

8th Grade Confirmation Class 3
I Believe in God - The Apostles' Creed
St. John Lutheran Church - Palmer, Alaska

Opening of Class:

3:15-3:20

- Prayer - (request from one person)
- Handouts - PUT INTO NOTEBOOKS. PUT names on notebooks.

TODAY'S LESSON

I. Opening Exercise 1

3:30-3:45

A. Walk outside and look East and South.

1. As you look at the Mountains, the sky, the scenery, what can you tell me about the world and about nature?
2. Where did this come from?
3. According to Romans 1, what does the world say to the heart and head of most people? (Bold)

A. Romans 1:20 For since the creation of the world God's invisible qualities-- *his eternal power and divine nature*-- have been clearly seen, **being understood from what has been made**, so that men are without excuse.

B. What does it tell us about God? (Italics)

B. Put yourself in the following situation.

(You and a friend are talking in class. The teacher and you have previously had words. The teacher tells you to write a letter to your parents for talking. You say, 'Why? My friend doesn't have to write a letter.' The teacher says, 'For talking back, go to the office.' But, I didn't do anything differently than my friend.' She answers, 'Forget the principal. Just pick up your backpack. You are suspended.'

You and your friend were doing the same thing. You got one punishment, she got another.)

1. How do you feel?
2. Why do you feel that way?
3. Is there such a thing as right and wrong? How do you know?
4. Read Romans 2:14-15. 14 (Indeed, when Gentiles, who do not have the law, do by nature things required by the law, they are a law for themselves, even though they do not have the law, 15 since they show that **the requirements of the law are written on their hearts, their CONSCIENCES** also bearing witness, and their thoughts now accusing, now even defending them.)

C. Two ways I can know there is a God from my everyday life are:

1. _____
2. _____

(We call this knowledge from nature, 'Natural Knowledge of God.'"

D. Why do you think some people don't believe in God?

E. What Questions do you have about God?

II. What does the Bible say about God. (We call this knowledge about God 'Revealed Knowledge.')

Genesis 1:1 In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.

Hebrews 11:3 By faith we understand that the universe was formed at God's command, so that what is seen was not made out of what was visible.

Speak together: **I believe in God the Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.**

John 3:16 "For God so loved the world that he gave **his one and only Son**, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

Romans 1:7 b Grace and peace to you from God our Father and from **the LORD Jesus Christ.**

Speak together: **I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.**

Luke 1:30-35 30 But the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, you have found favor with God. 31 You will be with child and give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus. 32 He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, 33 and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever; his kingdom will never end." 34 "How will this be," Mary asked the angel, "since **I am a virgin?**" 35 The angel answered, "**The Holy Spirit** will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So **the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God.**

Speak together: **He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary.**

Mark 15:15 Wanting to satisfy the crowd, **Pilate** released Barabbas to them. He had Jesus flogged, and handed him over to be crucified.

1 Corinthians 15:3-5 3 For what I received I passed on to you as of first importance: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, 4 that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures

Speak together: **He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried.**

1 Peter 3:18-20 b 18 For Christ died for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring you to God. He was put to death in the body but made alive by the

Spirit, 19 through whom also **he went** and preached **to the SPIRITS IN PRISON** 20 **who disobeyed long ago** when God waited patiently in the days of Noah while the ark was being built.

Speak together: **He descended into hell.**

1 Corinthians 15:3-5 3 For what I received I passed on to you as of first importance: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, 4 that he was buried, that **he was raised on the third day** according to the Scriptures

Speak together: **On the third day he rose again.**

Acts 1:9-11 9 After he said this, **he was taken up** before their very eyes, and a cloud hid him from their sight. 10 They were looking intently up into the sky as he was going, when suddenly two men dressed in white stood beside them. 11 "Men of Galilee," they said, "why do you stand here looking into the sky? This same Jesus, who has been taken from you into heaven, will come back in the same way you have seen him go into heaven."

Ephesians 1:18-23 18 I pray also that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you, the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints, 19 and his incomparably great power for us who believe. That power is like the working of his mighty strength, 20 which he exerted in Christ when he raised him from the dead and **seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms**, 21 far above all rule and authority, power and dominion, and every title that can be given, not only in the present age but also in the one to come. 22 *And God placed all things under his feet and appointed him to be head over everything **for the church***, 23 which is his body, the fullness of him who fills everything in every way.

Speak together: **He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

Matthew 25:31-33 31 "When **the Son of Man comes in his glory**, and all the angels with him, he will sit on his throne in heavenly glory. 32 **All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate the people one from another** as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. 33 He will put the sheep on his right and the goats on his left.

John 14:2-3 2 In my Father's house are many rooms; if it were not so, I would have told you. I am going there to prepare a place for you. 3 And if I go and prepare a place for you, **I will come back and take you to be with me** that you also may be where I am.

Speak together: **He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

2 Corinthians 13:14 14 May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of **the Holy Spirit** be with you all.

Speak together: **I believe in the Holy Spirit,**

Matthew 16:18 I will build my **church**, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it.

Speak together: **the holy catholic Church,**

1 Corinthians 12:25-27 25 so that there should be no division in the body, but that its parts should have equal concern for each other. 26 If one part suffers, every part suffers with it; if one part is honored, every part rejoices with it. 27 Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it.

Speak together: **the communion of saints,**

Matthew 26:26-28 26 While they were eating, Jesus took bread, gave thanks and broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my body." 27 Then he took the cup, gave thanks and offered it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you. 28 This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the **forgiveness** of sins.

Luke 1:47 repentance and **forgiveness** of sins will be preached in his name to all nations,
Speak together: **the forgiveness of sins,**

Philippians 3:20 b - 21 20 b And we eagerly await a Savior from there, the Lord Jesus Christ, 21 who, by the power that enables him to bring everything under his control, will transform our lowly bodies so that they will be like his glorious body.

Speak together: **the resurrection of the body,**

John 3:16 "For God so loved the world that he gave **his one and only Son**, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

Speak together: **and the life everlasting. Amen.**

T F The Apostles' Creed is made up by people, and doesn't come from the Bible.

T F The Apostles' Creed is a summary of what the Bible says about God, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

T F There is only one God. He is the Father.

T F There are 3 Gods, Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

T F Knowing about God is not TOTALLY possible. He is a mystery. Nevertheless, God tells me what I need to know in the Bible.

III. NOW - What Questions do you have about God?

IV. CLOSING

4:35 p.m.

A. MEMORY - Speak together 'the Apostles' Creed.'

THE APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

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.

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

B. Attendance:

- Present?
- Bible Verse?
- Church and Sunday School Attendance?
- Sermon notes?