

Abstract Guidelines

An Abstract should be less than 300 words and should state as succinctly as possible what your essay is about. Articulate in one sentence the main idea of the paper, and then briefly explain how your argumentation will support it.

For example, “This paper will discuss the appropriateness of pastors invoking the divine nature of their call. Specifically, it will show that it is generally better to invoke the divine nature of their call to comfort sinners in their distress than doing so as a way to make parishioners submit to a particular course of congregational action. The Divine Service models the way. In *LSB*, the only time the pastor references the divine nature of his call is to assure the congregation of the forgiveness of sins they have in Christ. Likewise, invoking the divine nature of the call when visiting a death bed assures the afflicted sinner of God’s intimate care for their needs, His enduring presence even in tough times, and the primacy of forgiveness in caring for souls. However, when a pastor casts a vision for the congregation and invokes the divine nature of his call during a voters’ meeting to insist that the congregation carry out *his* vision for their life together, even if his vision is more sound and wise than all others, the divine call looks more like a tool to coerce certain behavior than comfort sinners in their terrors.”

Failure to follow the Abstract Guidelines may result in a refusal to publish the essay.