



South Big Horn Lutheran Parish
Grace and Zion Lutheran Churches
Newsletter, October 2020

Dear brethren,

The Fifth Commandment is: *You shall not murder!* Of course, when we hear it or read it, in the ears of some of us the phrasing of the old King James translation might still ring in our memories and minds: *Thou shalt not kill!*

Perhaps that is why the Commandment seems to some to be so much more simple than it is; and that, for that very reason, things can come to seem so much more complicated.

When modern English translations favour the word *murder* over *kill*, they reflect what is the actual teaching of Holy Scripture: that the Commandment is *not* an absolute prohibition against any killing of anything living. Holy Scripture not only allows, but actually on occasion specifically calls for the slaughter of animals. The Commandment teaches specifically the sanctity of the life of *human* beings, created in the image of God to live with Him, as opposed to animals.

Moreover, the use of the word *murder* rather than *kill* reflects the distinction Holy Scripture also makes between the circumstances under which human beings might bring the lives of other human beings to an end.

In Holy Scripture God not only permits, but in some cases actually *commands* the death of evildoers. In the narrative of Holy Scripture, He commands specific persons in specific positions, under specific circumstances, in specific situations, to kill specific people. In other words, He is not granting a general permission for people to kill other people at will. It must be done only at His command.

And when, in more general terms, God in Holy Scripture gives rulers and government authority to put human beings to death, it is assumed that this is not to be done randomly, but rather in an orderly manner, under a rule of law, and only by those appointed to administer justice.

Romans 13:3-4

In other words, whenever God in Holy Scripture calls for human beings to be put to death, the perspective is that it must be done on His behalf, and at His direction. For an individual to kill another at will, on one's own account, for one's personal purposes, that is what is forbidden by God; that is what *murder* is. And this would include also the situation in which an individual on his own accord kills another person because of personal malice or wrath, or because one is personally convinced that this or that person is an evildoer who deserves to die.

Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written: "Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord."

Romans 12:19

Vengeance belongs to the Lord, and to Him alone. This means also, by the way, that the godly should not avenge *God*, either, by taking it upon themselves to make sure that the obvious sinner or blasphemer be punished as we ourselves see fit; that also should be left to the wrath of God, who says: *Vengeance is mine!*

This is where the Fifth Commandment leaves the individual Christian: *You shall not commit murder!* And the alternative is to *leave it to the wrath of God.*

Sincerely

Jais H. Tinglund

Pastor Tinglund shall be gone on Wednesday afternoons and evenings and most of Thursdays to tend to his duties as Vacancy Pastor to Saint John's Lutheran Church in Lovell. Messages can be left at cell phone 605-228-9216.

Services of penitence and prayer are held at Grace every Friday night at 7 pm. in response to the Wuhan Virus crisis, riots, and other current threats to the peace and freedom of the Church of Christ, and His Christians, and all people in the country and the community.

Let's do the time warp again: From Sunday, October 4, our Sunday worship times will switch over, so that Sunday worship at Grace will be at 8 am. and at Zion at 10:30 am.

Pastor Tinglund shall be gone for a District Pastors' Conference Monday, October 5, through Wednesday, October 7. Messages can be left at cell phone 605-228-9216, which will be checked regularly.

Delicious Butter Braid pastries are being sold as a fund raiser to help our young people participate in a Higher Things Lutheran Youth Conference in the Summer of 2021. Place your order on the sheet provided by **Sunday, October 25**. Your Pastries should be available to be given to you on Sunday, November 15 - just before Thanksgiving, and in good time for Christmas.

High quality cutlery and other food items are being sold as a fundraiser for our youth work. Look through a catalogue if there is something you would like, whether for yourself or as a gift for someone else, for Christmas or otherwise, and let Mrs. T. know by Sunday **October 25**.

Remembering those passed on: As part of our observation of the Memorial Feast All Saints on Sunday, November 1, we shall remember by name those of our own who have passed on in the year gone by. If there is someone who was precious to you, whom you would like to have included in this remembrance, please make Pastor Tinglund aware **by Friday, October 30**.

Daylight Savings time will end on Sunday, November 1.

Pastor Tinglund shall be gone for continued education Monday, November 2, through Wednesday, November 4. Messages can be left at cell phone 605-228-9216, which will be checked regularly.

Mission Festival on Sunday, November 8. Vicar Dane Breitung of Laramie will preach at our worship services. A lunch will follow worship at Zion, after which Vicar Breitung will tell us about the Wyoming District's Campus Ministry out of Saint Andrew's Lutheran Church in Laramie. Vicar Breitung will also present at Saint John's Lutheran Church in Lovell at 5 pm. the same afternoon.

Birthdays in October

- as known to the editor

October 2:

Betty Urwiller

Carrie Mazur

October 5:

Terry Marchant

October 7:

John Preis

October 23:

Jerold Preis

Anniversaries in October

- as known to the editor

October 14:

Pastor and Lillian Tinglund

Zion Financial Report, August :

Debits: \$ 3,478.30

Credits: \$ 5,817.23

Year to date:

Debits: \$ 34,783

Credits: \$ 40,2453.14

LWML usually meets at Grace on the first Monday of every month at 7 pm., except in July, August and September, and also on the **last** Monday of August. All ladies of the congregation are members of the LWML; and as such all ladies of the congregation, of all ages, are not only more than welcome, but also actually invited and encouraged to attend all LWML meetings at Grace - and so are all ladies of Zion!

South Big Horn Lutheran Parish

Pastor Jais H. Tinglund

409 5th Avenue

Greybull

WY 82426

Phone: 307-765-2865

e-mail: tinglund@nvc.net

Grace website:

<http://gracegreybull.ctshost.org>

Zion website:

<http://zionemblem.ctshost.org>

Regular office hours at Grace:

Tuesday, Wednesday, Fridays, Noon -1 pm.

Regular Worship Hours,

October-March:

Grace:

Saturdays at 7 pm.

- please call the Parsonage
to announce your attendance!

Sundays at 8 am.

Bible Study at 9:15 am.

Zion:

Sundays at 10:30 am.

Bible Study at 11:45 am.

April-September:

Grace:

Saturdays at 7 pm.

- please call the Parsonage
to announce your attendance!

Sundays at 10:30 am.

Bible Study at 11:45 am.

Zion:

Sundays at 8 am.

Bible Study at 9:15 am.