

# The Deaf Lutheran

A MISSIONARY MONTHLY

*Published by the Board of Missions for the Deaf of the Lutheran Synod  
of Missouri, Ohio, and Other States*

Published monthly by Concordia Publishing House, St. Louis, Mo. Subscription price, 25 cts. per annum anywhere in the world, payable strictly in advance. Entered as second-class matter at the Post Office at St. Louis, Mo., under the Act of March 3, 1879. Acceptance for mailing at special rate of postage provided for in Section 1103, Act of October 3, 1917, authorized on January 14, 1935.

Vol. 32

St. Louis, Mo., April, 1940

No. 4

## The Ascended Savior

Arise, my soul, arise,  
Shake off thy guilty fears,  
The bleeding Sacrifice  
In my behalf appears;  
Before the throne my Savior stands,  
My name is written on His hands.

Five bleeding wounds He bears,  
Received on Calvary;  
They pour effectual prayers,  
They strongly speak for me;  
Forgive him, O forgive, they cry,  
Nor let that ransomed sinner die.

My God is reconciled,  
His pardoning voice I hear;  
He owns me for His child,  
I can no longer fear;  
With confidence I now draw nigh  
And "Father, Abba, Father!" cry.

CHARLES WESLEY, 1742

## His Presence Abideth

Those were blessed and precious hours which our Lord Jesus spent with His disciples during the forty days between Easter and His ascension into heaven. He who had given His life on the cross and then with victory over Satan and death rose triumphantly from the grave, now brought them into closer and more intimate fellowship with Himself, speaking to them of the building up of His kingdom, telling them how He intended to use them to extend this kingdom, and assuring them of His continued help and blessing. Even though now He would withdraw His visible presence from them, He promised, "I will be with you alway, even unto the end of the world." What greater comfort could these friends of Jesus have received than this, that His presence would abide with them as long as they would live and that when He, the Master, whom they now served,

would call them hence, they would again enjoy His presence, but then forever, in the glorious heavenly kingdom.

Although we have not seen our Lord and Savior, we have His Word of Truth, which tells us that "He ascended far above all heavens that He might fill all things," Eph. 4:10, that He might be present everywhere, be with us in spirit, and thus give us the comforting assurance that whatever may befall us in our life, whatever we may have to suffer, His presence will abide with us and that all is done as He wills it and has decreed it.

It is well to remember, however, that, since He is ever present with us, He also is aware of all our wrong-doing, our sins. Would you do the things which are forbidden in the Bible, but of which you are often guilty, if Jesus were standing visibly beside you? No doubt all of us would then be more careful. But our Lord is most certainly present with us at all times. Let us not grieve Him with careless and wicked lives, but let our first and foremost aims be to serve Him with a good and holy life in word and deed. May we be counted worthy to be called His servants, believing in Him as our only Savior and with greater zeal continuing our labors for Him in His kingdom on earth, His Church.

Christ, having ascended into heaven, now proclaims: "Where I am, there shall also My servant be." Yes, He has prepared a place for all those who will accept Him in faith and serve Him until death. And sitting at the right hand of God the Father, in power and majesty, our Lord and Savior prays fervently and constantly for us that we may not be lost but remain His children and servants and finally be in His presence forevermore. E. M.

## Studies in Luther's Catechism

### THE SECOND ARTICLE

*"Jesus Christ, Conceived by the Holy Ghost,  
Born of the Virgin Mary"*

"Jesus Christ, my Prophet, Priest, and King, my Lord and my God!" thus you and I have learned to exclaim. Therefore we also confess in the explanation of the Second Article: "I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from eternity, . . . is my Lord." Now let us behold how this mighty Son of God, the Maker of heaven and earth, humbled Himself. Our Creed says: "He was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary." Let us consider these words in this study.

#### Jesus Christ, Conceived by the Holy Ghost

About two thousand years ago a wonderful thing happened in the city of Nazareth. The angel Gabriel came to Mary, a virgin, that is, a clean unmarried woman. And he said to her: "Thou shalt conceive in thy womb and bring forth a son and shalt call his name Jesus." Mary in surprise asked: "How shall this be, seeing I know not a man?" And the angel answered: "The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee, and the power of the Highest shall overshadow thee." Luke 1:31, 34, 35. And to Joseph, to whom Mary was espoused (engaged), the angel of the Lord said: "That which is conceived in her [Mary] is of the Holy Ghost," Matt. 1:20. And this wonderful thing was foretold by the prophet in Is. 7:14 and fulfilled according to Matt. 1:22, 23. The Son of God humbled Himself and was conceived in a humble Jewish maiden by the Holy Ghost. What a wonder! "Therefore also," the angel said, "that Holy Thing which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God," Luke 1:35. And therefore this Child need not say as David and we all must say: "Behold, I was shapen in iniquity, and in sin did my mother conceive me," Ps. 51:5. He is without sin.

#### "Born of the Virgin Mary"

In due time this Child was born. And what a humble birth! He was born not in the great city of Jerusalem, the city of kings, where the Wise Men from the East sought

Him, but in the little town of Bethlehem. And He was not born in a palace; not even in the inn was there room for Him; no, into a stable you must go to find the Son of God made of a woman. And here He is laid not in a soft and comfortable bed, such as little babies usually have; no, behold; you will find Him lying in a manger on hay and on straw, wrapped in swaddling-clothes. Wonderful indeed, the Son of God lying in a manger!

#### "Is My Lord"

When this little Lord Jesus was born, the angel of the Lord came to the shepherds upon the fields of Bethlehem, bringing them good tidings of great joy and saying, "Unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, which is Christ the Lord," Luke 2:11. Also unto you and me! For the angel said these "good tidings of great joy shall be to all people," Luke 2:20. May you and I ever say to this Child of Bethlehem, "My Lord and my Savior"!

J. L. S.

## THE BREAD OF LIFE

### Bible-Study for April

*"Which of you convinceth Me of sin?"*

John 8:46

Bible-Lesson: Mark 14:53-59

"And they led Jesus away to the high priest; and with Him were assembled all the chief priests and the elders and the scribes. And Peter followed Him afar off, even into the palace of the high priest; and he sat with the servants and warmed himself at the fire. And the chief priests and all the Council sought for witness against Jesus to put Him to death and found none. For many bare false witness against Him, but their witness agreed not together. And there arose certain and bare false witness against Him, saying, We heard Him say, I will destroy this Temple that is made with hands, and within three days I will build another made without hands. But neither so did their witness agree together."

The multitude which had gone to the Garden of Gethsemane to take Jesus captive now led Him away to the high priest. There He was to be tried. A special meeting of the Jewish court, consisting of the chief priests, the elders, and the scribes, had been called, and the members had assembled in the palace of the high priest Caiaphas.

When Jesus had been taken captive, the

disciples forsook Him and fled. Peter, however, came back and followed Jesus into the high priest's palace. He still loved Jesus and wanted to "see the end," to see what the enemies would do with Him, as Matthew writes. Perhaps he also remembered his promise not to forsake Jesus but to remain faithful to Him, yes, even to die with Him if necessary. So he came and sat down with the servants, all enemies of Jesus, and warmed himself at the fire which they had built.

The trial of Jesus had begun when Peter entered the high priest's palace. Long before this time, however, the members of this court had resolved to put Jesus to death, and the trial was held to give their actions a show of right. It was necessary, therefore, to accuse Him of something which would prove Him guilty of death. But there was nothing in the life of Jesus which they might use as evidence against Him. His life had been blameless and sinless. The enemies were determined, however, to put Him to death, and so "the chief priests and all the Council [judges] sought for witness against Jesus to put Him to death." But when these witnesses testified against Jesus, their witness (testimony) did not agree. They were false, lying witnesses who did not speak the truth but lies about Jesus.

Finally two witnesses were found who testified that they had heard Jesus speak blasphemous words against the Temple; they testified that they had heard Him say, "I will destroy this Temple that is made with hands, and within three days I will build another made without hands." But also these two witnesses, like the others, were false and lying witnesses, twisting and turning the words of Jesus, as we see from John 2:19. For when Jesus spoke these words, He referred not to the Temple in Jerusalem, but to the temple of His body, to His own death and resurrection.

Jesus is indeed the Holy One of God, and therefore the enemies could find no fault in Him. Why, then, did Jesus permit them to accuse Him falsely? Because He loved you and me and wanted to die for our sins and thus prepare a perfect salvation for us. Oh, thank Him for His great love and trust in Him for your salvation!

E. EN.

## Gossiping

A gossiping tongue had spread a slanderous story about a Christian friend through the congregation, and soon the whole town had heard of it. After half a year the slanderer became sick and then confessed that the story was untrue. Calling the injured friend to the bedside, the patient asked for forgiveness. The friend said: "Of course, I will gladly pardon you; but I would ask you to comply with a wish of mine after your recovery."

Some time after the recovered patient inquired concerning the wish to be fulfilled. "Go home, kill a hen, pluck the feathers, and put them into a basket and bring them here." That was done. "Now," said the friend, "go through the town and at each street corner scatter a few of these feathers; then take the remaining ones to the top of the bell-tower and scatter them to the winds. Then return to me." The instructions were carried out. "Now go through the town and gather the feathers again, but so that none is missing." The slanderer looked with astonishment in his face. "Why, that is impossible! The wind has scattered them over the fields everywhere."

The moral of the above little story is added in words that should linger long and profitably in Christian minds. "While I forgive you gladly," said the injured friend, "do not forget that you can never undo the damage your slanderous words have done." — *Sel.*

## The Precious Blood

The teacher was explaining to the class that God is everywhere and knows all things. He said, "There is nothing in all the world God cannot see," and he quoted Prov. 15:3: "The eyes of the Lord are in every place, beholding the evil and the good." Holding up his hand, one little boy said, "Teacher, there is one thing God cannot see." Surprised, the teacher asked, "And what may that be?" Confidently the little man answered, "God cannot see our sins through the blood of Jesus."

Blessed truth, "The blood of Jesus Christ, God's Son, cleanseth us from all sins."

THE man who always has a good word for the other fellow seldom hears ill of himself.

## IN THE EDITOR'S MAIL

**Omaha Mission.**—A record for church attendance and partaking of the Lord's Supper rarely equaled is that of Mrs. Minnie Spraktis, whose picture appears here and who is one of the first members of the Omaha congregation. Not in a spirit of boasting but in all humility and for the abundant measure of grace the Lord has granted to Mrs. Spraktis, do we publish these facts: During the past ten years she was absent from services fourteen times, eight services being missed in one year while she was out of the city. During the past 18 years she was absent from the Lord's Table only four times, having a perfect record during this time for nine consecutive years. And may we state that her mode of transportation is the street-car. She has also regularly contributed her share toward the church during all these years. She is now nearly 74 years of age.

On February 4 Miss Gladys Hollenbach, an employee at the Omaha School, was received into membership of the Omaha congregation by the rite of confirmation. May she ever continue in the faith she publicly confessed on that day!

Mr. Carl Jourdan and Miss Lucile Linstrom of Omaha were united in marriage on March 9 at the home of the bride. Our best wishes and God's blessing! Mrs. Jourdan is studying the Catechism preparing for membership in the Lutheran Church.



Virginia Helen, infant daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Woertink of Sheldon, Iowa, was baptized in the name of the Triune God at Sioux City on February 25.

As the warmer weather will soon be here, we hope for an increase in attendance at the various preaching-stations, although we are glad to say that the attendance generally was better than in former years. E. M.

**Minneapolis Mission.**—At the Faribault School Miss Florence Sabins, teacher of domestic science at the school, assists us every Saturday. She teaches the little ones, eleven of them, the beautiful stories from the Bible and also some prayers. She was confirmed by



Rev. W. Ferber several years ago and is a member of our Faribault group. We surely appreciate her help and pray that God may richly reward her for her work of love. In the accompanying picture you see her with seven of her class. J. L. S.

**Mission for Blind and Deaf.**—Before his death, in January, Mr. John Geary, our deaf-blind friend, gave us \$54.01 for our work among the deaf and the blind. He also contributed to our Chicago City Mission. May many of our deaf and blind follow his good example!

Many readers of our *Herald for the Blind* are aged, crippled, or shut-ins. Recently we received the following letter from a matron of a home for aged in Maine: "Our blind friend to whom you sent your magazine died yesterday. I want to thank you for the service you rendered her. She spent many hours reading your magazine. It meant a great deal to her. Your work is one of great service. Again I thank you." O. C. S.

## BOARD OF MISSIONS TO DEAF AND BLIND

**Pastor H. A. Gamber, Chairman, 924 Margaret St., St. Paul, Minn.**

**Pastor E. H. Bertram, Secretary, 849 Armstrong Ave., St. Paul, Minn.**

**Mr. G. F. Kruse, Treasurer, 1495 Osceola Ave., St. Paul, Minn.**

**Pastor C. J. Hoffmann, Statistician, 1115 E. 19th St., Minneapolis, Minn.**

**Mr. J. P. Miller, 4541 Aldrich Ave., So., Minneapolis, Minn.**

## The Deaf Lutheran

Official Organ of Lutheran Church Missions for the Deaf  
Published Monthly

Twenty-five Cents per Annum in Advance

Send all subscriptions, changes of address, and cancellations to **Concordia Publishing House, 3558 S. Jefferson Ave., St. Louis, Mo.**

The DEAF LUTHERAN goes to press on the 12th of the month preceding month of issue.

Rev. O. C. Schroeder, B. D., Editor, 1648 E. 85th St., Chicago, Ill. Send all news items intended for publication in this monthly to Rev. E. Mappes, Associate Editor, 5070 Lake St., Omaha, Nebr.