126. What sins should be confessed before God? **All sins – those known and unknown.**
127. What sins should you confess before your Pastor? **Those sins you know and feel in your heart.**
128. What is "absolution?" **Forgiveness of sins.**
129. How many times are we to forgive someone of their sins? **Every time they sin and repent.**

WORSHIP

130. What are the two parts of the church service? **Propers = These change from week to week. Ordinaries = These are the parts of the service which do not change from week to week.**
131. What is the focal point of a liturgical church? **The altar and the cross**
132. What is a benediction? **A blessing given at the end of the service.**
133. In Advent, what do the following aspects of the Advent Wreath symbolize:
- a. Circle – **Eternity (circle has no beginning and no end)**
 - b. Blue candles – **hope**
 - c. Pink/Rose candle – **joy/rejoice**
 - d. Greenery wrapped around it - **life**
134. What does the word Advent mean? **“Coming”**
135. What three types of “coming” do we emphasize in Advent? **1. Birth in Bethlehem; 2. Present coming to us in Word and Sacrament; 3. Final coming at the end of the world.**
136. What does the word Epiphany mean, and which day on the calendar is Epiphany? **To make known or reveal something. January 6.**
137. What event in the life of Jesus is the main focus on Epiphany? **The coming of the wise men (Magi) to worship Christ.**
138. What is so significant about these Magi? **They are Gentiles and this event reminds us that Christ is the Savior of all people, Gentiles included.**
139. What is Lent? **A 40-day (not including Sundays) period of preparation that begins with Ash Wednesday and ends with Good Friday.**
140. What is one of the main activities stressed in Lent, and why? **Repentance. Because we focus on our need to repent of our sins that Jesus died on the cross for**
141. What is repentance? **It is turning away from sin in our lives.**
142. What does repentance include? **Confessing our sins and believing they are forgiven through Jesus Christ.**

143. What do we remember on Ash Wednesday? **That we are dust and to dust we shall return.**
144. What do we emphasize on Maundy Thursday? **Christ instituting the Lord's Supper.**
145. What do we remember on Ascension, and how many days after Easter is it? **Christ leaving this earth and returning to the Father in heaven. 40 days.**
146. What do we emphasize on Pentecost? **The Holy Spirit coming in a miraculous way to the church – as visible tongues of fire on the disciples and the disciples speaking in other known languages.**

THE REFORMATION

147. Describe the traumatic event that resulted in Martin Luther entering a monastery? **He was caught in a violent thunderstorm and promised St. Anne that if his life was spared, he would become a monk.**
148. What are some things Martin Luther *did to try* to find peace for his soul? **Beat himself; spent days out in the cold; stayed awake all night praying; went for days without food; confessed his sins for hours at a time.**
149. What were the pieces of paper called that were signed by the Pope and claimed to give the forgiveness of sins if you bought them, and who was the most famous seller of them? **Indulgences. And John Tetzel**
150. Who is the "Father" of the Reformation and what is the significant date we associate with his work? **Martin Luther and October 31, 1517**
151. What did Martin Luther do on October 31, 1517? **Nailed the 95 theses on the door of the Castle Church in Wittenberg, Germany.**
152. What struggle did Martin Luther have in his life? **He struggled with knowing if his sins were really forgiven**
153. What did Martin Luther want to do to the Roman Catholic Church? **Reform its teachings on how we are saved – by faith alone, not by our own good works in any way.**
154. What was the main issue that sparked the Reformation? **That people should only believe and teach that we are saved by faith through Jesus Christ, not by our own works**
155. What invention really helped Martin Luther's theology spread throughout Germany and the rest of Europe, and why? **The Printing Press, because it helped spread the Word of God and Luther's teaching on God's Word**
156. Describe some of the hardships faced by some of the first German immigrants who would later form The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod: **One of the boats sank in the Atlantic Ocean; Disease and cold weather in the first winter brought death to many; they were not used to clearing land and building shelters, so many slept in tents the first year. Many of their possessions were destroyed by the weather.**
157. Why did these German immigrants want to come to America? **So that they could teach and preach the truth of the Bible without compromise.**