

Martin Luther once designed a "seal" to symbolize the Christian faith. The black cross in the center of the seal reminds us that Jesus died for our sins. The heart is meant to symbolize the great love God has for us as evidenced by His sending Jesus to be our Savior. The red of the heart is to remind us of Christ's blood, shed for us and for our salvation. The white rose helps us remember the work of the Holy Spirit who makes us pure and holy in God's sight by bringing us to faith in Jesus and by helping us to live our lives for Him. The blue background is to remind us of the joy of the new life God gives to all who believe and trust in Him, and the golden ring outlining the seal points us to our eternal inheritance — a home in heaven where we will enjoy complete joy and happiness in our Savior's presence.

Sometimes the Latin words *Solo Christo, Sola Gratia, Sola Fide,* and *Sola Scriptura* (four "*solas*" of the Reformation) are added around the golden ring of Luther's seal to remind us of the central truth of the Christian faith and the heart of the 16th century Reformation; namely, that we are ...

... saved by Grace alone, through Faith alone, on account of Christ alone, as revealed in Scripture alone.