

7TH-8TH GRADE CONFIRMATION (2023-2024)

HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH

(REVISED 2-5-24)

All classes meet from 5:30-6:20pm
in the Meeting Room.



Fall 2023 Schedule

Date	Topic and Memory Work
Sept 6	Orientation (No Memory Work) – Parents attend with Students in Fellowship Hall
Sept 13	Topic: Introduction to the Small Catechism Memory Work: Romans 6:23 – For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord. John 20:31 – But these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.
Sept 20	Topic: The Creeds and Confessions Answer the Question, Who Is Jesus? Memory Work: John 14:6 - Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.” John 3:16 - For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.
Sept 27	Topic: Introduction and 1 st Commandment Memory Work: <i>The First Commandment</i> You shall have no other gods. <i>What does this mean?</i> We should fear, love, and trust in God above all things. Deuteronomy 6:5 – You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might.
Oct 4	Feed My Starving Children Service Event
Oct 11	Topic: 2 nd and 3 rd Commandments Memory Work: <i>The Second Commandment</i> You shall not misuse the name of the LORD your God. <i>What does this mean?</i> We should fear and love God so that we do not curse, swear, use satanic arts, lie, or deceive by His name, but call upon it in every trouble, pray, praise, and give thanks. <i>The Third Commandment</i> Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy. <i>What does this mean?</i> 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.

Oct 18	<p>Topic: 4th and 5th Commandments</p> <p>Memory Work:</p> <p><i>The Fourth Commandment</i> Honor your father and your mother. <i>What does this mean?</i> We should fear and love God so that we do not despise or anger our parents and other authorities, but honor them, serve and obey them, love and cherish them.</p> <p><i>The Fifth Commandment</i> You shall not murder. <i>What does this mean?</i> We should fear and love God so that we do not hurt or harm our neighbor in his body, but help and support him in every physical need.</p>
Oct 25	<p>Topic: 6th and 7th Commandments</p> <p>Memory Work:</p> <p><i>The Sixth Commandment</i> You shall not commit adultery. <i>What does this mean?</i> We should fear and love God so that we lead a sexually pure and decent life in what we say and do, and husband and wife love and honor each other.</p> <p><i>The Seventh Commandment</i> You shall not steal. <i>What does this mean?</i> We should fear and love God so that we do not take our neighbor's money or possessions, or get them in any dishonest way, but help him to improve and protect his possessions and income.</p>
Nov 1	<p>Topic: 8th, 9th, and 10th Commandments</p> <p>Memory Work:</p> <p><i>The Eighth Commandment</i> You shall not give false testimony against your neighbor. <i>What does this mean?</i> We should fear and love God so that we do not tell lies about our neighbor, betray him, slander him, or hurt his reputation, but defend him, speak well of him, and explain everything in the kindest way.</p> <p><i>The Ninth Commandment</i> You shall not covet your neighbor's house. <i>What does this mean?</i> We should fear and love God so that we do not scheme to get our neighbor's inheritance or house, or get it in a way which only appears right, but help and be of service to him in keeping it.</p>

Nov 8	<p>Topic: Creed – First Article (Parts 1 & 2A)</p> <p>Memory Work: I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.</p> <p><i>What does this mean?</i> I believe that God has made me and all creatures; that He has given me my body and soul, eyes, ears, and all my members, my reason and all my senses, and still takes care of them. He also gives me clothing and shoes, food and drink, house and home, wife and children, land, animals, and all I have. He richly and daily provides me with all that I need to support this body and life. He defends me against all danger and guards and protects me from all evil. All this He does only out of fatherly, divine goodness and mercy, without any merit or worthiness in me. For all this it is my duty to thank and praise, serve and obey Him.</p> <p>This is most certainly true.</p>
Nov 15	<p>Topic: Creed – First Article (Parts 2B & 3)</p> <p>Memory Work: Genesis 1:1 – In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. Psalm 139:13-14 – For you formed my inward parts; you knitted me together in my mother's womb. I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; my soul knows it very well.</p>
Nov 22	No Class (Thanksgiving Break)
Nov 29	<p>Topic: Creed – Second Article (Parts 1 & 2A)</p> <p>Memory Work: 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.</p>
Dec 6	<p>Topic: Creed – Second Article (Parts 2B & 3)</p> <p>Memory Work: <i>Meaning of the 2nd Article</i> <i>What does this mean?</i> I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from eternity, and also true man, born of the Virgin Mary, is my Lord, who has redeemed me, a lost and condemned person, purchased and won me from all sins, from death, and from the power of the devil; not with gold or silver, but with His holy, precious blood and with His innocent suffering and death, that I may be His own and live under Him in His kingdom and serve Him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness, just as He is risen from the dead, lives and reigns to all eternity.</p> <p>This is most certainly true.</p>

Dec 13	<p>Topic: Creed – Third Article</p> <p>Memory Work:</p> <p>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.</p> <p><i>What does this mean?</i> I believe that I cannot by my own reason or strength believe in Jesus Christ, my Lord, or come to Him; but the Holy Spirit has called me by the Gospel, enlightened me with His gifts, sanctified and kept me in the true faith. In the same way He calls, gathers, enlightens, and sanctifies the whole Christian church on earth, and keeps it with Jesus Christ in the one true faith. In this Christian church He daily and richly forgives all my sins and the sins of all believers. On the Last Day He will raise me and all the dead, and give eternal life to me and all believers in Christ.</p> <p>This is most certainly true.</p>
Dec 20, Dec 27	<p><i>No Class – Have a blessed Christmas break!</i></p>

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Winter/Spring 2024 Schedule

Date	Topic and Memory Work
Jan 3	Topic: Overview of the Lord's Prayer and the Introduction No Memory Work
Jan 10	Topic: The Lord's Prayer: 1 st & 2 nd Petitions Memory Work: Our Father who art in heaven. <i>What does this mean?</i> With these words God tenderly invites us to believe that He is our true Father and that we are His true children, so that with all boldness and confidence we may ask Him as dear children ask their dear father. 1 John 3:1 – See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are. The reason why the world does not know us is that it did not know Him.
Jan 17	Topic: The Lord's Prayer: 3 rd & 4 th Petitions Memory Work: Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. <i>What does this mean?</i> The good and gracious will of God is done even without our prayer, but we pray in this petition that it may be done among us also. <i>How is God's will done?</i> God's will is done when He breaks and hinders every evil plan and purpose of the devil, the world, and our sinful nature, which do not want us to hallow God's name or let His kingdom come; and when He strengthens and keeps us firm in His Word and faith until we die. This is His good and gracious will.
Jan 24	Topic: The Lord's Prayer: 5 th & 6 th Petitions Memory Work: And forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. <i>What does this mean?</i> We pray in this petition that our Father in heaven would not look at our sins, or deny our prayer because of them. We are neither worthy of the things for which we pray, nor have we deserved them, but we ask that He would give them all to us by grace, for we daily sin much and surely deserve nothing but punishment. So we too will sincerely forgive and gladly do good to those who sin against us.

Jan 31	<p>Topic: The Lord's Prayer: 7th Petition and the Conclusion</p> <p>Memory Work: But deliver us from evil.</p> <p><i>What does this mean?</i> We pray in this petition, in summary, that our Father in heaven would rescue us from every evil of body and soul, possessions and reputation, and finally, when our last hour comes, give us a blessed end, and graciously take us from this valley of sorrow to Himself in heaven.</p>
Feb 7	<p>Topic: Daily Prayers</p> <p>Memory Work: <i>Luther's Morning Prayer</i></p> <p>I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have kept me this night from all harm and danger; and I pray that You would keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings and life may please You. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.</p>
Feb 14	No Class (Ash Wednesday)
Feb 21	<p>Topic: The Means of Grace</p> <p>Memory Work: Matthew 28:19-20 – "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."</p>
Feb 28	<p>Topic: Confession and the Office of the Keys</p> <p>Memory Work: <i>What is Confession?</i></p> <p>Confession has two parts. First, that we confess our sins, and second, that we receive absolution, that is, forgiveness, from the pastor as from God Himself, not doubting, but firmly believing that by it our sins are forgiven before God in heaven.</p>
Mar 6	<p>Topic: The Lord's Supper (Part 1) – Fellowship Hall at 5:15, parents encouraged to attend</p> <p>No Memory Work</p>
Mar 13	<p>Topic: The Lord's Supper (Part 2) – Fellowship Hall at 5:15, parents encouraged to attend</p> <p>No Memory Work</p>
Mar 20	No Class (Green Bay Trinity Spring Break)
Mar 27	No Class (Holy Week, Spring Break for De Pere and other area schools)

Apr 3	<p>Topic: The Nature and Blessings of Baptism</p> <p>Memory Work: <i>What benefits does Baptism give?</i> It works forgiveness of sins, rescues from death and the devil, and gives eternal salvation to all who believe this, as the words and promises of God declare.</p> <p><i>Which are these words and promises of God?</i> Christ our Lord says in the last chapter of Mark: “Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned.” (Mark 16:16)</p>
Apr 10	<p>Topic: The Power of Baptism and What Baptism Indicates</p> <p>Memory Work: <i>What does such baptizing with water indicate?</i> It indicates that the Old Adam in us should by daily contrition and repentance be drowned and die with all sins and evil desires, and that a new man should daily emerge and arise to live before God in righteousness and purity forever.</p> <p><i>Where is this written?</i> St. Paul writes in Romans chapter six: “We were therefore buried with Him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life.” (Rom. 6:4)</p>
Apr 17	<p>Topic: The Christian Life: Table of Duties</p> <p>No Memory Work</p>
Apr 24	<p>Topic: Life within the Congregation and Christian Stewardship</p> <p>No Memory Work</p>
May 1	<p>Topic: The Rite of Confirmation (8th Graders only)</p> <p>No Memory Work</p>
Thursday, May 2	<p>8th Graders record Confession of Faith and are examined</p>
Sunday, May 5	<p>Confirmation Sunday! God bless our 8th Graders as they confess the faith.</p>