

Lutheranism 101:

What does it mean to be a Lutheran?

Each week, we will add information to one of the following categories:

- History
- Living
- Praising
- Educating

History:

Lutheran Trivia...how many can you answer correctly?

1. The last Sunday in October is called....
2. The Augsburg Confession (1530) is a basic statement of Lutheran Beliefs. Who is the Principal Author?
3. How many sacraments are recognized by doctrinaire Lutherans?
4. What is the generally preferred form of address for a Lutheran clergy person in the United States?
5. The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) is the largest Lutheran body in the United States. What is the second-largest Lutheran group in the U.S.?
6. The name "Lutheran" wasn't Martin Luther's idea. What name did he suggest?
7. When and where was the first Lutheran service in North America?
8. What is the most widely-used English translation of the Bible among American Lutherans?
9. According to recent estimates, there are about ___ Lutherans in the United States, making it the ___ largest religious denomination in the country.
10. The headquarters for the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod are in St.Louis, Missouri. Where are the headquarters of the ELCA?

Answers: 1-Reformation Sunday, 2-Philipp Melanchthon, 3-three (baptism, communion, absolution), 4-pastor, 5-The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod, 6- Evangelical Catholic, 7- 1620, in present-day Manitoba, 8- New Revised Standard Version (NRSV), 9- 13.5 million; fourth, 10- Chicago, IL.
Sourced from: <https://www.lutheran.org.uk/3406-2/the-luther-rose/>, <https://www.elca.org/>

The Luther Rose:

What it is and why it's important

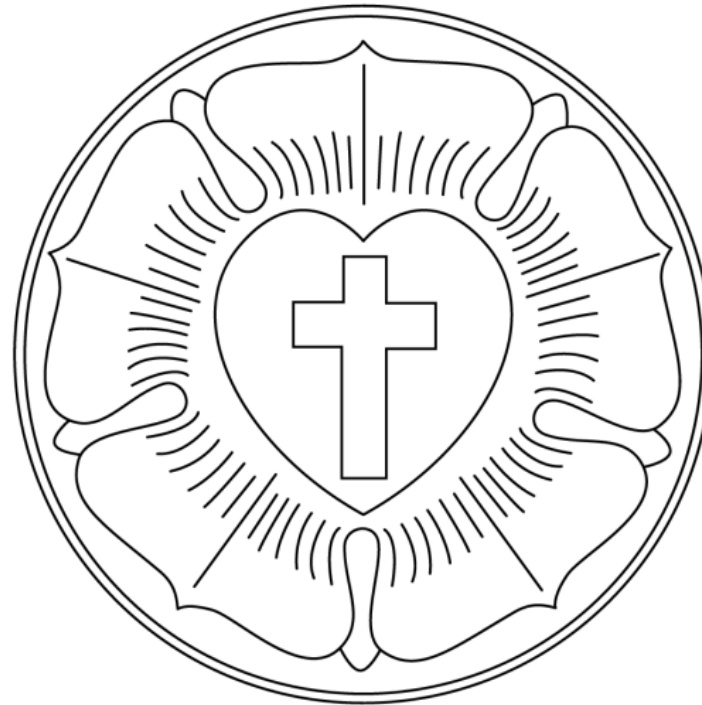
The '**Luther Rose**' has become a symbol of the Lutheran Church, familiar to Lutherans throughout the world. It was designed in 1516 by Martin Luther, who said that it set forth the basic elements of Christian theology.

In 1530 he described the rose to a friend. He said that the black cross on a red heart reminds us that the crucified Christ saves us. The cross humiliates us and causes us pain, but also brings us righteousness and life when, in our hearts, we believe in the crucified Savior. The heart is in the center of a white rose, to show that faith brings joy, comfort, blessedness, and peace beyond that of the world. The background of the rose is sky blue to show that this joy in the Spirit and in faith is the beginning of the heavenly joy to come. It is surrounded by a golden ring, to signify that the bliss of heaven is endless and lasts forever and is more precious than all other joys and treasures.

In a version of the rose carved in stone, Luther had the word 'Vivit' (He lives!) inscribed around the symbol.

Color in the Luther Rose!

Bring it back to church and hang it on the wall to display all of the Luther Roses.



*Please use the following colors
to show the message of the Luther Rose:*

BLUE Field: Joy in Christ's Provision of Salvation

RED Heart: Forgiveness and the Righteousness we have in Christ

BLACK Cross: Death of Christ as Substitute for our sin

WHITE Rose: Peace of God

GOLD Ring: Unending Duration – God's Promise is Forever

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Living:

Different ministries within the ELCA

- Children's Ministry
- Disability Ministry
- Ethnic Specific and Multicultural Ministries
- Young Adult Ministry
- Youth Ministry
- HIV and AIDS Ministry
- Outdoor Ministry
- Campus Ministry
- Racial Justice Ministries

Within these ministries, there are a plethora of different action groups like:

- Peace not Walls
- Young Adults in Global Mission
- AMMPARO Migrant Children
- International Leaders Program
- World Hunger
- Women of the ELCA
- God's work. Our hands.
- ELCA Youth Gathering
- Lutheran Disaster Response
- Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Services
- ELCAVotes
- Men in Mission
- Justice for Women
- Innovation Lab
- Leadership Lab

How many of these have you heard of? Which ones excite you?

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List of ELCA Colleges and Universities

- Augsburg University (Minneapolis, Minnesota)
- Augustana College (Rock Island, Illinois)
- Augustana University (Sioux Falls, South Dakota)
- Bethany College (Lindsborg, Kansas)
- California Lutheran University (Thousand Oaks, California)
- Capital University (Bexley, Ohio)
- Carthage College (Kenosha, Wisconsin)
- Concordia College (Moorhead, Minnesota)
- Gettysburg College (Gettysburg, Pennsylvania)
- Grand View University (Des Moines, Iowa)
- Gustavus Adolphus College (St. Peter, Minnesota)
- Lenoir–Rhyne University (Hickory, North Carolina)
- Luther College (Decorah, Iowa)
- Midland University (Fremont, Nebraska)
- Muhlenberg College (Allentown, Pennsylvania)
- Newberry College (Newberry, South Carolina)
- Pacific Lutheran University (Parkland, Washington)
- Roanoke College (Salem, Virginia)
- St. Olaf College (Northfield, Minnesota)
- Susquehanna University (Selinsgrove, Pennsylvania)
- Texas Lutheran University (Seguin, Texas)
- Thiel College (Greenville, Pennsylvania)
- Wagner College (Staten Island, New York)
- Wartburg College (Waverly, Iowa)
- Wittenberg University (Springfield, Ohio)

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