



Dear brethren,

The Fourth Commandment is: *Honour your father and your mother.* And our Catechism teaches us that this means that *we should fear and love God, so that we do not despise or anger our parents and other authorities, but honour them, serve and obey them, love and cherish them.* In other words, we should obey God, not only by obeying His Word and command in Holy Scripture, but also by obeying those who are in authority over us in this life.

As such, this Commandment places us in two kingdoms, or two spheres of authority: in the spiritual realm we serve God in our personal life and in worship, and in the earthly realm we serve Him by serving the community, that is: the people surrounding us, believers and unbelievers alike.

Both these realms belong to God, and He rules in both of them. He rules them, however, in different ways. In the Spiritual Kingdom He rules with His love, through His Word. Since, however, the ungodly will never be ruled by His love - unless they first be won over for His Spiritual Kingdom by His Word of love - He rules His earthly kingdom by earthly and human means.

And this is important for exactly *how* Christian rulers are to serve God in the earthly realm - and thus also Christian voters.

Christians should not attempt to rule the world by the Word of God; rather, they should work for the will of God to be brought about, and for evil to be curbed, by means of reason and common sense - or, as it is also called, *natural law.*

In the personal life of a Christian, for example, abortion is not an option because the Word of God forbids it, and His love. When it comes to abortion being legal, however, a Christian must oppose it for other reasons: because common decency calls for the protection of the innocent, and because common sense knows - as does science - that the unborn child *is* a child, and because common sense and history teach us that it will have horrible consequences when some human beings are considered *less human*, so that others can freely mistreat them, and even dispose of them.

Similarly, when a Christian cannot engage in homosexual activities, it is because the love of God forbids it. When a Christian must oppose homosexual relations being equated with marriage in society, it is for another reason, namely because common sense tells us that a homosexual relationship is something other than a marriage in which children grow up with a mother and a father.

A Christian has no interest in demanding that society punish adults for what they do with other adults by mutual consent - as little as a Christian has any interest in government regulating which prayers can and cannot be spoken at home, or in Church. A totalitarian state, that is: government regulating the private lives of its citizens, and their beliefs, is not only a two-edged sword which will inevitably be turned against Christians; for Christians it is also to confuse the work of God with the work of men.

Sincerely  
**Jais H. Tinglund**

**LWML Zone Workshop** at Saint Luke's Lutheran Church in Worland on Saturday, April 28th, beginning at 10 am. All ladies of the congregations are invited.

**Pastor Tinglund shall be gone** for District Convention from the afternoon of Wednesday, May 2nd, through Saturday, May 5th. Messages can be left on cell phone 605-228-9216, which will be checked regularly.

**Carry-in dinner at Grace** prior to Ascension Day worship on Wednesday, May 9th, at 6 pm.

**Ascension Day worship at Grace** Wednesday, May 9th, at 7 pm.

**Spring Salad Luncheon** at Grace on Saturday, May 12th, at 11:30 am., arranged by the LWML and sponsored by Thrivent. Musical entertainment and edification. A quilt will be auctioned off. Proceeds will benefit the Greybull Community Outreach Food Pantry. Cost will be \$ 7 per adult and \$ 3.50 per child under the age of 10. Please sign up with Mrs. T. at 307-765-2865 by May 5th at the latest, but hurry - there is only room for 48 adults and 10 children.

**Open House for Alex Preis at Zion on Saturday, May 19th, 2-4 pm.** upon her graduation from the University of Montana and her acceptance at the Chinese University of Hong Kong. Come and congratulate her and wish her well.

**Baccalaureate Service at Zion:** The graduation of our High School Seniors Callee Catlin and Mason Werbelow will be celebrated at our worship service on Sunday, May 20th, and at a reception after worship.

**Just so we do not forget:**

*What benefits does Baptism give?*

It works forgiveness of sins, rescues from death and the devil and gives eternal salvation to all who believe this, as the words and promises of God declare.

*Which are these words and promises of God?*

Christ our Lord says in the last chapter of Mark: "Whoever believes and is baptised will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned".

*How can water work such great things?*

Certainly not just water, but the Word of God in and with the water does these things along with the faith which trusts this Word of God in the water. For without God's Word the water is plain water and no Baptism. But with the Word of God it is a Baptism, that is, a life-giving water, rich in grace, and a washing of the new birth in the Holy Spirit, as Saint Paul says in Titus, chapter three: "He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit, whom He poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Saviour, so that, having been justified by His grace, we might become heirs having the hope of eternal life. This is a trustworthy saying."

*Of the Small Catechism*

## **Birthdays in May**

*- as known to the editor*

May 3rd:

Sandy Cole

May 5th:

Cole Catlyn

Kye Catlin

May 24th:

Sue Coquil

May 28th:

Benjamin Kraft

## **Anniversaries in May**

*- as known to the editor*

May 20th:

Max and Carrie Mazur

May 26th:

Howard and Carol Gernant

## **South Big Horn Lutheran Parish**

Pastor Jais H. Tinglund

409 5th Avenue

Greybull

WY 82426

Phone: 307-765-2865

e-mail: [tinglund@nvc.net](mailto:tinglund@nvc.net)

Grace website:

<http://gracegreybull.ctshost.org>

Zion website:

<http://zionemblem.ctshost.org>

### **Regular office hours at Grace:**

Tuesday-Friday, Noon -1 pm.

### **Regular Summer Worship Hours**

*Zion:*

Sundays at 8 am.

Bible Study at 9:15 am.

*Grace:*

Sundays at 10:30 am.

Bible Study at 11:45 am.

## **This we believe**

*- of the Lutheran Confessions*

The kingdom of Christ is spiritual, in that Christ governs by the Word and by preaching, which means that it begins in the heart with the knowledge of God, the fear of God and faith, eternal righteousness, and eternal life; meanwhile it permits us outwardly to use legitimate political ordinances of every nation in which we live, just as it permits us to use medicine or the art of building, or food, drink, air. Neither does the Gospel bring new laws concerning the civil state, but commands that we obey present laws, whether they have been framed by heathen or by others, and that in this obedience we should exercise love.

*Apology of the Augsburg Confession*