

So what is a Lutheran?

1. Historical answers:

- The Reformer: Martin Luther
- The Reformation: First Protestant church

2. Geographical answers:

- The Reformation in Germany and Scandinavia
- Emigration, Missionary spread: America, Australia and Africa

3. Doctrinal answers:

- The Scriptures, the Creeds and the Lutheran Confessions
 - Scriptures as the only rule and norm of doctrine (Whatever is biblical is Lutheran, and whatever is Lutheran is biblical → magpie faith)
 - Correctly interpreted by the Creeds and the Confessions
- Justification by faith
- Law and Gospel
- Word and Sacrament

4. Practical answers:

- Defined doctrinally, not institutionally
- Evangelical catholics: traditional liturgy, high view of the sacraments gospel-centred preaching
- The ELCE
- Our Saviour Lutheran Church