

The First Sunday of Christmas  
January 2, 2022



*From eternal love,  
resolved from eternity,  
is our salvation.*

**South Big Horn Lutheran Parish**

**Grace Lutheran Church  
Greybull**

Ephesians 2:8-9

**Zion Lutheran Church Emblem**

For by grace you have been saved, through faith, and this is not of yourselves, it is the gift of God. 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 Feast**

**Christmas** (*Christ-Mass*) is the Feast for the Eternal Son of God coming in the flesh. **Miracle of Miracles:** He who is Himself eternal God has come to us. More than that, for us men (be we male or female) He came down from Heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made Man Himself. He has come to us, and He remains with us, for our salvation.

The **festive colour** is **white**, signifying purity, as the priestly robes worn by the multitudes before the great white throne - or **golden**, pointing to the heavenly treasures.

**Today:**

Festive Order of Holy Communion, LSB p. 151. with the *Nicene Creed*

Hymns: 384 - 546 - 402/332/352 - 387

### **About Holy Communion**

Holy Scripture teaches that as an expression of unity (Acts 2:42) Christians should share the Sacrament only with those with whom we are united in a common faith. We honour this teaching as our due obedience, and also to guard the uninstructed and those who do not submit to the full counsel of God against spiritual harm (1 Corinthians 11:27-29). As such, only Christians who share our faith and confession and therefore belong to congregations in the fellowship of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod will commune in our church. **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 share the Sacrament in a manner pleasing to God and beneficial for us all.

#### **Just so we do not forget:**

I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from eternity, and also true Man, born of the Virgin Mary, is my Lord, who has redeemed me, a lost and condemned person, purchased and won me from all sin, from death, and from the power of the devil; not with gold or silver, but with His holy, precious blood and with His innocent suffering and death, that I may be His own and live under Him in His Kingdom and serve Him in everlasting righteousness, innocence and blessedness, just as He is risen from the dead, lives and reigns to all eternity. This is most certainly true.

*Of the Small Catechism*

#### **This we believe - from the Confessions of our Church**

The Word of God leads us to Christ, who is the Book of Life, in whom all are written and elected that are to be saved in eternity, as it is written: *He hath chosen us in Christ before the foundation of the world.* This Christ calls to Himself all sinners and promises them rest, and He earnestly wills that all men should come to Him and suffer themselves to be helped, to whom He offers Himself in His Word, and wishes them to hear it and not to stop their ears or neglect and despise the Word. Moreover, He promises the power and working of the Holy Spirit, and divine assistance that we may remain steadfast in the faith and attain eternal salvation.

*Formula Concord, the Solid Declaration*

**Epiphany Dinner** at Grace with tacos on Wednesday, January 5, at 6 pm., sponsored by Thrivent. As Epiphany marks the end of Christmas, it would be highly appropriate for you 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.

**Thank you** to all who thought of us with greetings, gifts, and goodness for Christmas; truly, it is and remains a privilege and a joy to live and serve among you.

*Pastor and Mrs. T.*

**A Stewardship Thought for the Sunday:** Part of our readings today is Luke 2:40 - "And the child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom. And the favor of God was upon him." At Christmas God became man. And as a man, Jesus grew up and increased in strength and wisdom. We are called to follow in the footsteps of Jesus, to grow in His image. The power for this growth comes from receiving the grace of Jesus in His Word and Sacraments. How is the Lord calling you to grow this year?

*From the LCMS Stewardship Ministry*

**Prayer chain:** Holy Scripture encourages us to pray for one another, for: *the prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working* (James 5:16). That is why, every Sunday in worship, we mention those who have requested it before God or those for whom others have requested prayer; for others we pray in silence. We also have a prayer chain at Grace for bearing each other before God in prayer. If you would like the prayer chain to pray for you or someone you know, please call Betty Urwiller (307-568-2778), who will then call others, who will call others. We would enjoy the privilege of serving you by assisting you in bringing your burdens before the throne of grace; we also do understand that some of us prefer to keep some things private; so say as much or as little as you like as to the exact reasons why you would like the prayer chain to pray for you.

**A Life Thought from Lutherans for Life:** King Solomon acknowledged depending upon God like a little child. The Lord recognized it as wisdom and multiplied it (1 Kings 3:7, 10). Only Jesus sanctifying childhood by experiencing it Himself represents greater wisdom (Luke 2:40, 52). He extends this grace to gestating as an embryo - and finds favor with God for it. How delightfully Christian to treasure all little ones!

**This Week:**

Tuesday:	Noon - 1 pm.	Pastor's office hours at Grace
Wednesday:	Noon - 1 pm.	Pastor's office hours at Grace
	6 pm.	Epiphany dinner at Grace
	7 pm.	Epiphany Worship at Grace
Thursday:	Noon - 1 pm.	Pastor's office hours at Grace
Friday:	Noon - 1 pm.	Pastor's office hours at Grace
	7 pm.	Penitence and Prayer service 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