

Sola Confirmation Series: Apostles' Creed

Second Article Study Sheet - Test Date: _____

PART A: CATECHISM

For the test, you will need to memorize the Second Article of the Apostles' Creed, and Martin Luther's explanation of it in the Small Catechism, as printed here:

The Second Article: I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again 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. He has redeemed me, a lost and condemned creature, and has freed me from sin, death, and the power of the devil, not with silver and gold, but with his holy and precious blood and his innocent suffering and death. He has done all this in order that I might be his own, live under him in his kingdom, and serve him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness, even as he is risen from the dead and lives and reigns for all eternity. This is most certainly true!

On the test you will be given a “fill-in-the-blank” text like the one that follows (*note: the blanks on the actual test itself will be different from those printed here*).

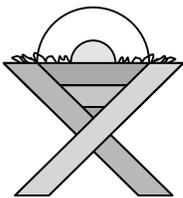
The Second Article: I _____ in Jesus _____, his _____ Son, _____ Lord. He was _____ by the _____ of the _____ Spirit and _____ of the _____ Mary. He _____ Pontius _____, was crucified, _____, and was _____. He _____ into _____. On the _____ day he _____ again. He _____ into _____, and is _____ at the right _____ of the _____. He will _____ again to _____ the _____ and the _____.

What does this mean? I _____ that Jesus _____ — _____ God, _____ of the _____ from _____, and also _____ man, _____ of the _____ Mary — is my _____. He has _____ me, a _____ and condemned _____, and has _____ me from _____, _____, and the _____ of the _____, not with silver _____ gold, but with his _____ and _____ blood and his _____ suffering and _____. He has _____ all this in _____ that I _____ be his _____, live _____ him in his _____, and _____ him in everlasting _____, innocence, and _____, even as he is _____ from the _____ and lives and _____ for all _____. This is most _____ true!

PART B: MEMORY SYMBOLS

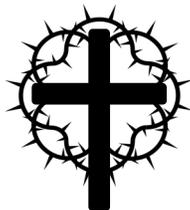
For the test, you will need to be able to say something about the three “memory symbols” featured in the lessons on the Second Article, and explain what they tell us about God:

Incarnation



When Jesus was born, the eternal Son of God took on human flesh and became incarnate as a human being.

Redemption



The cross and crown of thorns symbolize the sacrifice Jesus made to “buy us back” from our sins.

Resurrection



The butterfly emerging in new life from the cocoon symbolizes the victory of Jesus over death.

PART C: VOCABULARY & QUESTIONS FROM THE UNIT

For the test, you will need to know the meaning of some important words and ideas (theme words, topics from the Small Catechism and the Bible, etc.). Questions will be asked as matching, fill-in-the-blank, or true/false, multiple choice, etc:

1. Important Words from this Unit

- a. Incarnation = to take on flesh (ie. when God became a human being in Christ)
- b. Emmanuel = "God with us" (Jesus was truly God, living among us)
- c. Reconcile = bring back together again, to "make up" with someone
- d. Redeem = to buy something back again
- e. Resuscitation = to get a person breathing and their heart pumping again
- f. Resurrection = to rise from the dead to a new state of being
- g. Innocent = not guilty of any wrong-doing
- h. Judge = to decide whether someone will or will not be punished
- i. Condemn = to judge someone as guilty and deserving of punishment

2. What's the difference between ascending and descending?

Ascending = going up, Descending = going down

3. What does it mean to say that Jesus was "conceived by the Holy Spirit"?

Jesus is 100% divine and 100% human: his mother is Mary; his Father is God himself

4. What does it mean when we say Jesus *saved* us?

He sacrificed his life for us on the cross, to rescue us from sin, death, and the power of the devil (ie. he paid the price and accepted the penalty for our sins, he won the victory over evil, etc.)

5. What are the traditional names for the days in Holy Week, and what happened on these days?

- Palm Sunday = the day Jesus entered the city of Jerusalem
- Maundy Thursday = the night Jesus was betrayed by Judas
- Good Friday = the day that Jesus died on the cross
- Holy Saturday = the full day Jesus was in the tomb
- Easter Sunday = the morning that Jesus rose from the grave

6. These are some of the people who played a part of Jesus' death on the cross:

- a. Priests = the people who plotted to have Jesus killed
- b. Judas Iscariot = the disciple who betrayed Jesus
- c. Peter = the disciple who denied that he knew Jesus
- d. Pontius Pilate = the Roman governor of Judea
- e. King Herod = the local Jewish ruler who mocked Jesus
- f. Barabbas = a criminal who was released instead of Jesus
- g. Crowds = those who shouted for his death
- h. Simon of Cyrene = the man forced to carry Jesus' cross
- i. Soldiers = the ones who nailed Jesus to the cross
- j. Mary Magdalene = the first one to see Jesus alive again
- k. You & Me = Jesus died for our sins, so we would be forgiven

7. True Statements:

True: Jesus was completely human; Jesus was completely God

True: Jesus never sinned; but Jesus gave his life to save us from *our* sin

True: Jesus is the Son of God (the 'second person' of the Trinity: Father, Son, Holy Spirit)

True: The word "Christ" is a title that means "anointed one" (ie. God's chosen king)

True: Jesus' mother Mary was a virgin when she had Jesus

True: Jesus went to the place all dead people go (in the Bible, called *Sheol* or *Hades*)

True: Jesus has the divine authority to judge all people

True: The sign above Jesus' cross read: "Jesus of Nazareth, King of the Jews"

True: Jesus' victory in his death and resurrection gives us the promise he will raise us too

True: Jesus is alive and with us now