

# The Whole Counsel of God Catechism Cover Artwork



## 1. Six icons (three on each door) represent the six chapters of the catechism.

The tree and river of life =

Chapter 1: God the Father & Creation  
*Apostles' Creed, Article I*

The tablets, skull, and thorns = Chapter 2:  
Sin & the Law, *The Ten Commandments*

The cross and empty tomb = Chapter 3: The Son  
of God & Redemption, *Apostles' Creed, Article II*

The dove = Chapter 4: The Holy Spirit & the  
Church, *Apostles' Creed, Article III*

The bread and chalice = Chapter 5: Justification &  
New Life, *Apostles' Creed, Article III, cont.* (the light  
from the chalice signifies that Christ the Light is  
present in the Lord's Supper to give us life)

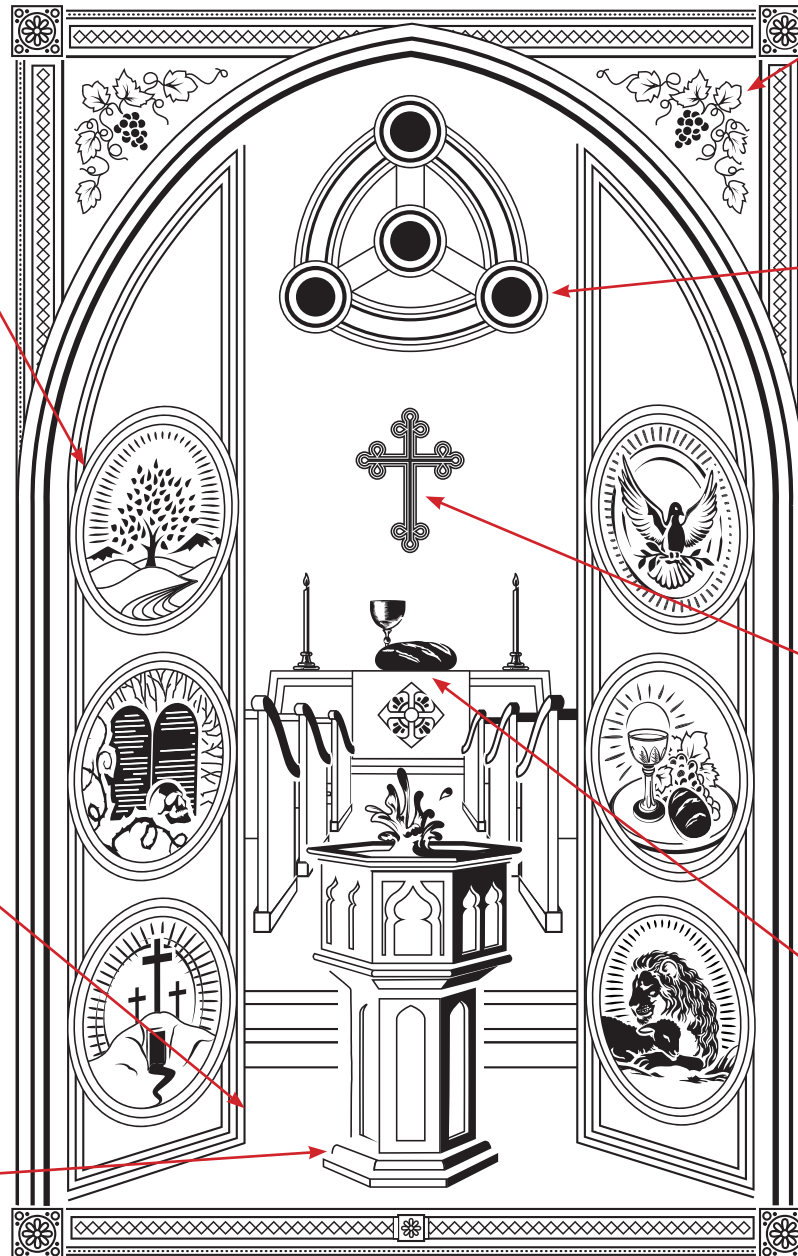
The lion and lamb = Chapter 6: The Word of God  
& Prayer, *The Lord's Prayer* (through prayer and  
God's Word we persevere to final salvation in the  
new creation; "thy kingdom come")

## 2. The doors open towards the baptismal font, since catechesis (the teaching of the Christian faith and gospel) prepares people for baptism.

Catechesis ensures that candidates for baptism  
understand the gospel and have counted the cost  
of discipleship.

## 3. The baptismal font is front and center because it is the visible rite of initiation and sacramental entrance into the church.

The water erupting from the font is a sign of life  
and cleansing.



7. The grape vines (a recurring motif in the book) signify the life, fruitfulness, and flourishing that the Church enjoys through union with Christ the Vine.

6. The Trinity shield is at the top of the design, above all, to signify that the Church and her faith is from the Triune God, and that her whole goal is to live in fellowship with the Holy Trinity.

The Church is the Church of the Triune God. The *telos* or ultimate purpose of the Church and her members is eternal happiness in fellowship with the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

5. The large cross is above the Lord's Table and at the center of the design to indicate that the preaching of Christ crucified (and participation in his body and blood) is at the heart of the Church's faith and life.

4. The baptismal font points towards the Lord's Table at the front of the church, since baptism brings us into fellowship with the visible Church and its sacramental life.

In a historic church floor plan, the Lord's Table is front and center as a sign that Christ is at the center of the Church's faith and life.