



South Big Horn Lutheran Parish  
Grace and Zion Lutheran Churches  
Newsletter, December 2023

Dear brethren,

the Sixth Commandment is: *You shall not commit adultery!* With this Commandment God states in the negative what He teaches throughout Holy Scripture, mostly in the positive: that marriage should not only be honoured as His sacred ordinance, but also *treasured and celebrated*; for His ordinance of marriage is His gift to His most beloved creatures, given to us out of the abundance of His own goodness.

By living together in marriage we, as His most beloved among His creatures, have the privilege of reflecting His own goodness in the created world. God the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, who were together from eternity, united in love, and whose very innermost nature is love, said to Himself, in the beginning, and to each other: *Let us make Man in our image, after our likeness. And God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them.* **Genesis 1:26, 27**

We are not made for solitude. Being made in the image of God, we are made to relate to other human beings in love.

Now, this applies not only to marriage: it is in our nature to relate, also, to other human beings than the one to whom we are married, to our children, those of us who have any of those, and our extended families, and friends, and even to more distant acquaintances, and our entire community.

That human beings are not made for solitude is clear also from this: that we are not even supposed to live our life with God on our own, in separation from others, but rather in His Church. This is made quite clear throughout Holy Scripture.

As Christians, and as human beings, we are made to live together with others in love. And although this does not apply only to marriage, it is made manifest in marriage more than in any other human relation. We are by nature inclined to long for intimacy, physically and emotionally, with one particular person of the sex opposite of our own; most of us are. To some of us things happen so that they have come to desire differently, or to be afraid of intimacy altogether. Others have a different calling from God. As our Lord Jesus says it: *There are eunuchs who were born thus from their mother's womb, and there are eunuchs who were made eunuchs by men, and there are eunuchs who have made themselves eunuchs for the sake of the Kingdom of Heaven.* **Matthew 19:12**

Made in the image of God, Man is made to live in communities of love; and marriage is not only the most intimate of these communities, but also foundational for the family, which is, in turn, the foundation of all communal living. And made in the image of God, as male and female, the capacity has been given to us of bringing new life into the world out, of our love, as all life came into the world to begin with out of the love of God. And thus to take part in the life-giving work of God is a precious privilege, one to treasure and celebrate. Exceptions aside, it is in marriage that we first and foremost serve God in this world, in accordance with His purpose for 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.

**Thanksgiving Dinner at Grace** on Tuesday, November 21, at 6 pm.

**Thanksgiving Worship at Grace** on Tuesday, November 21, at 7 pm.

**Thanksgiving Worship at Zion** at 10:30 am. Thursday, November 23.

**Free Will Offering at Grace** Sunday, November 29, in favour of Luther Classical College.

**LWML Christmas Party** Saturday, December 2, beginning at 1 pm. with lunch at Lisa's. All ladies of the congregations are invited. Each lady should bring either cash or a cheque to pay for her own meal, plus a tip for the waitress.

**Advent Dinners at Grace** Wednesdays, December 6, 13, and 20, at 6 pm., sponsored by Thrivent.

December 6: Soup and pie dinner

December 13: Tacos

December 20: Spaghetti with meat sauce

**Advent Midweek Worship at Grace** on Wednesdays, December 6, 13, and 20, at 7 pm. Under the theme *Psalms of the Son* we shall meditate on how the Old Testament Psalms testified to the salvation that has come to us.

**Penitence and Prayer Services are suspended** through December.

**Pastor Tinglund shall be gone** for a Circuit Pastors' Meeting most of Tuesday, December 12. Messages can be left on cell phone 605-228-9216.

**Christmas Eve worship** at Grace at 4 pm., and at Zion at 6 pm.

**Christmas Day worship** at Grace at 10:30 am.

**Free Will Offering at Grace** Sunday, December 31, in favour of the Community Outreach Fund.

**New Year's Eve Dinner** at Grace at 6 pm., sponsored by Thrivent, with salmon and fish fillets.

**New Year's Eve Worship** at Grace at 7 pm. After worship we shall toast the new year.

**Epiphany Soup Dinner at Grace** on Wednesday, January 3, at 6 pm.

**Epiphany Worship** at Grace on Wednesday, January 3, at 7 pm.

**This is our faith - from the Lutheran Confessions**

Those in whom Christ does not act through His Spirit are not members of Christ.  
*Of the Apology of the Augsburg Confession*

**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 December**

- as known to the editor

**December 9:**

Mary Ann Jensen

**December 10:**

Robert Klitzke

**December 12:**

Ashtyn Hill

Shayne Mazur

**December 13:**

Carolyn Olin

**December 30:**

Jesse Preis

**Anniversaries in December**

- as known to the editor

**December 4:**

Jerold and Jennifer Preis

**December 20:**

Guy and Becky Henderson

**South Big Horn Lutheran Parish**

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<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:****Grace:**

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** meets at Grace at 10 am. on the first Saturday of February, March, April, and November, and also at 7 pm. on the last Monday of August - unless advertised otherwise.