

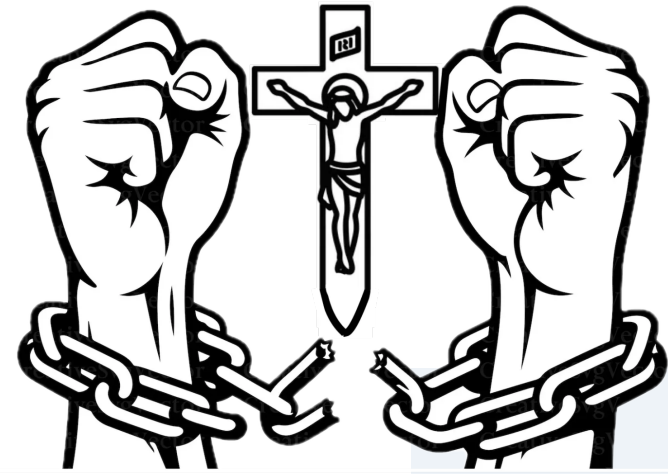
CLR Statement of Purpose

(From the book, *Freedom from Hurtful Behaviors*, pages 19-20, by Rev. Dr. Charles Knippel, CPH 2002.)

God has called us to be His own in Jesus Christ. He has given us the gift of repentance to acknowledge our sins and to trust in Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of sins and the newness of life. Because God has made us His forgiven and renewed people, we are able to:

- Recognize and admit that we continue to be sinners even though we are restored to God's presence and power through the forgiveness of sins that we obtain through faith in Jesus Christ. We acknowledge that we daily sin much and are powerless over aspects of our thinking, feeling, and doing that are not yet under the influence of the Holy Spirit and thus produce sinful behaviors by which we disobey and dishonor God and hurt ourselves and others.
- Believe that the God of our salvation daily forgives our sins for the sake of Jesus and, in our struggle with sin, renews us through the working of the Holy Spirit first received in Holy Baptism.
- Live each day under the Holy Spirit's power so that, in the promise and new life of Holy Baptism, we decisively turn our wills and our lives over to the care of God and His re-creating power and make fuller use of His gift of the Holy Spirit to obtain freedom from our controlling sinful behaviors of mind and body.
- Use the Word of God and the Lord's Supper to enhance our faith relationship with God, and through the use of God's Word and prayer obtain a clearer understanding of God's will that the Holy Spirit empowers us to carry out.

"No longer slaves to sin"



Confessional Lutheran Recovery

Who you see here and what is shared here, let it stay here, so that this is maintained as a safe and trusted time for mutual conversation and consolation.

LutheranRecovery.com

The Apostle's Creed

I believe in God, the Father
almighty, maker of heaven and
earth,

And in Jesus Christ, his only Son,
our Lord, who was conceived by
the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried.
He descended into hell.
The third day he rose again from
the dead. He ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of God
the Father almighty.
From thence he will come to judge
the living and the dead.

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

Luther's Evening Prayer

I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear
Son, that You have graciously kept me this day; and I pray that You
would forgive me all my sins where I have done wrong, and
graciously keep me this night. For into Your hands I commend
myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be
with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.

L: Let us bless the Lord

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Confession

(Lutheran Service Book, page 254)

L: Let us confess our sin in the
presence of God and of one
another.

L: Holy and gracious God,

C: **I confess that I have sinned
against You this day. Some of
my sin I know—the thoughts
and words and deed of which I
am ashamed—but some is
known only to You. In the name
of Jesus Christ I ask
forgiveness. Deliver and restore
me that I may rest in peace.**

L: By the mercy of God we are
redeemed by Jesus Christ, and in
Him we are forgiven. We rest
now in His peace and rise in the
morning to serve Him.

C: **Amen.**

Epistle

Ephesians 4:1-6 I, therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you to walk
worthy of the calling with which you were called, ² with all lowliness and
gentleness, with longsuffering, bearing with one another in love,
³ endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. ⁴ *There is*
one body and one Spirit, just as you were called in one hope of your calling;
⁵ one Lord, one faith, one baptism; ⁶ one God and Father of all, who *is*
above all, and through all, and in you all.

Gospel

Luke 14:1-11 Now it happened, as He went into the house of one of the
rulers of the Pharisees to eat bread on the Sabbath, that they watched Him
closely. ² And behold, there was a certain man before Him who had dropsy.
³ And Jesus, answering, spoke to the lawyers and Pharisees, saying, “Is it
lawful to heal on the Sabbath?”
⁴ But they kept silent. And He took him and healed him, and let him go.
⁵ Then He answered them, saying, “Which of you, having a donkey or an
ox that has fallen into a pit, will not immediately pull him out on the
Sabbath day?” ⁶ And they could not answer Him regarding these things.
⁷ So He told a parable to those who were invited, when He noted how they
chose the best places, saying to them: ⁸ “When you are invited by anyone to
a wedding feast, do not sit down in the best place, lest one more honorable
than you be invited by him; ⁹ and he who invited you and him come and
say to you, ‘Give place to this man,’ and then you begin with shame to take
the lowest place. ¹⁰ But when you are invited, go and sit down in the lowest
place, so that when he who invited you comes he may say to you, ‘Friend,
go up higher.’ Then you will have glory in the presence of those who sit at
the table with you. ¹¹ For whoever exalts himself will be [c]humbled, and
he who humbles himself will be exalted.”

Collect

Lord, we implore You, grant Your people grace to withstand the temptations
of the devil and with pure hearts and minds to follow You, the only God;
through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You
and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.