

LUTHERAN HERITAGE

Class Objective for Lutheran Heritage

- 1) Be able to articulate who Martin Luther was, his influence on the Reformation, his influence on the church today, including themes significant to his life and work (“Simultaneously saint and sinner”, “theology of the cross”, “priesthood of all believers”, and “grace”.)
- 2) Be able to understand and explain the various components of worship and their significance: confession, absolution, prayer, scripture, music, sermon, peace, offering, communion, benediction, etc.
- 3) Describe the seasons of the church year (Advent, Christmas, Epiphany, Lent, Holy Week, Easter, Pentecost) ---liturgical colors, time of year, how each reflects the life of Jesus and the life of the church community (mood, theme, emphasis of each season.)

Session 1: WHAT MAKES LUTHERANS COOL

OBJECTIVE: To understand what makes being a Lutheran Christian unique.

We are called Lutherans because we live a life of discipleship and understand the scriptures as Martin Luther did. Martin Luther lived in the 1500's. His key teachings which still shape our church today are:

- 1) we are both SAINT and SINNER saved by GRACE**
- 2) we place high importance on our SACRAMENTS of BAPTISM and COMMUNION**
- 3) we WORSHIP using a format that is 2000 yrs old and**
- 4) we are each called to service and mission by the belonging to the PRIESTHOOD OF ALL BELIEVERS**

Something I deserve to be rewarded for:

Something I deserve to be punished for:

1st John 1: 8-9 Christ cleanses us through our baptisms-a daily process of remembering we are kept and freed by God, even though we find ourselves surrendering to our sinful nature each day.

What is grace?

Our 2 sacraments: _____ and _____

1 Corinthians 12:14-18 Each of us has a special place in the Body of Christ.

Using both things we've talked about and your own ideas, what do you feel is "COOL" about being a Lutheran?

Parent Question: What do you feel is "Cool" about being a Lutheran?
We completed _____ question _____

Session 2: WHO IS MARTIN LUTHER? PART 1

OBJECTIVE: Who is Luther – the man, his history, his work, what he stood for, what the reformation was about.

You can fill out the following questions by watching the movie, and from reading the pages after this session.

Significant facts about Martin Luther:

What were some of the important issues that brought about the reformation?

What were the things that Martin Luther believed were important to the faith?

What is in the Small Catechism? What is its purpose?

What piece of Luther's teaching is most significant in your faith life?

Parent Question: When was a time when you took a risk in your faith-life, either to make a difference in the world like Martin Luther did, or to become the disciple you knew God wanted you to be?

We completed the question _____

Session 3: WHO IS MARTIN LUTHER? Part 2

Objective: Who is Luther – the man, his history, his work, what he stood for, what the reformation was about.

Tonight is the big baseball game!

As you play the game and hear others answer questions, write down the information in your book.

Next week: You will participate in an exercise using the contents of your backpack to symbolize specific components of worship. You are welcome to add items from home which may be helpful in the exercise. Think about bringing items that can have some metaphorical meaning (such as my shoe represents my journey in worship) Gather maybe 5 items (or more) that you can talk with your group about that represent the different areas of worship. (I.E. desk supplies, small toys, wallet, kitchen utensils, gum, chapstick, photos, etc) **Bring the backpack to class next week.**

Parent Question: Tonight we played a baseball game to learn about Luther. What do you find fun or playful about your faith-life?

We completed the question: _____

(Your child is to bring a backpack to class next week)

SESSION 4: LUTHERAN WORSHIP-LITURGY

OBJECTIVE: To gain a deeper understanding of the specific areas of Lutheran liturgical worship, the flow and structure of worship, and to strengthen the ability to articulate the personal significance of specific elements of the worship service.

Lutherans use an order of worship that has been used by the Christian Church for 2000 years.

Fill in the important parts of worship under these categories below:

- **Gathering**

- **Word**

- **Response**

- **Meal**

- **Sending**

- ❖ What items for your backpack had particular meaning to you and what did they represent about your worship life?

- ❖ What items from others backpacks had meaning for you?

Parent Question: Have either your mom get her purse, or your dad get a few things from his glove compartment, and help them to see the metaphor in how those things can describe the parts of worship and their worship life.

We completed the question_____

Session 5: Seasons of the Church Year

Objective: To understand the different seasons of the church year – what, when, color and themes of each, relating to the life of Christ, the life of the Christian community.

The Church year has a calendar. It follows the life, death and resurrection of Jesus. Its purpose is to enable us to explore on a yearly basis a variety of worship themes that encourage us to be on a constant journey of discipleship.

Seasons	Color	Significance
---------	-------	--------------

ADVENT:

CHRISTMAS:

EPIPHANY:

LENT/HOLY WEEK:

EASTER:

PENTECOST:

Special Days

BAPTISM OF OUR LORD
TRANSFIGURATION
ASH WEDNESDAY
DAY OF PENTECOST
REFORMATION SUNDAY
ALL SAINTS
CHRIST THE KING

Parent Question: Tonight we created a design to enhance the worship space for a particular church season or day. What set up or design at our church has been particularly meaningful to you and why? (i.e. something from Advent, Lent, Easter, large cross, decorations, lighting, fabric, seating, candles, etc.)

We completed the question_____

LUTHERAN HERITAGE Test

Who was Martin Luther, when did he live and why was he important to the reformation?

What were some things Martin Luther thought to be the most important in the Faith?

If you can (It's hard to write about) tell about the meaning of the following:

- **What does it mean to be live both as a Saint and Sinner:**
- **What did Luther mean when he spoke about the Theology of the Cross:**
- **What is Grace and how do we experience it in the Church?**

What are the components of worship in the following categories and why are they important?

Gathering-

Word-

Response-

Meal-

Sending-

What are the seasons of the church year, their color and why are they important?