The Creed: Third Article (I)



MEMORY (pg. 10; green catechism)

The Third Article

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

What does this mean?

I believe that I cannot by my own reason or strength believe in Jesus Christ, my Lord, or come to Him; but the Holy Ghost has called me by the Gospel, enlightened me with His gifts, sanctified and kept me in the true faith;

Even as He calls, gathers, enlightens, and sanctifies the whole Christian Church on earth, and keeps it with Jesus Christ in the one true faith;

In which Christian Church He daily and richly forgives all sins to me and all believers,

And will at the Last Day raise up me and all the dead, and give unto me and all believers in Christ eternal life.

This is most certainly true.



...the Holy Ghost has called me by the Gospel, enlightened me with His gifts, sanctified and kept me in the true faith...

RESPOND

All catechism students

- Catechism Family votions
- Psalm
 143

 Reading
 John 13:1-17, 20, 31-35; John

 Catechism Hymn
 224
 De
- Attend Divine Service and Sunday School
- Read memory work aloud 3 times a day in the morning and in the evening every day this week
- · Review the lesson this review sheet

First year students

Complete Quiz 9A in the online classroom.

Second year students

- Read Questions 160-174 in A Short Explanation of Dr. Martin Luther's Small Catechism (pg. 123ff).
- Complete Quiz 9B in the online classroom.

Third year students

- Read Luther's Large Catechism pg. 89-91 (ending at paragraph 46). Complete Study Questions #1-7 on p. 95 using the notes section at the end of this worksheet
- Complete Quiz 9C in the online classroom.



Notes Review—The Creed: Third Article (I) The Third Article of the Apostles' Creed deals with the work of Sanctification, or making holy. The work of the Holy Spirit is to make people holy. He is unlike any other spirit; He is the Spirit of God. The Holy Spirit makes holy by the Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. The Holy Spirit calls us to faith by the Gospel. He has bound His work to the preaching of the Word of God that comes from outside ourselves. Neither you nor I could ever know anything about Christ, or believe on Him, and have Him for our Lord, unless it were offered to us and granted to our hearts by the Holy Spirit through the preaching of the Gospel Sanctifying is just bringing us to Christ so we receive this good, which we could not get ourselves. This sanctification takes place in the Christian Church in the forgiveness of sins. Learn, then, to understand this article most clearly. You may be asked, "What do you mean by the words I believe in the Holy Spirit?" You can then answer, "I believe that the Holy Spirit makes me holy, as His name implies." "But how does He accomplish this, or what are His method and means to this end?" Answer, "By the Christian Church, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. For in the first place, the Spirit has His own congregation in the world, which is the mother that conceives and bears every Christian through God's Word. Through the Word He reveals and preaches, He illumines and enkindles hearts, so that they understand, accept, cling to, and persevere in the Word." There is no salvation apart from the Christian Church, the location of the Holy Spirit's work. Where Christ is not preached, there is no Holy Spirit who creates, calls, and gathers the Christian Church, without which no one can come to Christ the Lord.