

# The Deaf Lutheran

## A MISSIONARY MONTHLY

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### Give Me Thy Strength

Give me Thy strength for my day, Lord,  
That wheresoe'er I go,  
There shall no danger daunt me  
And I shall fear no foe;  
So shall no task o'ercome me,  
So shall no trial fret,  
So shall I walk unwearied  
Paths where my feet are set;  
So shall I find no burden  
Greater than I can bear,  
So shall I have a courage  
Equal to all my care;  
So shall no grief o'erwhelm me,  
So shall no wave o'erflow —  
Give me Thy strength for my day, Lord,  
Cover my weakness so.

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### The Whistle Blows

Did you ever have occasion to visit a factory during the noon hour when all the machinery is silent and the workers relax after the morning's grind? An attitude of listlessness and laziness is evident on every side. Here is a man munching his lunch, there one sipping his coffee, and another snatching a half hour's nap. This hour of relaxation and quiet is typical of the summer months in church-work. So many of the workers go to the country or mountains or seashore for a much-needed change and rest that the machinery of the Church becomes disorganized and practically comes to a standstill. It is vacation time, the noon hour of the Church.

But at one o'clock the whistle blows; the lounging men rouse themselves quickly and hurry to their accustomed places. There is a sudden hustle and bustle, a rushing hither and thither. Another blast of the whistle, and there is heard the clanking and grinding of chains and gears, the whirring of machinery. In less than one minute from the second blast

of the whistle every man is in his place, at work, and the whole factory is functioning efficiently and at top speed.

Fellow-Christians, summer, the Church's noon hour, is over. It is one o'clock, and the whistle is blowing. It is time to get back to work, and that promptly, without delay. As a Christian you are a worker in God's factory, and much great work is waiting to be done. It is of the greatest importance that every man and woman be in his or her place punctually, so that no precious time will be lost. The absence or tardiness of even one will hamper, yes, make impossible, efficient work in the whole factory. The King's business requires haste. It will not do for the workers gradually to drift back to their places and to permit things just to slide along until the snow flies. One o'clock, back to work!

There is much work to be done, and there is work for everybody. Yet there are still so many among us who do not seem to realize that in our church-work we are laboring for the Lord and that this is our most important task in life. So many are willing to enjoy blessings and leave the work for others to do. Let the motto of every one of us in this new season be: "Lord, what wilt Thou have me to do?"

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### Recognizing Sin

An article in a newspaper advises people to beware of poison-ivy. It suggests that "the sensible procedure is to learn to recognize the plant and then to keep away from it."

What a changed world this would be if people recognized sin and then were wise enough to keep away from it! How many consequences thus would be avoided!

## Studies in Luther's Catechism

### THE SECOND ARTICLE

*"Jesus Christ — Descended into Hell"*

We have learned how Jesus humbled Himself and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross. We saw only shame and sorrow and suffering. But now we shall see glory and majesty. This is manifested first by His descent into hell.

#### The Bible Teaches Christ's Going Down into Hell

In 1 Pet. 3:18, 19 we read: "Christ was put to death in the flesh but quickened by the Spirit, by which also He went and preached unto the spirits in prison." The enemies put Him to death, but on Easter Day He was quickened, that is, He was raised again to life. But before He showed Himself to His disciples and friends, He went to the spirits in prison. This prison is hell. Peter writes: "The angels that sinned God cast down to hell and delivered them into chains of darkness, to be reserved unto Judgment," 2 Pet. 2:4. The devils are in this prison, as also the souls of those who died in unbelief, as the people who lived in the days of Noah. To these spirits in hell Jesus went.

#### He Went Down into Hell Not to Suffer

Jesus suffered the pains of hell for us on the cross. In 2 Thess. 8:5 we read: "They that obey not the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of His power." On the cross Jesus had to suffer this. God left Him alone, without His presence and power, in utter darkness and suffering, and Jesus therefore cried out, "My God, My God, why hast Thou forsaken Me?" He suffered the pains of hell on the cross and need suffer no more. "It is finished!" He exclaimed when He gave up His ghost.

#### He Went Down into Hell to Preach

Peter says that Jesus went and preached unto the spirits in prison. That does not mean that He preached forgiveness and salvation to these spirits in hell. Read the story of the rich man and Lazarus in Luke 16. This chapter shows that there is no chance for a man in hell

to get even a drop of water, much less the living waters of salvation. It is an everlasting punishment, as Jesus says in Matt. 25:46. Do not think that you and I will get another chance after death.

What, then, did Jesus preach in hell? In Col. 2:15 Paul writes: "Having spoiled principalities and powers, He made a show of them openly, triumphing over them." These principalities and powers are the devil and his mighty angels. Jesus has overcome them, and as the victor He went and preached to the spirits in prison of His triumph over sin and death and devil and of the Judgment to come.

#### Rejoice in Your Savior who Descended into Hell

Yes, rejoice. Imagine your Savior marching through the gates of hell with the spoils of victory while the devil and his angels and all who died in unbelief fear and tremble. The victory is won. Devil and hell are defeated. Our salvation is finished and sure. Hallelujah!

J. L. S.

## THE BREAD OF LIFE

### Bible-Study for September

*"I gave My back to the smiters and My cheeks to them that plucked off the hair; I hid not My face from shame and spitting," Is. 50:6*

**Bible-Lesson: Mark 15:16-19**

*"And the soldiers led Him away into the hall called Praetorium; and they called together the whole band. And they clothed Him with purple and platted a crown of thorns and put it about His head and began to salute Him, Hail, King of the Jews! And they smote Him on the head with a reed and did spit upon Him and, bowing their knees, worshiped Him."*

Pilate finally yielded to the demands of the people to crucify Jesus, although he was convinced of Jesus' innocence. Instead of releasing Jesus, the Innocent One, he condemned Jesus to be crucified and released the murderer Barabbas. This he did, not to do justice, but to content (satisfy) the people, whose hearts were filled with hatred against Jesus.

When Jesus had been scourged (whipped), the soldiers of the governor took Him and led Him into the hall called Praetorium, the courtyard of the palace. And the whole band of soldiers, numbering about six hundred men,

gathered around Jesus and began to mock and abuse Him. The soldiers remembered that Jesus had spoken of Himself as the King of the Jews. Therefore they removed His clothing and put on Him a purple robe, resembling the garments worn by kings. Then they made a crown of thorns and placed it upon His head to represent the crown of gold worn by earthly rulers. And they bowed their knees before Him and mocked Him and began to salute Him, saying, "Hail, King of the Jews!" Others took a reed and struck Him on the head, driving the crown of thorns deeper into His flesh; others spit upon Him; still others bowed their knees in mocking worship.

"I gave My back to the smiters and My cheeks to them that plucked off the hair; I hid not My face from shame and spitting," Is. 50:6. These words of the Savior, spoken through His prophet, were here fulfilled to the letter. And when you, my friend, behold Jesus in His misery and shame which He had to endure, remember that He had to suffer these things to redeem you. God would have laid this punishment upon you if Jesus had not suffered it for you. Let this saving truth take hold of your heart that Jesus has redeemed you and that for Jesus' sake God will show you nothing but goodness and mercy in time and eternity. Bow your knees before Him in true faith and thank Him for the salvation which He has so freely given you. E. EN.

### IN THE EDITOR'S MAIL

*Minneapolis Mission.*—July 14 Bonnie Lee, sister of Lorraine Neil, who is a member of our Tuesday class in the Minneapolis school, and her cousin, Robert Norman Romfo, were baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins. And July 28 Beverly Jane, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Theodore Johnson, was laid into the arms of Jesus, her Savior, by Holy Baptism. May God keep them in His grace unto life everlasting!

August 6 Rolsy A. Folland and Eva Conley were united in holy marriage in the pastor's home. May their home be a home where Jesus loves to dwell! May God's abundant blessings be and abide with them!

J. L. S.

*Duluth-Superior Field.*—In the picture are members of the confirmation class at the Devils Lake, N. Dak., school. They made their vow on Sunday, May 12. The small boy and girl were baptized.

On Saturday, June 15, Arthur Anderson of Makoti and Miss Ella V. Brodehl of Kramer, N. Dak., were united in holy wedlock. The wedding took place in



the Lutheran church at Upham, N. Dak. Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Anderson plan to live in Makoti for the present. From Makoti they intend to attend services in Minot, 45 miles away. May we see their faces frequently!

On Saturday, July 6, funeral rites were conducted for Richard George Walline, a former member of the Duluth-Superior mission, who had passed away in Detroit, Mich. May God console his widow, who is a communicant member of our Detroit congregation!

W. F.

*Omaha, Nebr.*—A number of sick among the membership and vacations spent away from home helped to decrease the church attendance in Omaha and other stations during the summer. With September here, we again hope for a normal attendance everywhere and renewed activity in all church-work.

The doors of our State schools at Omaha and Council Bluffs will open on September 9, and large classes of instruction at both schools are anticipated. We were happy to receive a great number of cards and letters from pupils during the summer months. All of them mentioned that they will be glad to come back to school and especially to attend the Lutheran instruction classes.

In order to show that our work at the State schools is appreciated not only by the pupils and their parents, but that also the authorities realize what wholesome effect Christian instruction has upon the children, I want to reprint a letter sent to the missionary at the close of last school-year by the principal of the Council Bluffs school: "School is just about over, tests have been given, and books are about ready to be put away. With the close of school, busy as the season is, comes time for inventory. In our inventory are hundreds of items, most of which we can put our hands on and count; but included in our inventory are some things which, though they cannot be counted, are nevertheless present. Among these intangible items are countless hours given by you to our boys and girls, hours spent in travel, preparation, and teaching. While we can never know the actual number of hours given by you to us, we do want you to know that they are deeply appreciated. Looking

back, it is gratifying to know that all our boys and girls had Sunday-school every Sunday and a service of worship as well. While we can never definitely know how much good was derived from these services, we hope that the inventory of our pupils, as the years pass, will number as treasured possessions some of your contributions. In behalf of the school I do want to say "Thank you" for all you have done in the past year. It is my hope that our pleasant relationship may be extended into the years to come." Signed: John G. Nace.

May God grant His help to keep the doors open and a welcome awaiting us in all the State schools for the deaf, so that through His grace His saving Word may be brought to many of these children for whom the Savior died! E. M.

*Southern California Mission.*—During the summer months all activities in Pilgrim Church of Los Angeles have been suspended, with the exception naturally of the weekly Sunday morning church service. In fall we hope to resume all our activities, meetings, and responsibilities with renewed zeal and ambition.

It is an old and, unfortunately, often true saying that, when people come to Southern California from other parts, they leave their church and Savior behind on the other side of the desert or hills. Our deaf friends seem to be the exception to this rule; for visitors from almost every part of the nation worshiped with Pilgrim Church during the past months. Among them were Billy Dickinson of Kansas City, Kans., William Hagerman of New York City, Guy Esterly of Colorado, Mr. and Mrs. Koberstein of Seattle, Wash., and Miss Buck of Oakland. Also our deaf-blind friend Charles Craig of Garden Grove, who came to attend the N. A. D. convention, worshiped with us on two Sundays. (Incidentally, a person not deaf and not knowing the pastor's connection with the deaf, after having attended the convention for some time, told the writer that this was the best-behaved and best-mannered convention this person had ever seen.)

On July 21 the Giver of all good things blessed Mr. and Mrs. D. Malone with a little daughter. May He also help them to raise and keep her His daughter during all her life!

May 31 the earthly remains of an aged and tired member of our Pasadena-Alhambra group were laid to rest, as a few days before God had called Mrs. Rosa August, aged 71 years, to Himself. Before her death Mrs. August lost her sight almost completely and also had the misfortune to fall and injure a hip seriously. Just two months later, on July 31, her daughter, Mrs. Raechel Dealy, was laid beside her. Twice before, within a few years, the angel of death had taken members of the August-Kenzy family. May God help the mourning ones to remember that "all things work together for good to them that love God"! G. F.

*Mission for Blind and Deaf.*—In the past few months we met several new deaf who moved into our territory from other districts where they had previously received service from our missionaries. Among them are Mr. and Mrs. Hanink of Michigan and Mr. and Mrs. Hauser of Minnesota. We welcome them.

Many of the readers of our publications for the

blind show their gratitude and interest by sending us the names of their blind friends. Among several others a reader of the *Herald* wrote to us last week: "There is a retired navy chaplain here who lost his sight and has just learned to read by the Moon system. I wish you would send him the *Lutheran Herald*, as I think he will be much pleased with it. I like the *Herald* the best of all the magazines that I have ever read." Every sincere Christian is deeply interested in leading others to Christ. May the readers of our magazine for the blind continue to cooperate in this manner in the future as they have in the past! O. C. S.

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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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