

## SERMON REPORT

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Church: \_\_\_\_\_ Preacher: \_\_\_\_\_

Day in Church Year: \_\_\_\_\_ Color of Paraments: \_\_\_\_\_

Hymn of the Day: \_\_\_\_\_

Sermon Text & Theme: \_\_\_\_\_

What are the MAIN POINTS of the sermon? (Give a summary of the sermon – use complete sentences)

How did the Pastor preach the **LAW**? (How is sin made known TO ME?) \_\_\_\_\_

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How did the Pastor preach the **GOSPEL**? (How has GOD dealt with MY SIN?) \_\_\_\_\_

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How did the Hymn of the Day relate to the sermon? \_\_\_\_\_

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The **LAW** tells us what we are to do and not to do; it shows us our sin.

The **GOSPEL** tells us what God has done for us in Christ and continues to do; it shows us our Savior and our salvation.

## **SERMON REPORT INSTRUCTIONS**

*The purpose of the Sermon Report is to help you understand the Sermon better. The Reports are designed to point out the key elements of Law and Gospel.*

**REPORTS MUST BE TURNED IN THE SAME WEEK THE SERMON WAS DELIVERED**, except when we have regularly scheduled breaks from catechesis class.

**REPORTS MUST BE ON SERMONS FROM REGULAR SERVICES AT YOUR HOME CONGREGATION**, or, if out of town, from the service of another LCMS congregation only.

### **Guide to Completing Good Sermon Reports**

- Take the Sermon Report form with you to the service. It is much easier to write things down during the service than trying to remember later.
- It is best to get to church a few minutes early, so that you can fill out the top portion of the Sermon Report and pray a short prayer before the service begins.
- Begin with a prayer before the service. See the “Prayers for Worship” inside the front cover of *Lutheran Service Book*.
- Make certain you put your name on the report.
- The Name of the Church, Preacher, Day of the Church Year, Hymn of the Day, and Sermon Text can usually be found by a careful reading of the bulletin.
- The Color of the Paraments is usually readily discernible if you open your eyes and look.
- Write down the hymn number and title for the Hymn of the Day.
- The sermon is almost always based on one of the readings, usually the Gospel. Listen carefully; the pastor will tell you what text is the basis for the sermon. Write down the text and a short description of the text, e.g. *Luke 17:11–19; Jesus heals ten lepers*.
- Write down the MAIN POINTS of the sermon, not random thoughts. The main points would serve as an outline of the sermon. Do not write vague subjects like Jesus, sin, or God. Write specific subjects like ‘*Why Jesus has the ability to heal,*’ ‘*Why I need healing,*’ ‘*The role of faith,*’ etc.
- In answering about the **LAW**, the subject of your sentence should be ‘I’. **Be specific**. Do not say, ‘*I sinned.*’ Instead, write something like, ‘*I show my lack of faith when I do not pray for help when I am in a bad situation.*’
- In answering about the **GOSPEL**, the subject of your sentence must be God, Jesus, the Holy Spirit, the Trinity, the Father, etc. **Be specific**. Do not write, ‘*Jesus died to forgive our sins.*’ Indeed, this is the Gospel and almost every sermon will mention this. I want to know how this Gospel addresses the specifics mentioned in the sermon. For example: ‘*Jesus has the authority over the earthly and eternal consequences of sin. As he healed the lepers of their disease of the skin, so He heals me from the consequences of my sin.*’ **Note well:** Since the Gospel is unconditional, you must not use conditional sentences, e.g. ‘If I...then...; When I...then...’

**I am here to help. If you are having trouble writing your report, or you do not understand how, see me.**

**Do not wait until the end of the quarter.**