

First Sunday in Advent – November 27, 2011

*Longing for light, we wait in darkness
Longing for truth, we turn to you.
Make us your own, your holy people
Light for the world to see*

From our Synod prayer calendar, please remember **Zion Lutheran Church, Lewistown:**

Loving God, strengthen and inspire your disciples at Zion Lutheran Church and wherever your people gather to worship and serve you. May they boldly proclaim the good news of your Son and be light for their community and the whole world to see.

*Christ, be our light! Shine in the hearts. Shine through the darkness.
Christ, be our light! Shine in your church gathered today.
(ELW 715)*

Second Sunday in Advent – December 4, 2011

*All Earth is hopeful, the Savior comes at last!
Furrows lie open for God's creative task:
This, the labor of people who struggle to see,
How God's truth and justice set ev'rybody free.*

From our Synod prayer calendar, please remember **Our Savior's Lutheran, Rocky Boy:**

God-with-us, continue to guide your people at Our Savior's. Give them creativity, joy and hope as they reach out to their neighbors with a vision of your truth that sets all people free. We give thanks with them for all who supported this important ministry during the last year through prayer, monetary gifts, volunteer work and disaster relief and pray for adequate financial support in the coming year that they may be able to sustain and expand their ministry.

*People of Israel, you heard the prophet tell;
"A virgin mother will bear Emmanuel";
She conceived him "God with us," our brother whose birth
Restores hope and courage to children of this earth.
(ELW 266)*

Third Sunday in Advent – December 11, 2011

*People who walk in darkness have sought a light
In the heart of the darkest night.
Just when we thought all would be lost,
We were drawn to the light of God.*

From our Synod Prayer calendar, please remember **American Lutheran Parish – Harlem, Turner and Hogeland Lutheran Churches:**

Gracious God, we pray that you would continue to guide and strengthen the ministry that is done in these communities. Give them vision, courage and grace that others may be drawn to your light and your love may shine brightly through all they say and do.

*Dawn is in sight! Gone is the night,
Drawn to the light and the morning.
Glorious and bright,
Oh what a sight to be drawn to the light of God.
(ELW 593)*

Fourth Sunday in Advent – December 18, 2011

And Mary said "I am the servant of my God. I live to do your will."

"The Annunciation" - Holden Evening Prayer

From the Synod prayer calendar we remember: **the joint parish of Messiah Lutheran Church, Havre and Christ Lutheran in Big Sandy**

Mighty God, we give you thanks for the new things you continue to do in our midst and for bringing the congregations of Messiah in Havre and Christ Lutheran in Big Sandy together in partnership for ministry. As your servants in their communities, may they trust, as Mary did, that nothing is impossible for you. Give them eyes to see and hearts to welcome your presence that they may live to do your will and bear the love of Christ in their daily lives, the church and to all they meet.

Christmas Day – December 25, 2011

*O Holy Child of Bethlehem,
Descend to us we pray;
Cast out our sin and enter in
Be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels
The great glad tidings tell;
O come to us, abide with us,
Our Lord Emmanuel!
- Phillip Brooks*

From our Synod Prayer calendar, we remember **Lutheran Social Services of Montana:**

As we celebrate the birth of our Savior who came as a baby to make his home with us, we remember the ministry of Lutheran Social Services which enables children and parents to find forever homes together. We give thanks for their 60 years of ministry providing counseling, education, adoption services and disaster relief. Bless and strengthen their work in the coming year that they may continue to share the love of Christ.

First Sunday of Christmas - January 1, 2012

*Father,
give us wisdom to perceive you,
intellect to understand you,
diligence to seek you,
patience to wait for you,
eyes to behold you,
a heart to meditate on you
and a life to proclaim you,
through the power of the spirit
of our Lord Jesus Christ.
- Saint Benedict*

From our Synod Prayer calendar, we remember **First Lutheran in Havre, American Lutheran in Chinook and Sanctuary of Hope in Chester:**

Faithful God, as we begin a new year, we thank you for all your many blessings and ask you to guide these congregations in sharing their many blessings for the sake of the gospel. By the power of your Spirit, work through their ministries that they may be the hands and feet, eyes and ears, and the very heart of Jesus Christ to others.