

OVERVIEW OF CATECHESIS FOR YOUTH AND ADULTS

The Culture of Catechesis and the Sequence of Classes

ST. JOHN EV. LUTHERAN SCHOOL

Divine Service (weekly)

Congregation at Prayer

- Prayer at home with the family using the *Congregation at Prayer*
- Wednesday Chapel
- Prayer in each classroom

Sunday School and Sunday Morning Catechesis

- Teacher & Pastor introduces Bible passage, catechism, and hymn for the week from the *Congregation at Prayer*

Learn by Heart the Catechism (six chief parts)

- At home through the use of the *Congregation at Prayer*
- In Sunday School, Wednesday chapel, and classroom prayer.
- Through O.T. and N.T. Catechesis

Old and New Testament Catechesis

- Third Grade and Fourth Grade, alternating years

Lutheran Catechesis

Year I

- Fifth Grade
- 24 Scripture Lessons
- Confess the primary texts of the Catechism and their explanations.
- Leading children into a life hymns, Psalms, prayers, and Liturgy

Year II-IV

- Sixth, Seventh, Eighth Grades
- Christian Apologetics (Defending the faith)
- Christian History & Art
- Readings from the *Large Catechism*
- Parables and Miracles of Jesus
- Table of Duties and Christian Vocation
- Smalcald Articles & The Augsburg Confession
- Luther Biography

HOME AND PUBLIC SCHOOL YOUTH

Divine Service (weekly)

Congregation at Prayer

- Prayer at home with the family using the *Congregation at Prayer*

Sunday School and Sunday Morning Catechesis

- Pastor introduces Bible passage, catechism, and hymn for the week from the *Congregation at Prayer*

Learn by Heart the Catechism (six chief parts)

- At home through the use of the *Congregation at Prayer*
- In Sunday School
- Through O.T. and N.T. Catechesis

Old and New Testament Catechesis

- Third, Fourth, Fifth, or Sixth Grade once a week, alternating years

Lutheran Catechesis—“*Didache*”

- 24 weeks for 90 minutes /session
- At least one parent attends with each youth catechumen
- Youth have learned by heart the six chief parts before attending *Lutheran Catechesis*
- Adult Catechumens learn by heart the primary texts of the Catechism over the course of the 24 weeks by praying the primary texts of the Catechism at the beginning of each class session
- Praying the primary texts at the beginning of each session helps to ground the catechumens in how these texts are used throughout the Christian life. (See page 32 and 33 of *Lutheran Catechesis*)
- The goal of this combined entry-level catechesis class is to focus upon establishing the central thought of each lesson around the Biblical narrative and text of the Catechism for the day
- Not all of the material in *Lutheran Catechesis* is used for this class. The book becomes an ongoing resource for the catechumen in using his Bible, Catechism, and hymnal

ADULT CATECHUMEN

Divine Service (weekly)

Congregation at Prayer

- Prayer at home with the family using the *Congregation at Prayer*

Sunday School and Sunday Morning Catechesis

- Pastor introduces Bible passage, catechism, and hymn for the week from the *Congregation at Prayer*

Learn by Heart the Catechism (six chief parts)

- Learn primary texts first in the context of Lutheran Catechesis class
- Continue to learn meanings over a lifetime of catechesis and daily prayer

Old and New Testament Stories

- Learn over the course of a lifetime on Sunday morning

Lutheran Catechesis—“*Didache*”

- 24 weeks for 90 minutes /session
- Youth and adult catechumens are in the same class.
- At least one parent and/or sponsor attend with each youth catechumen.
- Adult Catechumens learn by heart the Primary Texts of the Catechism over the course of the 24 weeks by praying the primary texts of the Catechism at the beginning of each class session.
- Praying the primary texts at the beginning of each session helps to ground the catechumens in how these texts are used throughout the Christian life. (See page 32 and 33 of *Lutheran Catechesis*)
- The Goal of this combined entry level catechesis class is to focus upon establishing the central thought of each lesson around the Biblical narrative and text of the Catechism for the day.
- Not all of the material in *Lutheran Catechesis* is used for this class. The book becomes an ongoing resource for the catechumen in using his Bible, Catechism, and hymnal