## What We Believe

Our Father's Evangelical Lutheran Church is a congregation of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. We are a confessional Lutheran Church. This means we are catholic, that is, confessing what the true Church of all times and all places has always confessed, but not Roman Catholic. We are evangelical (centered in the Gospel) but not a part of the modern Evangelical movement. We hold that Jesus Christ crucified and risen again for the forgiveness of our sins (justification) is the very center and core of who we are. Our Lord comes to us to forgive our sins and give us Himself through the Word of God, preaching, baptism, absolution (forgiveness) and the Lord's Supper.

The fountainhead and source of all that we teach and believe is found in the Sacred Scriptures, the Word of God. The Bible is the true, inspired Word of God, without error, and delivers God's gifts to us both orally, in written form, and through the Sacraments of the Church. We are a Biblical church, in the very best sense of the term.

This one, catholic (Christian) and apostolic faith is confessed in the three ecumenical creeds:

- The Apostles Creed
- The Nicene Creed
- The Athanasian Creeds

This faith is also confessed in the Book of Concord of 1580, including:

- The Augsburg Confession
- The Apology (Defense) of the Augsburg Confession
- The Small Catechism
- The Large Catechism
- The Smalcald Articles
- The Treatise of the Power and Primacy of the Pope
- The Formula of Concord Epitome Solid Declaration