



| Friday, December 6

Made New Each Year

*Other seed fell into good soil and brought forth grain,
growing up and increasing and yielding thirty and sixty
and a hundredfold.*

Mark 4:8

In Minnesota, Advent occurs during the changing of seasons. Autumn is a time when mother earth is maturing, leaves are dropping, plants are browning and eventually winter settles in. The produce of the past season's plants dries down and turns to seed. The earth rests during winter, and then spring returns and everything starts coming back to life. Seeds are planted and, with the grace of God, bring forth increasing yields.

As stated in 2 Corinthians 5:17: "Therefore if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come. The old has gone, the new is here!" A farmer witnesses this throughout the seasonal changes of the year. Last year's seed is planted, and through the grace of God, it becomes a new plant bearing yet another seed for another season. It is made new through the magical miracle of birth or germination, growth and eventually maturity. We watch God's earth go through these steps and changes, and can understand why God's people, through Advent, need to prepare for being made new each year.

*Lord, we pray that during this season of Advent we too can be
made new again, as we let your light shine into the world.
Amen.*

- Darrell Larsen