

The Reformation & Why It Matters:

*an eight-lesson mini unit study about Martin Luther, The Reformation, & the history of the church
for the LCMS family*



The entire family will enjoy this brief history of The Lutheran Church!

Church History

Notes

The eight church history lessons are curated and put together to provide a brief overview and understanding of who the Reformation and two of the most influential men in the history of The Lutheran Church.

The lessons will culminate in a Reformation Celebration - you can schedule this celebration on October 31!

During this celebration we will give thanks to God for the great men who came before us, studied the Word of God, and had the courage to stand up for truth.

Students will present their project (see the included suggest project/research sheet for more information) and recite or read aloud their selected poem.

Consider hanging the children's finished Luther Roses and 5 solas art work and adding some German snacks to make the celebration extra special.

Materials Needed for the Unit:

Computer with internet access

Project Sheet (*included*)

Print out of Poems (*included*)

Red Track: *Feelings come and feelings go.....* by Martin Luther

Blue Track: *Luther's Rose* by Lauren Sommerer

Martin Luther by Paul Meier

Luther Rose & 5 Solas art work (*included*)

Basic art supplies

Construction paper

Glue

Tape

Scissors

Pencils

Crayons/Markers/Colord Pencils

Necessary Materials for your unit project of choice

Lesson 1

Materials Needed:

Computer with internet access

Project Sheet *(included)*

Print out of Poems *(included)*

Red Track: *Feelings come and feelings go.....* by Martin Luther

Blue Track: *Luther's Rose* by Lauren Sommerer

Basic art supplies

Lesson:

Work with your children to select the poem that is best for them. Ask them to glue it onto construction paper and decorate it as they wish (taking care not to cover the words).

Look over the project sheet and help children choose their unit study ongoing project.

Spend some time exploring the website www.LutheranReformation.org - a website started by the LCMS in honor of the 500th anniversary of the Reformation in 2017, it provides a wealth of information and has many fun & interactive features as well as videos!

Lesson 2

Materials Needed:

Computer with internet access

Print out of Poems *(included)*

Red Track: *Feelings come and feelings go.....* by Martin Luther

Blue Track: *Luther's Rose* by Lauren Sommerer

All supplies needed for your project

Lesson:

Read over student's chosen poems two times.

Read the article *The Ninety-Five Theses* and discuss what was happening in the Catholic church that caused the need for reform.

Begin working on your unit study project of your choice.

Lesson 3

Materials Needed:

Computer with internet access

Who Was Martin Luther? (digital or printed copy)

Print out of Poems (included)

Red Track: *Feelings come and feelings go.....* by Martin Luther

Blue Track: *Luther's Rose* by Lauren Sommerer

All supplies needed for your project

Lesson:

Read over student's chosen poems two times.

Read aloud the article "Who Was Martin Luther?" and discuss the article together: why was Martin Luther's resolve that we can never do enough to earn God's grace so important?

Continue working on your unit study project of your choice.

Lesson 4

Materials Needed:

Martin Luther: The Man Who Changed the World (book)

Print out of Poems (included)

Red Track: *Feelings come and feelings go.....* by Martin Luther

Blue Track: *Luther's Rose* by Lauren Sommerer

All supplies needed for your project

Lesson:

Read over student's chosen poems two times.

Begin reading the book *Martin Luther: The Man Who Changed the World*, try to read roughly half of the book.

Continue working on your unit study project of your choice.

Church History

Notes

Lesson 5

Materials Needed:

Martin Luther: The Man Who Changed the World (book)

Print out of Poems (included)

Red Track: *Feelings come and feelings go.....*

by Martin Luther

Blue Track: *Luther's Rose* by Lauren Sommerer

All supplies needed for your project

Lesson:

Read over student's chosen poems two times.

Finish reading the second half of the book *Martin Luther: The Man Who Changed the World*.

Continue working on your unit study project of your choice.

Lesson 6

Materials Needed:

The article about the history of the LCMS church

Print out of Poems (included)

Red Track: *Feelings come and feelings go.....*

by Martin Luther

Blue Track: *Luther's Rose* by Lauren Sommerer

All supplies needed for your project

Lesson:

Read over students poems two times.

Read the article about the history of the LCMS church, including details about C.F. Walther.

Continue working on your unit study project of your choice.

Lesson 7

Materials Needed:

Hero of Faith: C.F. Walther

Print out of Poems (included)

Red Track: *Feelings come and feelings go.....*

by Martin Luther

Blue Track: *Luther's Rose* by Lauren Sommerer

All supplies needed for your project

Lesson:

Read over students poems two times.

Read the book Hero of Faith: C.F. Walther

Continue working on your unit study project of your choice.

Lesson 8

Materials Needed:

The Luther Seal: A Summary of the Gospel

Luther Seal example & coloring pages

Coloring tool of choice (crayons, colored pencils, paint, etc.)

Print out of Poems (included)

Red Track: *Feelings come and feelings go.....*

by Martin Luther

Blue Track: *Luther's Rose* by Lauren Sommerer

All supplies needed for your project

Lesson:

Read aloud the article "The Luther Seal: A Summary of the Gospel" (or watch the video at the top of the page, or both!).

Red Track: ask students to recreate Luther's seal to the best of their ability using the method of their choice

Blue Track: students can color in the coloring sheet, make sure to remind students that their rose should look like Martin Luther's

Unit Study Special Project Suggestions

- Research one of the former presidents of the LCMS and put together a short presentation about his impact on the church
- Create a comic book or graphic novel about the life of Martin Luther
- Create your own Martin & Katie Luther dolls or puppets
- Write a script and re-enact Martin Luther's life
- Create your own! These are just a few suggestions to get you started - you can choose as a family the unit study project you complete - or you can choose to skip it this year if you'd like. The goal of this unit is to learn some basics of church history.

A note about the Reformation Celebration:

Many families choose to host a Reformation Celebration in place of a Halloween celebration. They encourage children to dress and characters from medieval times for the event.

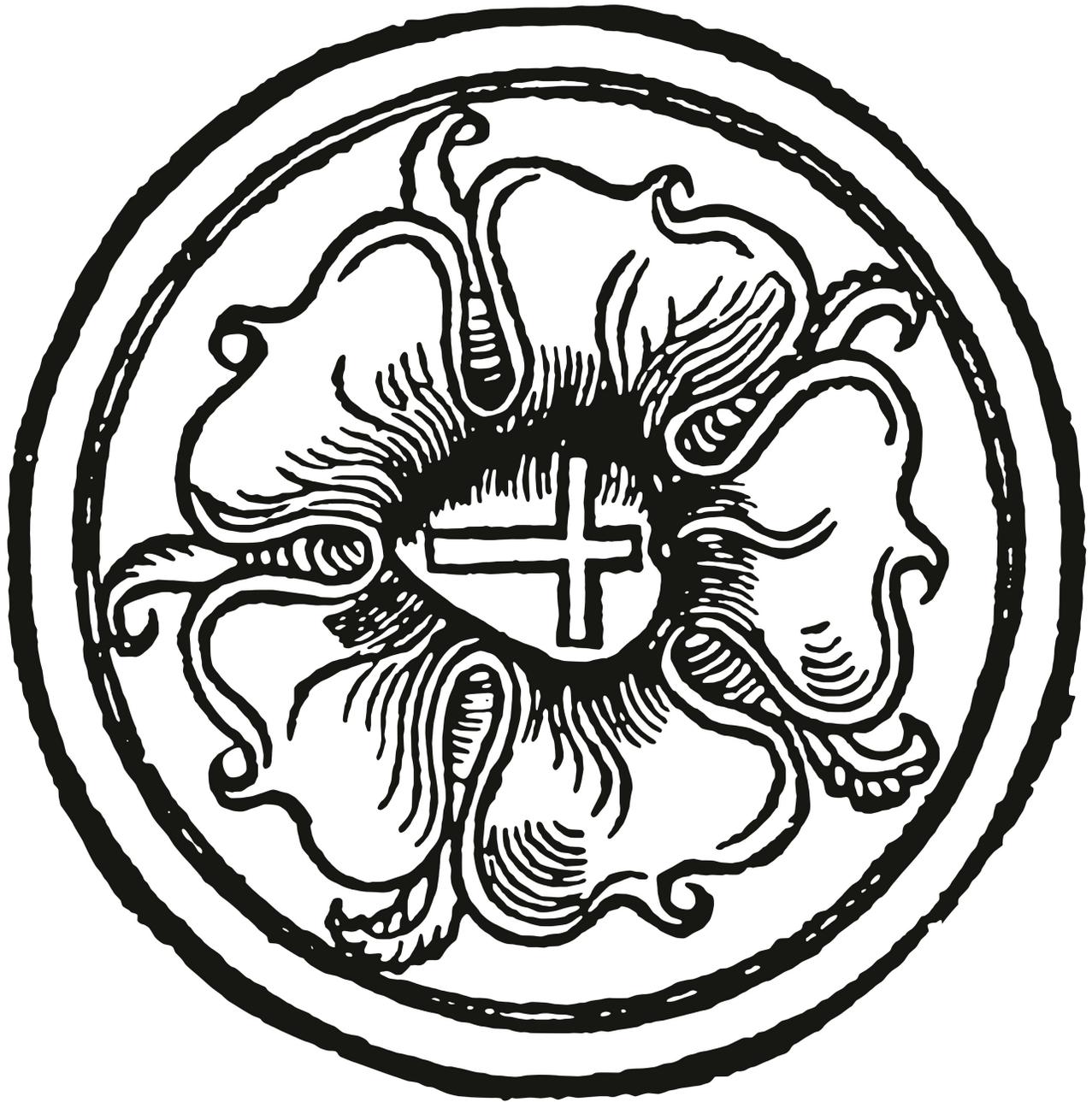
Your celebration in your home can be as elaborate or as simple as you choose.

If you wish to host a large party with costumes and themed snacks that's wonderful!

If you would like to have a quiet gathering with just your family - that's wonderful as well!

What is most important is that your children are provided an opportunity to share with you and their family what they learned about church history and Martin Luther. How you choose to provide that opportunity in your home is up to you!





Luther's Seal

A cross on a heart
on a flower in the sky

A golden ring around them
and here's the reason why:

The cross is for Jesus,
the heart is for love

The flower reminds us
of faith from above

The blue of the sky
is so joyful and free

The ring has no end -
just like God's love for me

- *Lauren Sommerer*

A Poem by Martin Luther

Feelings come and go
and feelings are deceiving;
My warrant is the Word of God-
Naught else is worth believing.

Though all my heart should feel
condemned
For want of some sweet token
There is One greater than my heart
Whose Word cannot be broken

I'll trust in God's unchanging Word
'Til soul and body sever,
For, though all things shall pass away
His Word shall stand forever.

- *Martin Luther*