

RESURRECTION EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Confirmation Guide 2019-2020

8th Grade: Catechism Year Syllabus

Dear Confirmand,

Welcome to this year of confirmation! In this packet you will find all the resources needed for a successful year.

Confirmation is an important process for Lutheran Christians. When we are baptized our parents, our God parents, and our congregation made promises to help us realize the faith in which the sacrament rests. They promised to support us, to bring us to God's Word, to bring us to the sacraments, and to instruct us in the basics of Christian discipleship. Confirmation is the process by which these promises are fulfilled. At the end of this program you will confirm the faith of your baptism publicly, before God, your family, and your congregation.

The 8th Grade year is given over to the study of Luther's Small Catechism. This document has been used for centuries to explain basic Christian teachings; the Ten Commandments, the Lord's prayer, and the Apostles' Creed.

This year, progress through your course work will be kept through Fish Points. Each assignment, activity, and quiz will be weighed a certain amount of points which you and I will curate together.

For this group of students, confirmation will be held on Reformation Sunday, October 31st of 2021. This extended time will allow confirmands to attend camp this coming summer if they haven't already done so. This time will also allow the confirmands to attend a Ready to Affirm retreat with me in October of 2021. Other requirements for the 9th grade confirmand will be to participate in the Youth Underground until they have been confirmed to help them transition into High School.

As this is an important time in the life of the faithful our expectations of you are high, so are our hopes. There will not be any busy work, everything that we ask you to do has purpose and meaning. As such we ask that you take advantage of this time and take your work seriously.

I am looking forward to a great year with you,

Pr. James

About the program

Curriculum

Our confirmation curriculum is based off of the Faith Inkubators: Head to Heart program. This program is designed to engage students in as many ways possible.



Expectations

I expect that we will have a productive and fun year of confirmation. For this to happen there are certain expectations of our confirmands and their parents.

Expectations of Confirmands:

It is expected of our students to participate during lessons, to respect their adult leaders, fellow students, pastor, and themselves, and to always put their best effort forward.

Every week please:

1. Log onto your confirmation page at www.relckids.com and choose a lesson from your course work.
2. Attend worship, either in person or online.
3. Read your bible (NRSV or the NIV Adventure Bible) *Part of your biblical instruction is learning how to navigate the bible and learn it's books. As such bible apps will not be allowed.*

We also expect our students to fulfill the requirements of the course which are explained below.

Expectations of Parents:

Parents, you are the single most important human factor in the success of your child. You don't have to have all the answers but listening and encouraging your confirmand will be of the utmost importance.

Because we want you to know what your student is being asked to do, we ask that you:

1. Work through two online sessions with your confirmand
2. Sign off on your child's work

Doing these things will help you better understand and answer questions from your confirmand, it will also help with accountability, and you might even learn something too!

Requirements

1. 20 Sermon Notes: 2 Fish Points each

Part of actively engaging in worship is learning how to listen to the proclaimed Word. Sermon notes provide a handy aid to active listening. Sermon notes must be filled out in their entirety, incomplete notes will not receive credit.

Sermon Notes can be found by the coat racks at First Service and in the resource tree outside of the office for Second Service, or online on your confirmation page at www.relckids.com. Sermon Notes may be returned to the Confirmation Drop box outside the office door or email to me at pastorjames@relchurch.net

2. Quizzes: 10 Points each

There will be three quizzes throughout the year to measure the kids retention of information. Because what they are learning is so important for their faith formation, students must earn an 80% for a passing mark. Because grace abounds, students will be able to retake any quizzes as often as needed to pass. Quizzes are already available on your confirmation page at www.relchurch.net.

3. Confirmation Project: 30 Points (if possible)

During Lent classes will be suspended due to Wednesday night services. Instead of class time students and parents will work on a confirmation project. In the past these projects have been to create "Pillars of the Church", a "Seder Meal", or a "Living Last Supper". We will gather within the first two weeks of February with the 7th through 8th Grade to decide what this year's project will be.

4. 7 Lenten Services: 1 Point each (if possible)

While class will not be ongoing throughout Lent the confirmation class will be required to help out with services and participate in worship.

5. Faith Statement: 50 Points

In the Fall of their 9th grade year, our kids will have an opportunity to write a statement that shares their current understanding of God and faith.

6. 23 Days of Class Participation: 1 Point each

Completion of your class handouts will count as your class participation. They will be available for each lesson online and through your confirmation packet available on Rally Sunday.

7. 35 Days of Worship Participation: 1 Point each

Attendance at all worship services is expected, you are confirming faith that cannot grow in a vacuum. You can worship in person at the church on Saturday at 5:30pm, on Sunday at 10:00am or online on our Facebook page and YouTube channel. Parents will keep track of your worship participation.

8. 35 Days of Sunday School Participation: 1 Point each

Sunday School will take place online this year at www.relckids.com in an intergeneration format. Learn with your parents they will also keep track of your participation.

9. Confirmation Camp: 50 points (If possible)

Confirmands are encouraged to go to camp every summer but must go at least once to earn Fish Points. To offer our kids the broadest experience of camp possible, confirmands will be invited to participate in a three year cycle of camp: Ranch, Springs, and Sullivan Hills. Ranch and Springs are at Carol Joy Holling in Ashland. Sullivan Hills is in Lodgepole out in Western Nebraska. This summer's camp experience will be Ranch.

10. Monthly Zoom Meetings: 10 Points

Every month all our confirmands are invited to join together on zoom for a fellowship activity before splitting into breakout groups with their classes. Dates and times haven't been set yet for these meetings but they will begin after Rally Sunday on September 13th.

Confirmation Statement of Faith

Scope:

As Christians who will soon confirm their faith, you should have the ability to share your faith with the world. This assignment is intended to help you articulate your faith to others and yourself.

Assignment:

In 500 words, give your understanding of God and God's activity in your life.

The Apostles' Creed, which we confess, understands a God of Trinity; Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. The Creed itself is a wonderful statement of faith and could be used as a model in that it speaks about who God is and what God is doing.

You will also need to choose a confirmation theme verse and incorporate it into your understanding of God. Theme verse may be from, but are not limited to, the attached list.

Due Date:

Your Statement of Faith is due no later than October 4th 2020.

Suggested Confirmation Verses:

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| Genesis 1:27 | "God created humankind in his image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them." |
| Genesis 1:31 | "God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good." |
| Exodus 14:14 | "The Lord will fight for you, and you have only to keep still." |
| Exodus 34:6 | "The Lord, the Lord, a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness." |
| Leviticus 19:2 | "You shall be holy, for I the Lord your God am holy." |
| Deuteronomy 4:29 | "From there you will seek the Lord your God, and you will find him if you search with all your heart and soul." |
| Joshua 1:9 | "Be strong and courageous; do not be frightened or dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go." |
| Joshua 24:14 | "Revere the Lord, and serve him in sincerity and in faithfulness." |
| Joshua 24:15 | "Choose this day whom you will serve ... but as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord." |
| Job 28:28 | "Truly, the fear of the Lord, that is wisdom; and to depart from evil is understanding." |
| Psalms 23:1 | "The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want." |
| Psalms 27:1 | "The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The Lord is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?" |
| Psalms 34:8 | "O taste and see that the Lord is good; happy are those who take refuge in him." |
| Psalms 37:5 | "Commit your way to the Lord; trust in him, and he will act." |
| Psalms 46:1 | "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble." |
| Psalms 46:10 | "Be still, and know that I am God!" |
| Psalms 51:10 | "Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me." |
| Psalms 119:105 | "Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path." |
| Psalms 139:9-10 | "If I take the wings of the morning and settle at the farthest limits of the sea, even there your hand shall lead me, and your right hand shall hold me fast." |
| Psalms 139:14 | "I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; that I know very |

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| | well.” |
| Proverbs 3:5-6 | “Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight.” (New International Version) |
| Isaiah 43:1 | “Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine.” |
| Jeremiah 29:11 | “For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope.” |
| Matthew 4:4 | “One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.” |
| Matthew 5:16 | “Let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.” |
| Matthew 6:33 | “Strive first for the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.” |
| Matthew 7:7 | “Ask, and it will be given you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened for you.” |
| Matthew 11:28-30 | “Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.” |
| Matthew 17:20 | “Truly I tell you, if you have faith the size of a mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, ‘Move from here to there,’ and it will move; and nothing will be impossible for you.” |
| Matthew 22:37 | “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.” |
| Matthew 25:23 | “Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master’s happiness!” |
| Matthew 28:20 | “And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.” |
| Luke 11:28 | “Blessed are those who hear the word of God and obey it!” |
| Luke 16:10 | “Whoever is faithful in a very little is faithful also in much; and whoever is dishonest in a very little is dishonest also in much.” |
| Luke 19:10 | “For the Son of Man came to seek out and to save the lost.” |
| John 3:16 | “For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.” |
| John 8:12 | “I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness but will have the light of life.” |
| John 8:31-32 | “If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples; and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free.” |
| John 10:10 | “I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.” |
| John 10:11 | “I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.” |
| John 10:27-28 | “My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they will never perish.” |
| John 11:25-26 | “I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die.” |
| John 13:34 | “I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another.” |
| John 14:6 | “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.” |
| John 14:15 | “If you love me, you will keep my commandments.” |
| John 14:27 | “Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid.” |
| John 15:16 | “You did not choose me but I chose you.” |
| Acts 4:12 | “There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among mortals by which we must be saved.” |
| Acts 16:31 | “Believe on the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household.” |
| Romans 1:16 | “For I am not ashamed of the gospel; it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who has faith.” |
| Romans 1:17 | “The one who is righteous will live by faith.” |
| Romans 3:28 | “For we hold that a person is justified by faith apart from works prescribed by the law.” |
| Romans 8:28 | “We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose.” |
| Romans 8:39 | “There is nothing in all creation that will ever be able to separate us from the love of God which is ours through Christ Jesus our Lord.” (Good News Translation) |

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| Romans 10:9 | “If you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.” |
| Romans 12:21 | “Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.” |
| Romans 14:8 | “If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord’s.” |
| 1 Corinthians 6:20 | “For you were bought with a price; therefore glorify God in your body.” |
| 1 Corinthians 13:4-8 | “Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never ends.” |
| 1 Corinthians 13:13 | “And now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; and the greatest of these is love.” |
| 1 Corinthians 15:54-55 | “‘Death has been swallowed up in victory.’ ‘Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting?’” |
| 2 Corinthians 8:9 | “For you know the generous act of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, so that by his poverty you might become rich.” |
| 2 Corinthians 12:9 | “‘My grace is sufficient for you, for power is made perfect in weakness.’ So, I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may dwell in me.” |
| Galatians 5:22-23 | “The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against such things.” |
| Galatians 6:9 | “So let us not grow weary in doing what is right, for we will reap at harvest time, if we do not give up.” |
| Ephesians 2:8-9 | “For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God—not the result of works, so that no one may boast.” |
| Ephesians 4:32 | “Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ has forgiven you.” |
| Ephesians 5:8 | “For once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light. Live as children of light.” |
| Philippians 3:14 | “I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.” |
| Philippians 4:13 | “I can do all things through him who strengthens me.” |
| Colossians 3:2 | “Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth.” |
| Colossians 3:17 | “And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.” |
| Hebrews 10:23 | “Let us hold fast to the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who has promised is faithful.” |
| Hebrews 11:1 | “Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.” |
| Hebrews 13:5 | “Keep your lives free from the love of money, and be content with what you have; for he has said, ‘I will never leave you or forsake you.’” |
| Hebrews 13:8 | “Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.” |
| James 1:17 | “Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change.” |
| James 1:22 | “Be doers of the word, and not merely hearers who deceive themselves.” |
| 1 Peter 5:7 | “Cast all your anxiety on him, because he cares for you.” |
| 2 Peter 3:18 | “Grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be the glory both now and to the day of eternity.” |
| 1 John 1:9 | “If we confess our sins, he who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.” |
| 1 John 4:7 | “Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God.” |
| 1 John 4:18 | “There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love.” |
| 1 John 4:19 | “We love because he first loved us.” |
| Revelation 2:10 | “Be faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life.” |