

[32] When it comes to original sin, we hold nothing different from either Scripture or the Church catholic. Rather, we cleanse from corruptions and restore to light the most important declarations of Scripture and the Fathers, which have been covered over by the sophistry and controversies of the theologians of our day. It is more than clear that modern theologians do not notice what the Fathers mean when they speak about a “defect.” [33] The knowledge of original sin is absolutely necessary. The magnitude of Christ’s grace cannot be understood unless our diseases are recognized. ‹Christ says in Matthew 9:12 and Mark 2:17, “Those who are well have no need of a physician.”› The entire notion that a person is righteous is mere hypocrisy before God. We must acknowledge that our heart is, by nature, destitute of fear, love, and confidence in God. [34] For this reason the prophet Jeremiah says, “After I was instructed, I slapped my thigh; I was ashamed, and I was confounded” (31:19). Likewise, “I said in my alarm, ‘All mankind are liars’” (Psalm 116:11). That is, they do not think correctly about God.

[35] Here our adversaries attack Martin Luther because he wrote that “original sin remains after Baptism.” They add that this point was justly condemned by Leo X. But His Imperial Majesty will discover a clear slander on this point. Our adversaries know in what sense Luther intended this remark that original sin remains after Baptism. Luther always writes that Baptism removes the guilt of original sin. However, the material, as they call it, of the sin (concupiscence) remains. He also adds that the Holy Spirit, given through Baptism, begins to put to death the concupiscence and begins to create new movements within a person.

From "Article II (I). Original Sin" in The Apology of the Augsburg Confession, Concordia: The Lutheran Confessions, Pocket Edition. © 2005, 2006 Concordia Publishing House.
Source: https://bookofconcord.cph.org/en/apology-augsburg-confession/article_ii_i/

Congregation at Prayer

Week of August 16, 2026

INVOCATION

In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

APOSTLES’ CREED

I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of Heaven and Earth

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended into hell.
The third day He rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life + everlasting. Amen.

VERSE OF THE WEEK

“Why do the nations rage and the people plot in vain? The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, against the Lord and against his anointed, saying: “Let us burst their bonds apart and cast away their cords from us.”
Psalm 2:1-3

Small Catechism Table of Duties

To Parents

⁴ Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord. Ephesians 6:4

To Children

Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. ² “Honor your father and mother” (this is the first commandment with a promise), ³ “that it may go well with you and that you may live long in the land. .Ephesians 6:1–3

- Sunday Matthew 7:15-23
- Monday Romans 10
- Tuesday Romans 11
- Wednesday Romans 12
- Thursday Isaiah 29:18-24