

The Deaf Lutheran

A MISSIONARY MONTHLY

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of Missouri, Ohio, and Other States*

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No. 3

Christ is Risen

Christ is risen, hallelujah!

Risen our victorious Head.

Sing His praises, hallelujah!

Christ is risen from the dead.

Gratefully our hearts adore Him

As His light once more appears,

Bowing down in joy before Him,

Rising up from grief and tears.

Christ is risen, hallelujah!

All our Lenten fast is o'er;

Through death's portals — hallelujah! —

He returned to life once more.

Death and hell before Him bending,

He doth rise, the Victor now,

Angels on His steps attending,

Glory round His wounded brow.

Christ is risen, hallelujah!

Death nor hell can us enthrall,

Christ is with us, hallelujah!

We have triumphed over all.

All the doubting and dejection

Of our trembling hearts have ceased;

'Tis His day of resurrection!

Let us rise and keep the feast. — *Sel.*

Jesus the Savior from Death

"A good many years ago," says Mr. Moody, "when I was a young man, I used to spend the summer in Chicago, and when the ministers were gone away, they sent me to attend funerals. One day I was called suddenly to attend a funeral. There were to be a great many business men there who were not Christians. I said, 'This is my opportunity; I will give them a Christian sermon. I tried to find one of Christ's funeral sermons, and I found that He broke up every funeral He attended. The dead could not stay dead where He was.'"

There is a great lesson of hope in the record of Christ's contact with death.

Have you ever been present when a physician announced to parents that their child will not recover, that it must die? Have you ever seen the sorrow of the mourners at the coffin of a departed father and mother? That is death, which all of us shall face sooner or later. We have no power over death. Who can help us? Matt. 9:24-26 we read: "Jesus said unto them, Give place; for the maid is not dead but sleepeth. And they laughed Him to scorn. But when the people were put forth, He went in and took her by the hand, and the maid arose. And the fame hereof went abroad into all that land." Here we read of a ruler of a synagog whose daughter was at the point of death. All man's wisdom and remedies had failed. In his trouble the sorrowful father sought Jesus and pleaded for the life of his dear child. The request was granted to him.

Dear reader, Jesus lives today and has the same powers. This man whom Jesus helped and his daughter are dead; and so we, too, shall die; but Jesus lives and has given us His promises of eternal life. St. John says, speaking of the future life, Rev. 21:4: "There shall be no more death." All must pass through the dark valley, but Jesus has led the way for the Christians. The Christian knows that he will not remain in death but will arise with a glorified body, free from all weakness and affliction. That is a greater blessing than the one the soldier received in his day of trouble. This blessing Jesus offers all true believers. He says, John 11:26: "Whosoever liveth and believeth in Me shall never die." Are you a true believer? O. C. S.

Studies in Luther's Catechism

THE SECOND ARTICLE

"Jesus Christ, My King"

Jesus Christ, King over all things, the King of grace in His Church, and the King of Glory forever and ever. You are in His Kingdom of Power; in His Kingdom of Grace you are if you believe in His blood shed on the cross for sinners; and you will be in His Kingdom of Glory if you continue in true faith to the end.

The Way to Glory Is through Trouble and Sorrow

Christ's Church is a kingdom of the cross. As Jesus on Good Friday had to carry the cross, so we in His Kingdom of Grace must bear the cross. He says: "If any man will come after Me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow Me," Luke 9:23. We who believe in Him and love Him must also suffer with Him. But that is the way to glory. Paul says: "We must through much tribulation [trouble] enter into the kingdom of God," Acts 14:22. And again he writes: "The Lord shall deliver me from every evil work and will preserve me unto His heavenly kingdom," 2 Tim. 4:18. As God led the children of Israel through the wilderness into the Holy Land, so He leads His people today through the wilderness of this world into His Kingdom of Glory. "If so be that we suffer with Him, we may also be glorified together," Rom. 8:17.

The Kingdom of Glory Is a Kingdom of Full and Everlasting Glory

Jesus now reigns in this kingdom with His many angels and all the believers who have died in Him. To this glory He will bring all those that are His. On the Last Day He will come "in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory." Then all His believers shall go with Him into His heavenly kingdom. There "God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain," Rev. 21:4. And they all shall sing: "To Him be glory forever and ever. Amen." Forever and ever with the King of Glory, what a glorious hope! Surely "the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed

in us," Rom. 8:18. Come, trust in Him and help to bring others to Him and through Him to the Kingdom of Glory!

"This Is Most Certainly True"

"He is not here, for He is risen!" Sin and death, devil and hell, are defeated. Therefore surely all who trust in Him are on the way to glory. May God grant this to you and to me for our risen Savior's sake! J. L. S.

THE BREAD OF LIFE

Bible-Study for March

"Let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall," 1 Cor. 10:11

Bible-Lesson: Mark 14:43-52

"And immediately, while He yet spake, cometh Judas, one of the Twelve, and with him a great multitude with swords and staves, from the chief priests and the scribes and the elders. And he that betrayed Him had given them a token, saying, Whomsoever I shall kiss, that same is He; take Him and lead Him away safely. And as soon as he was come, he goeth straightway to Him and saith, Master, Master; and kissed Him. And they laid their hands on Him and took Him. And one of them that stood by drew a sword and smote a servant of the high priest and cut off his ear. And Jesus answered and said unto them, Are ye come out, as against a thief, with swords and with staves to take Me? I was daily with you in the Temple teaching, and ye took Me not; but the Scriptures must be fulfilled. And they all forsook Him and fled. And there followed Him a certain young man, having a linen cloth cast about his naked body; and the young men laid hold on him; and he left the linen cloth and fled from them naked."

While Jesus was speaking to His disciples in the Garden of Gethsemane, saying, "Behold, the Son of Man [Jesus] is betrayed into the hands of sinners. Rise up, let us go; lo, he that betrayeth Me is at hand," a great multitude (mob) of people approached the Garden. There were priests and scribes and elders of the Jews, accompanied by a band of soldiers. They were armed with swords and clubs. They had come to take Jesus prisoner. Judas, one of the Twelve, who had agreed to betray Jesus into their hands, was leading them. He had given them a token (signal), saying, "Whomsoever I shall kiss, that same is He; take Him and lead Him away safely."

When Judas saw Jesus, he at once stepped up to Him and, calling Him "Master," kissed Him. One of His own disciples, one whom Jesus loved, betrayed Him into the hands of

His enemies with the sign of friendship and love! May God in His mercy keep us from the sin of Judas!

After Judas had kissed Jesus, the enemies laid their hands on Jesus and took Him captive. But one of the disciples, Peter, seeing his Lord and Master taken captive, took his sword and smote (struck) a servant of the high priest and cut off his ear. Jesus, however, was much displeased with Peter's action and told him to put away his sword. Then He healed the servant whom Peter had injured.

And now Jesus asked the multitude why they had come with swords and staves (clubs) to take Him prisoner as though He were a thief. Daily He had been with them in the Temple where they might easily have laid their hands on Him. It was a final warning which Jesus directed to His enemies, but they paid no attention to His words. And Jesus willingly permitted them to take Him prisoner, though He could easily have overpowered them, though He could have asked His heavenly Father to send Him twelve legions of angels to help Him. His hour of suffering and death had now come. And the Scriptures, which foretold all these things, had to be fulfilled.

When the disciples saw that their Lord and Master was in the power of His enemies, their faith was shaken. Filled with fear and terror, they all forsook Him and fled.

And while they fled, Jesus willingly walked the way of suffering, shame and death, the only way which could lead to victory over sin, death, and hell, the way which God had planned from eternity.

E. EN.

IN THE EDITOR'S MAIL

Minneapolis Mission.—Our work brings us also into State hospitals. At the present time we have twelve deaf under our spiritual care in State hospitals: three in Anoka, five in St. Peter, and four in Willmar. It fills one with sadness to enter these hospitals and to see all the misery; but what a privilege to be able to bring to these poor deaf the precious Word of Jesus! Among the five in St. Peter there is one who is deaf, blind, crippled, and confined to her bed. And still she smiles, and her face brightens up when we tell her of Him who takes away the sin of the world, and therefore also her sin.

This labor of love among these unfortunates fills the hearts of so many deaf with joy. Just recently we received a very encouraging letter touching upon this work in State hospitals. It is a letter from Dr. and

Mrs. J. L. Smith, of Faribault, who themselves are deaf. Dr. Smith is a retired teacher of the Faribault School, where he has served for fifty years. He and his dear wife write, among other things: "Especially are we moved when we think of your work among these unfortunates who are mentally afflicted and are confined in State hospitals. We think it fine to carry the comfort of the Gospel of Jesus to these unhappy ones. . . . Moved by these feelings, we are enclosing a check for ten dollars as a Christmas offering to your church, and we know that you will apply it to good purpose." Thank you for this letter and gift! We shall use the ten dollars to carry on this blessed work in State hospitals.

J. L. S.

Cleveland Field.—Last fall three marriages were performed. On September 10, in Findlay, Ohio, Mr. Arthur Baden and Miss Denelda Sidenstricker entered holy wedlock in our regular service for the deaf.—On October 20, in Youngstown, Ohio, Mr. Joseph M. Fabry and Miss Elsie Parslow were married in the church-hall where we conduct our services.—On October 28 a beautiful church wedding took place in a Lutheran Church of Lakewood, Ohio, when Mr. Stuart W. Mahan and Miss Virginia (Betty) Brown performed their vows at the altar. May our gracious God keep these couples united and faithful to Jesus and to one another!

The following baptisms were performed: On September 17 Kenneth J. Townsend, son of Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Townsend of Cleveland, was baptized in our lip-reading service.—On September 24 Clifford M. Eber, son of Mr. and Mrs. Martin Eber of Pittsburgh, was baptized in our service for the deaf.—On December 25 Ellie Wynn, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Odes Wynn of Cleveland, was baptized in our Christmas service for the colored deaf. May God keep these children in the fellowship of the Triune God and in the faith of Jesus!

When we look back into 1939, we experience feelings of sorrow and also of joy. We must feel deeply sorry when we think of some deaf members who have learned to know the love of Jesus but by slow degrees fall away from Jesus and stay away from the worship of Jesus and from the Lord's Supper, which Jesus gave us to assure us of the forgiveness of our sins. May such as have become backsliders return to the Lord before the judgment on the Last Day! On the other hand, during 1939 we also had many reasons to rejoice, because not only has the Lord kept so many believers with Jesus, but also new souls were won for the Church. May God bless all new converts and keep them growing into Christ, never to fall away but to remain true! "Be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life," Jesus says, Rev. 2:10.

Kansas City Mission.—Mr. Chas. Gibson, a Christian Negro, was struck down by an auto while on his way to our services in Denver in November. Both ankles were fractured.—It is the privilege of the missionary to preach regularly at the Colorado School for the Deaf in Colorado Springs.—In Wheat Ridge, Colorado (at the Lutheran Sanitarium), while ministering to Miss Dora Munz of Great Bend, Kansas, our attention was directed also to the patient Miss Margaret Bliefnick, formerly a teacher at our Detroit Lu-

theran Institute for the Deaf. We wish both an early recovery. * * * On December 30 the last charter member of our Kansas City Lutheran congregation was laid to rest. His name was John M. Walters. Henry Buchheimer, John Walters, John Wear, and Mrs. White were the members of the first Lutheran deaf confirmation class, shortly after the beginning of our Kansas City mission in 1905. Although 81 years of age, Mr. Walters in heavy rains and fair weather came to church by street-car until ten days before his death. May our younger members, who now must carry on the work of Pilgrim Church, long remember this fine example of a sincere, humble faith in the Savior.

Miss Nada Buckman of Olathe and Mr. Victor Hottle of Wichita, Kansas, were united in holy matrimony on December 23; likewise Mr. Elijah Cuthbertson and Miss Helen Brock of Liberty and Lexington, Missouri, respectively, on January 6. Congratulations!

Mr. and Mrs. Willard Robertson of Kansas City, Missouri, made a fine confession of their faith on November 5 and became members of our Lutheran Church. It gives us great pleasure indeed that we were privileged to welcome twelve new members into our midst in this territory in the past year. May all continue to work for Christ's kingdom. — Mary L. Buchanan and infant Robert Ellis Johnson were baptized into Christ's kingdom in our Negro service on December 24.

It is the privilege of the missionary to preach regularly at the Kansas School for the Deaf on the fourth Sunday of each month.

A fine religious service and a social gathering were arranged for our friends at Winfield, Kansas, and vicinity by Rev. S. Widiger and Mrs. J. P. Baden on December 17. We appreciate this assistance.

Mrs. Laura A. Butcher, a faithful member of Pilgrim Congregation of Kansas City, peacefully fell asleep on January 25. This is the second loss of a member in thirty days and is the fourth death among our Greater Kansas City friends in this period of time. A. E. F.

Mission for Blind and Deaf. — In the past three months we have gathered more than forty unchurched deaf for instruction and eventual church-membership. These deaf live within a radius of seventy miles of our home. Most of them have never had an opportunity to attend church services for the deaf. They are eager to learn. It is our intention to serve them regularly. They need God's Word.

Mr. John Geary, a deaf-blind shut-in, whom we have been visiting for a number of years, died January 19 and was given a Christian burial January 21. "Blessed are the dead that die in the Lord," Rev. 14:13.

Since taking over the editorship of the Braille *Lutheran Messenger for the Blind*, our mail has almost doubled. We find that the readers of Braille are just like the readers of Moon type with regard to their sincere interest in spiritual matters and appreciation of our Church's work. Among many others, a reader of the *Messenger* recently wrote us as follows: "This is my first opportunity to congratulate you on the editorship of the *Lutheran Messenger* and to thank you for your splendid work in that capacity. Two other blind persons share the magazine with me and join me in expressing thanks; for it is a source of spiritual food

to us. The enclosed gift is but a humble contribution to the *Messenger*, but it is given with our thanks and our prayers for its continued success."

Since the middle of January our Board has employed Candidate Clarence Bremer of Nashua, Minnesota, to help out in the Indianapolis field and to learn the systems of reading for the blind used in our magazines for the blind. In addition to his work among the deaf, Candidate Bremer will probably have charge of our mailing-lists. He will also type manuscripts for us. We wish our young brother the Savior's blessing.

O. C. S.

Lutheran Ministers to the Deaf

Rev. A. Boll, 192 Hewes St., Brooklyn, N. Y.
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 Rev. E. Scheibert, 1400 N. Ridgeway Ave., Chicago, Ill.
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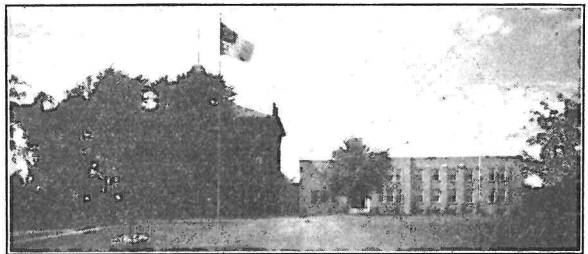
Minister to the Deaf and the Blind

Rev. O. Schroeder, B. D., 1648 E. 85th St., Chicago, Ill.

These ministers preach in more than 200 cities in our land; they conduct classes in religion at many State schools for the deaf. You will find them ready to serve you; call upon them or write to them. The deaf need God's Word.

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