



# Confessional Lutheran Church of Finland

SUOMEN TUNNUSTUKSELLINEN  
LUTERILAINEN KIRKKO



## What is the Confessional Lutheran Church of Finland (CLCF)?

1. It is a Christian church.
2. It is a church that holds to the Bible as the inerrant Word of God.
3. It is an evangelical church.
4. It is a Lutheran church.
5. It is a confessional Lutheran church.
6. It is a church living from the Word and the Sacraments.
7. It is a church that is active in mission work.

### **1. It is a Christian church.**

“We believe in Jesus Christ, the Saviour of the world, and proclaim Him as the Saviour, that “through His name, whoever believes in Him will receive remission of sins” (Acts.10:43).

### **2. It is a church that holds to the Bible.**

With the Apostle Paul, we confess: “I believe all things which are written in the Law and in the Prophets” (Acts. 24:14). “It is not wise to go beyond what is written” (1 Cor.4:6). The Scriptures alone are the judge of doctrine and of life.

### **3. It is an evangelical church.**

“The Gospel is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes” (Rom. 1:16).

### **4. It is a Lutheran church.**

We teach and act according to the Lutheran doctrine. We have congregations where the Word of God is preached and the Sacraments are distributed according to the Lutheran doctrine. Thus, for example, we believe that infants are to be baptized and that only men may hold the Office of the Holy Ministry.



### **5. It is a confessional Lutheran church.**

“Confessional” means that the church holds, without reservation, to all of the Lutheran symbolical books because the doctrine confessed in them has been taken from the Scriptures.

### **6. It is a church living from the Word and the Sacraments:**

It is a church in whose congregations Christians gather together around the pure distinctive marks of the Church, namely under the working of the Word of God and the Sacraments. Where these are rightly administered and are used, there is Christ’s Church.

### **7. It is a church that is active in mission work.**

The CLCF is active in mission work, where doors are opened and with the resources that God provides. We have sister congregations in the Ukraine, and support their work with our prayers, mutual visits, with literature and sermons. Furthermore, we have had the opportunity to distribute literature that we have published for Russia, Belarus and for many other countries in Europe, Asia and Africa. Luther’s Small Catechism and its comprehensive explanation of Christian doctrine have been thus far translated into Swedish, Russian, Estonian, Latvian, Lithuanian, English, and Ukrainian. The CLCF has also published in Russian Markku Särelä’s books, *Infant Baptism Is Biblical* and *The Word Is The Fountain Of Life*. In 1999 the CLCF published the whole *Book of Concord* in the Russian language. It contains all the confessions from the year 1580 as well as the *Catalog of Testimonies*, a large introduction and a massive index. In addition, the CLCF has published in Russian as separate volumes the following confessional writings: *The Augsburg Confession and Its Apology*, the *Smalcald Articles* and *On The Primacy of the Pope* and the *Large Catechism of Dr. Martin Luther*.

With its proclamation the CLCF wants to make Jesus Christ known as the Saviour for all. All Christians who believe in Jesus as their Saviour and hold to the Lutheran doctrine are heartily welcome to become members of the CLCF. If you have any questions with regard to this matter, please contact the pastor. The Divine Services, Bible camps and other events are open to all and everyone is most welcome.