

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

Chuck Scott, Chair
chuck.scott@comcast.net

Gordon Anderson
anderson.gpagpa.gordon@gmail.com

Betty Brat
pauljbrat@aol.com

Dave Erickson
ericksondavid3@gmail.com

Bob Grant
rc.grant@comcast.net

Marilyn Leister
leis0021@gmail.com

Kathy Scott
kathryn.k2g@hotmail.com

Walter Sundberg
wsundber@luthersem.edu

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2655 Fifth Street NW, New Brighton, MN 55112
651-633-9615 | salem-covenant.church

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

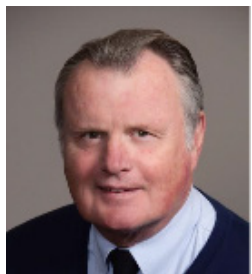
Christianity and Money

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.