

The Fourth Sunday of Advent  
December 19, 2021



*The eternal Word  
has come to us, who works faith,  
life, and salvation.*

**South Big Horn Lutheran Parish**

**Grace Lutheran Church  
Greybull**

For by grace you have been saved, through faith, and this is not of yourselves, it is the gift of God.  
Ephesians 2:8-9

**Zion Lutheran Church  
Emblem**

Shout, and sing for joy, O inhabitant of Zion, for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.  
Isaiah 12:6

**Notes for the Season**

**Advent** (of Latin: *Adventus Domini*, the Coming of the Lord) is a season of preparation for the celebration of the birth of Christ. As difficult as this may be, surrounded by the increasingly pagan and premature celebrations of the godless world, this is a time of **penitence**. We are reminded of why He had to come for our salvation - and that He shall come to judge, and we should be ready to meet Him, when He does. The **colour of the season** is the colour of penitence, **purple**.

**Today:**

Penitential Order of Holy Communion, LSB p. 184, *Apostles' Creed*

Hymns: 337 - 346 - 781:1-2 - 352/546/383 - 387:1

## About Holy Communion

In the Sacrament we are made one with the risen Christ, and with each other. According to Holy Scripture, oneness in faith and confession is a precondition for such unity. As such, only Christians who share our faith and confession, and who therefore belong to congregations in the fellowship of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, will commune in our church. **Visitors wishing to receive the sacrament** - please speak with Pastor prior to the service. We ask that our guests be respectful of our faith. **We sincerely welcome our visitors**; we assure you that we uphold this practice *also* out of concern for *your* spiritual welfare, and that our Pastor would love to study Scripture with you and help you embrace the full counsel of God, so that we can celebrate the Sacrament in a manner pleasing to God and beneficial for us all.

### Just so we do not forget:

I believe that I cannot by my own reason or strength believe in Jesus Christ, my Lord, or come to Him; but the Holy Spirit has called me by the Gospel, enlightened me with His gift, sanctified and kept me in the true faith. In the same way He calls, gathers, enlightens, and sanctifies the whole Christian Church on earth and keeps it with Christ in the one true faith. In this Christian Church He daily and richly forgives all my sins and the sins of all believers.

*Of the Small Catechism*

### **This is our faith** - *from the Confessions of our Church*

Therefore, we must constantly maintain this point: God does not want to deal with us in any other way than through the spoken Word and the Sacraments. Whatever is praised as from the Spirit - without the Word and Sacraments - is the devil himself. Even to Moses God chose to appear through the burning bush and the spoken Word. No prophet, neither Elijah nor Elisha, received the Spirit without the Ten Commandments or the spoken Word. John the Baptist was not conceived without the word of Gabriel coming first, nor did he leap in his mother's womb without Mary's voice.

*Of the Smalcald Articles*

**Thank you - again** - to all who request that Thrivent Choice Dollars go to our churches. We have been informed that Zion has recently received another \$ 22. The money will be kept on a special account, where it will be available to us, should a special need arise; and where, in the meantime, it will earn us good interest.

**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 \$ 100, handed in the batch for the next, and are well on our way into putting the third together.

**Christmas Eve Worship** at Grace on Christmas Eve (sorry, if that is confusing!) at 4 pm.

**Christmas Eve Worship** at Zion on Christmas Eve (sorry, again, if that is confusing!) at 6 pm.

**Christmas Day Worship** at Grace on Christmas Day (well, you know) at 10:30 am.

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

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

**Epiphany Dinner** with tacos at Grace on Wednesday, January 5, at 6 pm., sponsored by Thrivent. As Epiphany marks the end of Christmas, feel free to bring your leftover Christmas goodies and let the rest of us help you get rid of them.

**Epiphany Worship** at Grace on Wednesday, January 5, at 7 pm.

**A Stewardship Thought for the Sunday:** Part of our readings for today is Luke 1:45 - "And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her from the Lord." The Lord always fulfills what He promises. We can be certain of that, and He has proven it over and over again. This faith in the Lord's own faithfulness is what gives us the courage to follow the Lord's commands in the face of the world's anger and resistance. Mary's faith also gave her the courage to carry on in her seemingly embarrassed circumstances. *From the LCMS Stewardship Ministry*

**A Life Thought from Lutherans For Life:** Our Savior embodies a God who does not just tolerate us in our physical weaknesses. He favors those who need Him the most (Luke 7:22), and that makes the Gospel the opposite of abortion and physician-assisted suicide. Is there any reality in which we may rejoice more than this (Philippians 4:4)? Why would we find this message offensive (Luke 7:23)? And why should we deny anyone else the delight by staying silent about it?

**The Week:**

|            |              |                                |
|------------|--------------|--------------------------------|
| Tuesday:   | Noon - 1 pm. | Pastor's office hours at Grace |
| Wednesday: | Noon - 1 pm. | Pastor's office hours at Grace |
| Thursday:  | Noon - 1 pm. | Pastor's office hours at Grace |
| Friday:    | Noon - 1 pm. | Pastor's office hours at Grace |
|            | 4 pm.        | Communion Worship at Grace     |
|            | 6 pm.        | Communion Worship at Zion      |
| Saturday:  | 10:30 am     | Worship at Grace               |
| Sunday:    | 8 am.        | Communion Worship at Grace     |
|            | 9:15 am.     | Bible Study at Grace           |
|            | 10:30 am.    | Communion Worship at Zion      |
|            | 11:45 am.    | Bible Study at Zion            |