

**December 11 & 18**

## *Poetic Meditations of the Life of Jesus*

The Harmony: What It Is/How I Used It  
Advent and Christmas Sonnets

### **Speaker:**

**Gracia Grindal M.A., M.F.A.**

Professor Emeritus, Rhetoric  
Luther Seminary, St. Paul

### **Introduction:**



The history of the “Harmony of the Gospels” will be explained, plus how sonnets work. In writing these sonnets I wanted to explore the life of Jesus poetically

and, as a practitioner of the sonnet, use sonnets as my form. A number of sonnets will be read in class. The Advent and Christmas sonnets will be read and discussed.

### **Speaker Bio:**

I taught English and Creative Writing at Luther College (1968-1984). Then I taught homiletics and hymnody at Luther Seminary. I retired in 2013 and continue writing poetry and histories about Norwegian pioneers. My latest are Jesus the Harmony and Mindekirken: Against the Current.

## **Adult Sunday School Ministry Team**

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# Adult Sunday School

*Do not conform  
to the pattern of this  
world, but be transformed  
by the renewing of your  
mind. Then you will be able to  
test and approve what God's  
will is—his good, pleasing,  
and perfect will.*

*Roman's 12:2*

## Winter 2022-23

A Renewing of the Mind

**September 18–October 2**

## *Christianity and Money*

**Speaker:**

**Dr. Walter Sundberg**

Professor of Church History, Emeritus  
Luther Seminary, St. Paul  
Member of Salem

**Introduction:**



This series will look at what the New Testament has to say about stewardship in support of the mission of the church. Especially important is Paul's effort to collect

money for the struggling church in Jerusalem. Money has always been a difficult issue for Christians. The New Testament reflects this difficulty as it tells the story of real men and women seeking to follow Christ and the will of God while still living their daily lives, raising families, trying to make ends meet. We can learn much from these early Christians as we seek to live faithfully today.

**Speaker Bio:**

"I am a storyteller. The history of the church is filled with stories of faith that inspire us today."

**October 9–23**

## *Christ Through Four Gospel Portraits*

**Speaker:**

**Dr. Juan Hernandez**

Professor of NT and Early Christianity  
Bethel University, St. Paul

**Introduction:**



This class will explore the distinct historical, literary, and theological contributions of each Evangelist to the question of the identity and mission of Jesus for its

earliest Christian readership.

**Speaker Bio:**

Dr. Hernandez is author of the award-winning *Scribal Habits and Theological Influences in the Apocalypse* (Mohr Siebeck, 2006), co-editor of *Studies on the Text of the New Testament and Early Christianity* (Brill, 2015), and lead translator of Josef Schmid's *Studies in the History of the Greek Text of the Apocalypse: The Ancient Stems* (SBL Press, 2018). He is also the General Editor for the Society of Biblical Literature's *Text-Critical Studies* series and serves on the Editorial Boards of three journals.

**October 30–November 13**

## *History of Women in Christianity*

**Speaker:**

**Dr. Jennifer Wojciechowski**

Assistant Professor, Church History  
Luther Seminary, St. Paul

**Introduction:**



Oftentimes the history of women is glossed over or even ignored by historians of Christianity. However, there is a rich history of women's participation in the faith including

their roles as martyrs, mystics, prophets, leaders, and reformers. This three-part series will explore the history of women's leadership, various roles, and experiences within the global Christian church.

**Speaker Bio:**

Dr. Wojciechowski is assistant professor of Church History at Luther Seminary, and the associate editor of the journal *Word & World*. She is the author of *Women and the Christian Story: A Global History* (1517 Media, 2022). Her areas of interest are women's history, American history, modern European history, and the interaction between religion and social reform.