

The Christian as Confessor

Confess = saying _____ to something

David Scaer, *Getting into the Story of Concord* (1978)

Roman Catholics are recognized by _____.

Episcopalians are recognized by use of _____.

Eastern Orthodox are recognized by the _____.

*Baptists are recognized by the _____.

Lutherans are recognized by _____.

Confessing in the Scriptures

Romans 10:9-10

If you **confess** with your mouth that **Jesus is Lord** and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one **confesses** and is saved.

2 Corinthians 4:13-15

Since we have the same spirit of faith according to what has been written, “I believed, and so I **spoke**,” we also believe, and so we also **speak**, knowing that **he who raised the Lord Jesus will raise us also with Jesus** and bring us with you into his presence. For it is all for your sake, so that as grace extends to more and more people it may increase thanksgiving, to the glory of God.

Matthew 16:13-17

Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, “Who do people say that the Son of Man is?” And they said, “Some say John the Baptist, others say Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.” He said to them, “But who do you **say** that I am?” Simon Peter replied, “**You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.**” And Jesus answered him, “Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father who is in heaven.

1 John 4:13-15

Whoever **confesses** that **Jesus is the Son of God**, God abides in him, and he in God.

Matthew 10:32-33

Everyone who **acknowledges** me before men, I also will **acknowledge** before my Father who is in heaven, but whoever denies me before men, I also will deny before my Father who is in heaven.

Philippians 2:9-11

Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue **confess** that **Jesus Christ is Lord**, to the glory of God the Father.

“A confession is therefore faith moving into life and speech”
(Kolb, *Confessing the Faith*, 16).

Types of Confessions

1. Personal Confessions
2. Corporate Confessions
3. Ecumenical Confessions
4. Insincere Confessions
5. Unintentional Confessions

Confession and Worship

Lutheran worship = _____ worship

List six parts of Lutheran worship that involve our confession.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.

Important Terms

“Creed”

“Confession”

“Symbol”

Confessions and Mission Statements

What is a mission statement?

_____ Our mission is to empower every person and every organization on the planet to achieve more.^

(Formerly: To create a family of devices and services for individuals and businesses that empower people around the globe at home, at work and on the go, for the activities they value most.)

_____ Our purpose goes beyond what we sell. We’re using our reach to be a positive force. For our customers. Our people. Our communities. Our world.^

(Formerly: To be our customers' favorite place and way to eat and drink.)

_____ Preserving history. Honoring excellence. Connecting generations.^

(Formerly: To preserve the sport's history, honor excellence within the game and make a connection between the generations of people who enjoy baseball.)

_____ The --- Group is the world's leading provider of premium products and premium services for individual mobility.

_____ Be the world’s beer company. Enrich and entertain a global audience. Deliver superior returns to our shareholders.^

_____ To bring inspiration and innovation to every athlete* in the world.
[*If you have a body, you are an athlete]

_____ To inspire and nurture the human spirit—one person, one cup and one neighborhood at a time.

--- serves church and world by providing theological education and leadership centered in the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ for the formation of pastors, missionaries, deaconesses, scholars, and leaders in the name of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod.

Why do organizations adopt *and publicize* mission statements?

What is the difference between a confession and a mission statement?

Ten Strengths of the Lutheran Confessional Writings

1. Scriptural
2. Evangelical
3. Pastoral
4. Critical
5. Catechetical
6. Normative
7. Exemplary
8. Ecumenical
9. Hermeneutical
10. NOT Exhaustive

Suggested Resources

Robert Kolb, *Confessing the Faith: Reformers Define the Faith 1530-1580* (CPH, 1991)

Joel Okamoto, "Making Sense of Confessionalism Today" *Concordia Journal* 41.1 (Winter 2015): 34-48.