

Dear brethren,

the Sixth Commandment is: You shall not commit adultery! In the most narrow sense, we usually use the word adultery to refer to a married person having sexual relations to somebody other than his wife, or her husband; that to which we also often refer to as infidelity, that is: unfaithfulness.

In our day and age, it has become increasingly common to consider it fully acceptable for married persons to have other sexual partners on the side, as long as their spouses consent to it; many people only consider adultery to be infidelity, and wrong, in so far as it involves deceit and hurt feelings.

What God has in mind with His Commandment, however, is more than a concern for hurt feelings. Marriage is His own secret ordinance. Whether or not both all parties involved consent has no bearing on whether or not sexual relations outside of marriage are *sinful*; they always are. The wedding vows are made before God, and as such, they are vows the couple makes not only to each other, but also to God. And adultery is always unfaithfulness to Him.

Moreover, what we usually refer to as infidelity is not the only kind of adultery God condemns with His Commandment: Whoever divorces his wife and marries another commits adultery against her, says our Lord Jesus, and if a woman divorces her husband and marries another, she commits adultery.

Mark 10:11-12

Or as the holy Apostle Paul also writes it: a married woman is bound by the Law to her husband as long as he lives.

Romans 7:2

Now, the Law referred to here is the Law of God; for again, marriage is His sacred ordinance; and according to His ordinance, marriage is for life.

Holy Scripture tells us that the Pharisees came to our Lord Jesus and asked Him: Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife for just any reason? And He answered and said to them: Have you not read that He who made them at the beginning 'made them male and female,' and said: 'For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh? So, then, they are no longer two, but one flesh. Therefore what God has joined together, let not man separate.

Matthew 19:3-6

Those who are joined together in marriage are bound to each other before God; they should see each other as entrusted to each other by God, because they are that. As such, only God has the right to separate them, and the way He does that is by having on them die. Until that happens, they are bound to each other; anything else is adultery and sin in the sight of God, against His Commandment and His will.

Again: Whoever divorces his wife and marries another commits adultery against her, and if a woman divorces her husband and marries another, she commits adultery. And: a married woman is bound by the Law to her husband as long as he lives.

Such is the sacred ordinance of God; and it is this His sacred ordinance of marriage His Commandment against adultery sets before us.

Sincerely

Jais H. Tinglund

**Services of penitence and prayer** at Grace Friday nights at 7 pm. in response to political and cultural chaos at home and abroad, war, and other threats to the peace of the world, the freedom of the Church of Christ, and the general well-being of human beings everywhere.

LWML Zone Spring Workshop at Thermopolis on Saturday, April 22, beginning at 9 am.

**Pastor Tinglund shall be gone** for a District Pastors' Conference from the afternoon of Sunday, May 7, through Wednesday, May 10. Messages can be left at cell phone 605-228-9216.

Ascension Dinner at Grace on Wednesday, May 17, at 6 pm., sponsored by Thrivent, with pork loin and mashed potatoes. A free will offering will be taken for our Youth Account.

Ascension Day Worship, observed on the eve of the feast, on Wednesday, May 17, at 7 pm.

75 years of Grace in Greybull
- Grace Alone!
Anniversary Celebration
Saturday, August 19, 2023

Bring your receipts from Lynn's to Church. For every bundle of receipts for purchases of \$ 10,000 we collect, Lynn's will give us \$ 100 for the LMWL at Grace. At this time we have received our first two cheques this year, and are well on our way into earning a third.

What is on our websites? Our wedding policies are posted on our web sites. Our websites also have recent sermons, bulletins and newsletters posted, in case you missed them, or lost them and the versions on the websites are corrected or updated as need has been. Pastor Tinglund's articles for the Greybull Standard and the Basin Republican Rustler are posted on the websites, also, along with small articles about the vestments used at our worship services, and a few other things. Please feel free to visit our websites, and to do so often; the more visits we have, the easier our websites will be to find for people who are looking for a Lutheran church in the area.

#### This is our faith

#### - from the Lutheran Confessions

Thus, although we have sins, the Holy Spirit does not allow them to injure us, because we are in the Christian Church, where there is nothing but continuous, uninterrupted forgiveness of sin, both in that God forgives us, and in that we forgive, bear with, and help each other. But outside of this Christian Church, where the Gospel is not, there is no forgiveness, as also there can be no holiness.

Of the Large Catechism

## Just so we do not forget

What does such baptising with water indicate?

It indicates that the old Adam in us should by daily contrition and repentance be drowned and die with all sins and evil desires, and that a new man should daily emerge and arise to live before God in righteousness and purity forever.

Where is this written?

Saint Paul writes in Romans chapter six: "We were therefore buried with Him through Baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father we too may live a new life."

Of the Small Catechism

# Birthdays in May

- as known to the editor

May 3rd:

Sandy Cole

May 5th:

Cole Catlyn

Kye Catlin

Nancy Preis

May 28:

Benjamin Kraft

### Anniversaries in May

- as known to the editor

May 20:

Max and Carrie Mazur

May 26:

Howard and Carol Gernant

May 28:

Lee and Nona Smith

### South Big Horn Lutheran Parish

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Grace website:

http://gracegreybull.ctshost.org

Zion website:

http://zionemblem.ctshost.org

## Regular office hours at Grace:

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday,

Noon -1 pm.

Regular Worship Hours

April-September:

#### Grace:

Penitence & Prayer Fridays, 7 pm.

Sundays at 10:30 am.

Bible Study at 11:45 am.

## Zion:

Sundays at 8 am.

Bible Study at 9:15 am.

#### October-March:

### <u>Grace:</u>

Penitence & Prayer Fridays, 7 pm.

Sundays at 8 am.

Bible Study at 9:15 am.

#### Zion:

Sundays at 10:30 am.

Bible Study at 11:45 am.

LWML meetings at Grace at 7 pm. on the first Monday of February, March, April, November, and December, and also on the last Monday of August - unless advertised otherwise.

