

# LUTHER'S SMALL CATECHISM

## *The Ten Commandments*



### *“The Third Commandment”*

by

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## 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.”

### I The Third Commandment

A. Expresses God's concern for \_\_\_\_\_-ship (orw)

B. What is “worship”?

1. “Worth”-ship

2. Romans 12:1

*“Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God—this is your...act of worship.” Romans 12:1 (NIV)*

C. We worship God when we...

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

+ + +

“Worship the Lord your God and serve Him *only*.” Luke 4:8 (NIV)

## **II What Is The “Sabbath”?**

A. “Sabbath” means \_\_\_\_\_ (estr).

B. In the Bible, “Sabbath” refers to...

1. The \_\_\_\_\_ day of the week, Saturday. (evenths)
2. The \_\_\_\_\_ day of creation (nalif)
3. A special day which God \_\_\_\_\_ (ssedlbe) (cf. Gen. 2:2-3)
4. The day on which God was to be \_\_\_\_\_-ed (oswrhipp)
5. The eternal rest which Christians will enjoy in \_\_\_\_\_ (eavneh)  
(Cf. Hebrews 4:9 ff.)

C. Why God Gave The Sabbath

1. Because He wants us to \_\_\_\_\_ Him (orwship)
2. Because He wants us to remember He \_\_\_\_\_ the  
world. (reacted)
3. Because He wants us to \_\_\_\_\_ and take time to reflect on  
Him (estr)

D. When Should Christians Worship?

1. \_\_\_\_\_ (walysa)
2. Why Do Christians worship on Sunday?
  - a. Because it demonstrates the work of the \_\_\_\_\_ (ytinrit)

b. What key works did each Person of the Trinity do on Sunday?

\* God, the Father, began \_\_\_\_\_ (Genesis 1:1 ff.)

\* God, the Son, \_\_\_\_\_ (Matthew 28 et al)

\* God, the Holy Spirit, began the \_\_\_\_\_ (Acts 2:1 ff.)

## **II Keeping The Sabbath “Holy”**

A. “Holy” means \_\_\_\_\_ (onscecratedc) for God (Lev. 19:2)

B. How can we make God’s name “holy”?

1. By *not*....

2. By....

## **III The Church Year**

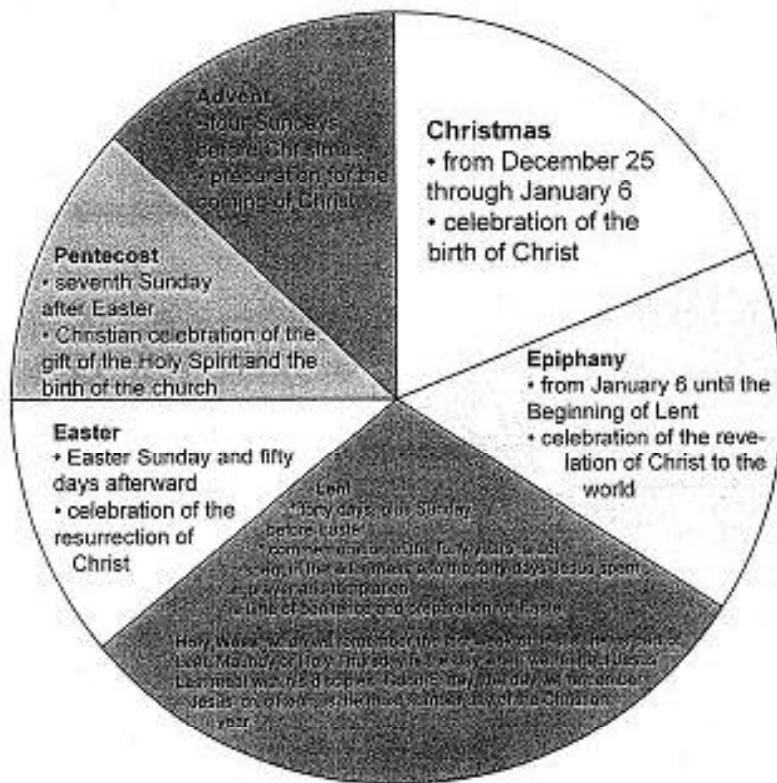
A. Begins in \_\_\_\_\_ (ecemberd).

B. Divided into \_\_\_\_\_ halves (wot)

1. First Half: The Half-Year of our \_\_\_\_\_ (ordl)

2. Second Half: \_\_\_\_\_-cost Season (entep)

## THE CHURCH YEAR



### C. Seasons Of The Church Year

1. Advent: \_\_\_\_\_ for Jesus' coming (repare)
2. Christmas: Celebrates Jesus' \_\_\_\_\_ (irthb)
3. Epiphany: The whole \_\_\_\_\_ learns of Jesus' birth (orldw)
4. Transfiguration: Marks a transition into \_\_\_\_\_ (enlt)

5. Lent: Solemn reflection on Jesus' \_\_\_\_\_ (ssionpa)

1. Ash Wednesday

2. Holy Week: The final week of Jesus' Life

a. Palm Sunday:

b. Maundy Thursday:

c. Good Friday:

d. Holy Saturday:

6. Easter: Celebration of Jesus' \_\_\_\_\_ (esurrectionr)

7. Ascension: Jesus' \_\_\_\_\_ to heaven in glory (rturme)

8. Pentecost: The \_\_\_\_\_ of the Christian Church. (rthbiyad)

9. Last Three Sundays: Anticipates Jesus' \_\_\_\_\_ coming (econds)

10. Sunday of the Fulfillment/Christ the King Sunday

E. Other Sundays

1. "Saint Days": Honor special Christian \_\_\_\_\_ (eoplep)

2. “Festival Days”: Honor special \_\_\_\_\_ (tsneve)
  - a. To mark special events relating to Jesus’ \_\_\_\_\_ (eifl)
    1. The Annunciation
    2. Jesus’ Circumcision
    3. Others...
  - b. To mark special events in the \_\_\_\_\_ (urchch)
    1. The Re-\_\_\_\_\_ -ation (ormf)
    2. Others:
3. National Holidays/Events
  - a. Recurring: Thanksgiving, et al.
  - b. One-Time: Days of Prayer, Church Dedications, etc.

#### **IV Our Way Of Worship**

- A. We follow the Lit-\_\_\_\_\_ (gyru)
- B. What is “Liturgy”?
  1. A “work of the \_\_\_\_\_” (ppleoe)
  2. A specific \_\_\_\_\_ of worship (tperna)

C. Key Elements In Liturgical Worship

1. In-\_\_\_\_\_ -tion (voca)
2. Confession and Ab-\_\_\_\_\_ (olutions)
3. \_\_\_\_\_-ture Reading (cspri)
4. \_\_\_\_\_-er (rpay)
5. The Homily, also known as the \_\_\_\_\_ (ermson)
6. The \_\_\_\_\_-ing (ffoer)
7. Observance Of The \_\_\_\_\_'s \_\_\_\_\_-per
8. The \_\_\_\_\_-diction (eneb)

D. Other Common Liturgical Items

1. The \_\_\_\_\_ Candle (hristc) (cf. also "Paschal Candle")
2. Advent \_\_\_\_\_ (eathwr):
3. Eternal \_\_\_\_\_ (ightl)



4. The \_\_\_\_\_ (sscro)

5. Chancel Furnishings

a. The Altar

b. The Pulpit

c. The Lecturn

d. Baptismal Font

6. Others:

## **V What Makes Worship *Christian*?**

A. Centered on \_\_\_\_\_ (hristc) and His \_\_\_\_\_ (agcre).

B. Teaches God's Word without \_\_\_\_\_ (rroer)

C. Properly distinguishes \_\_\_\_\_ (wal) and \_\_\_\_\_ (ospgle)

D. Administers the \_\_\_\_\_-ments as the Bible teaches. (acras)

**For Reflection:**

- 1) For what reasons do people despise God's Word?
  
- 2) Why does the church focus so much on worship?
  
- 3) What, do you believe, is the most important thing about worship?
  
- 4) What things makes Christian worship *Christian*?
  
- 5) For what reasons do you want to worship God regularly?

**Assignment:** Memorize the Third Commandment and its meaning

## **“Seasons of the Story”** *The Church Year*

Why is it that Christians follow a cycle of seasons and holy days?

The main reason is that by following this cycle, called 'the church year' or 'liturgical calendar', we can get into the rhythm and flow of the Christian story, to experience it, to learn it, to relive it through the telling and the doing.

In **Advent**, we prepare for God's coming among us. We get ready for the happy occasion by making our own way straight, hearing John the Baptist's call.

In **Christmas**, we celebrate the birth of Jesus, who is God with us, the ultimate Christmas gift. We remember that by that same Jesus and through the Holy Spirit, God is still with us today, and has not abandoned us in the crush of daily life.

In **Epiphany**, we celebrate Jesus' revealing Himself to the whole world. Like the three magi with the Christ child, and those looking on when Jesus was baptized, we too are amazed at what God has done, and we realize it was not just for us, but for all.

**Lent** begins on Ash Wednesday (February or March). In Lent, we take a hard, sober look at our own role in bringing about Jesus' death. We discover our own sin, and realize how weak and two-faced we are in facing it. We turn to God, who is the only One with the power to forgive us and change us.

In the **Paschal (or 'Holy') Week** which ends Lent, we relive Jesus' entry into Jerusalem (**'Palm Sunday'**), His last commands and His being seized (**'Maundy Thursday'**), then abandoned, and executed (**'Good Friday'**), and then the stillness of the tomb. The bleak days of Christ's death are called by the Latin "*Triduum*" ('three days'). Yet even so we look toward Easter morning and the empty tomb, where even death does not stop God's forgiveness, and in fact helped to put it into effect.

In **Easter** (or 'Resurrection Day'), we celebrate God's answer : We humans killed Jesus, but He didn't stay dead ! And God has forgiven us!

In the season after **Pentecost**, we follow the life of Jesus through Bible readings (the lectionary) and sermons (homilies) that are usually based on those readings, so we can learn what it is to live as followers of Christ in our own lives. We celebrate the Spirit's power in the church and in our lives, and use the gifts that this Spirit has given us in order to build up each other, the church as a whole, and the society as a whole.

Each Christian is a part of the Christian story. The seasons help give us a way to experience how this can be so.

## **Why Sunday?**

Christians worship on Sunday mornings. This wasn't done to give us a separate day from the Jews, who worship Friday evenings through Saturday. It was done because Jesus arose from the dead early on a Sunday morning.

Sunday was the day of the great victory. So for Christian believers, every Sunday has a touch of that special Sunday. Of course, every day is good for worshipping God. In some churches, worship services are held on other days. These, too, are a joyous time of special prayer, praise, and fellowship.

But Sundays, especially Sunday morning, and extra-specially just after sunrise, are the most important time for worship. It is then that we most remember what Christ has done and it moves us to praise and joy.

## **Feasts and Commemorations**

The church year is not just a matter of Sundays and seasons. It is a *daily* thing. Over the course of two thousand years, there have been a lot of people who have had an impact on the Christian faith.

Yes, they're flawed human beings like us, sometimes in shocking ways. Yet they told the gospel message to people who did not know it. They thought deep thoughts, developed great ideas, dreamed great dreams, did great deeds, and loved with great love. They shaped the way Christians live their faith.

Some of them changed history not only for the church, but the world at large. They're often called 'saints' though *all* Christians are really saints. Through commemorations, we remember these people, and get inspired by their examples. It brings joy -- that's why they're often called 'festivals' or 'feasts'.

Adapted From : <http://www.spirithome.com/churhyear.html>

**Study Guide: “The Third Commandment”**

**Part I: True Or False. *The Third Commandment.* (pp. 12-13) Place a “T” (True) or “F” (False) before each question below.**

- \_\_\_ 1. “Worship” is the way we express God’s worth to us.
- \_\_\_ 2. The word “Sabbath” means “to rest.”
- \_\_\_ 3. The Sabbath day is really Sunday, the first day of the week.
- \_\_\_ 4. One way we despise God’s Word is not reading it.
- \_\_\_ 5. The Church Year begins on January 1<sup>st</sup> of each year.
- \_\_\_ 6. Pentecost is the birthday of the church.
- \_\_\_ 7. The eternal light reminds us that God is always with us for eternity.
- \_\_\_ 8. We worship on Sunday because it’s the most convenient time for us.
- \_\_\_ 9. God wants us to worship Him every single day of our lives.
- \_\_\_ 10. The best way to observe the Third Commandment is to *eagerly want* to read the Bible and serve God.

**Part II: Multiple Choice.** Write the letter of the correct answer before each question below.

- \_\_\_ 11. The “*Sabbath*” refers to...
  - a. The seventh day of Creation
  - b. Eternal life in heaven
  - c. “rest”
  - d. All of the above
- \_\_\_ 12. Which of the following is *not* an element of liturgical worship?
  - a. Invocation
  - b. Provocation
  - c. Homily
  - d. All of the above
- \_\_\_ 13. The word “Maundy” in Maundy Thursday means....
  - a. “this do”
  - b. “holy”
  - c. “betrayed”
  - d. “command”
- \_\_\_ 14. Pentecost recalls...
  - a. Jesus’ death
  - b. The birth of the Church.
  - c. Both of the above.
  - d. None of the above.

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- \_\_\_ 15. In Luke 10:38-42, Jesus told Martha ....
- a. "Be healed."
  - b. "You're worried about many things."
  - c. "Worship Me only."
  - d. None of the above.
- \_\_\_ 16. When Jesus was twelve years old, He...
- a. Went to Jerusalem
  - b. Celebrated the Passover
  - c. Went to His Father's house
  - d. All of the above.
- \_\_\_ 17. John the Baptist is most closely associated with...
- a. Advent
  - b. Lent
  - c. Easter
  - d. Ascension
- \_\_\_ 18. The "*Christ Candle*" is lit...
- a. From Christmas Eve until Ascension.
  - b. At every baptism
  - c. Only on saint days
  - d. A & B.
  - e. A & C
  - f. All of the above.
  - g. None of the above.
- \_\_\_ 19. Christians worship primarily on Sunday because...
- a. It's convenient
  - b. Reminds us of the Trinity.
  - c. It's the seventh day of the week.
  - d. All of the above.
- \_\_\_ 20. The most important thing about Christian worship is that ...
- a. It doesn't go longer than one hour
  - b. The sermons are interesting
  - c. The music is good
  - d. Jesus is the central focus

**Part III: Matching.** Match the items on the right by placing the letter of the matching item before the item on the right.

___ 1. Palm Sunday	a. Jesus gave the Lord's Supper
___ 2. Maundy Thursday	b. Recalls Martin Luther's <i>95 Theses</i>
___ 3. Pentecost	c. Begins Holy Week
___ 4. Advent	d. Birthday of the Church
___ 5. Ash Wednesday	e. Prepares us for Jesus' Birth
___ 6. Ascension	f. Begins the season of Lent
___ 7. Sunday of Fulfillment	g. Jesus goes into heaven
___ 8. Reformation	h. Jesus comes again