

The Deaf Lutheran

A MISSIONARY MONTHLY

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No. 2

Precious Savior

O Savior, precious Savior,
Whom yet unseen we love,
O name of might and favor,
All other names above,
We worship Thee, we bless Thee,
To Thee, O Christ, we sing;
We praise Thee and confess Thee
Our holy Lord and King.

O Bringer of salvation,
Who wondrously hast wrought
Thyself the revelation
Of love beyond our thought,
We worship Thee, we bless Thee,
To Thee, O Christ, we sing;
We praise Thee and confess Thee
Our gracious Lord and King.

In Thee all fulness dwelleth,
All grace and power divine;
The glory that excelleth,
O Son of God, is Thine.
We worship Thee, we bless Thee,
To Thee, O Christ, we sing;
We praise Thee and confess Thee
Our glorious Lord and King.

Oh, grant the consummation
Of this our song above
In endless adoration
And everlasting love!
Then shall we praise and bless Thee
Where perfect praises ring
And evermore confess Thee
Our Savior and our King.

Why Go to Church?

Edgar A. Guest said: "To say that I don't need the church is mere bravado. I needed it when my father died; I needed it when we were married and when our babies were taken from us, and I shall need it again sooner or later, and need it badly. I am in good health now, and I could, I suppose, get along very

nicely for a time without the aid of clergymen or choir or even prayer; but what sort of man is he who scorns and neglects and despises his best Friend until his hour of tribulation?"

Your conscience and reason tell you there is a God. This God has made Himself known in our Bible and commands you to worship and serve Him. He has commanded His Church to preach the Gospel to every creature, to all nations, Mark 16:15; Matt. 28:19, and says: "He that is of God heareth God's words," and: "He that heareth you [those who preach His Word] heareth Me, and he that despiseth you despiseth Me," John 8:47; Luke 10:16. If you do not attend church services, you disobey God, you hinder the progress of His kingdom, you become a wanderer from His fold and a slacker in His cause. Your wicked example will also tempt others to do likewise.

By God's Word faith, or new life, is begun, kept, and strengthened in you. Rom. 1:16: "The Gospel of Christ is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth." Rom. 10:17: "Faith cometh by hearing" of the Word of God. 1 Pet. 1:5: "Ye are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation." Without God's Word, faith, love, and all spiritual life will decline and finally be lost.

God has given His dear Son into suffering and death to save you from your sins. He has furthermore commanded His Church to tell you about your salvation. There is no greater sin than that of disrespecting your Maker. If you do not believe God's Word, you make Him a liar. 1 John 5:10 we read: "He that believeth not God hath made Him a liar because he believeth not the record that God gave of His Son."

If you say that you are able to please God

without attending the services in the church, you again make God a liar, for Heb. 10:24, 25 we read that we should "provoke [urge] one another unto love and good works, not forsaking [leaving] the assembling [coming together] of ourselves together."

Neglecting to attend church services is a sin against God, your Maker and Savior. It leads to everlasting death. For the salvation of your own soul and that of others you ought to attend services regularly. O. C. S.

Studies in Luther's Catechism

THE SECOND ARTICLE

"Jesus Christ Ascended into Heaven and Sitteth at the Right Hand of God the Father Almighty"

After Christ had risen from the dead, He was seen of His disciples forty days, and thus they were made sure that He who had died on the cross surely was risen from the dead. They all had seen the living Lord and boldly went out and preached this crucified and risen Savior, and they gladly went into prison and suffered stripes and death for it.

Jesus Ascended (Went Up) into Heaven

After forty days Jesus met His disciples on the Mount of Olives. He told them to wait for the promise of the Father, that is, the Holy Spirit, and then to go forth as His witnesses into all the world. And when He had spoken these things, while they beheld, He was taken up; and a cloud received Him out of their sight, Acts 1:4-12. His work of salvation was done.

The Ascended Jesus at the Right Hand of God

Jesus went up into heaven. That does not mean that He now is far away from us and no more with us. Many think so and therefore at times say, "We wish Jesus were still with us." Where is He? Mark writes: "He was received up into heaven and sat on the right hand of God," 16:19. God is a spirit; He has no flesh and bones and therefore no right hand as we have. The right hand of God is the power by which He made heaven and earth. Is. 48:13 we read: "Mine hand hath laid the foundation of the earth, and My right hand hath spanned the heavens." His right hand is His almighty power.

The Ascended Lord Still with Us

Where is the right hand of God? Surely not only in heaven. David says: "If I ascend up into heaven, Thou art there; if I make my bed in hell, behold, Thou art there. If I take the wings of the morning and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea, even there shall Thy hand lead me, and Thy right hand shall hold me," Ps. 139:8-10. God's right hand, or power, is everywhere. Therefore Jesus is not sitting in one place in heaven but is everywhere. Before He went up to heaven, He therefore said: "Lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world," Matt. 28:20.

The Ascended Jesus Rules over All Things

"He sitteth at the right hand of God." He sits upon the heavenly throne. He is the King of Glory and rules over all things in heaven and earth. Already as a child He had this power, but He did not make full use of it; but now "God has put all things under His feet and gave Him to be head over all things to the Church," Eph. 1:22. Mark the words "to the Church." He rules over all things in the interest and for the good of His Church.

Fear Not; Our Mighty Jesus Reigns

These days we read and hear so much of war in Europe. Oh, what will happen? Fear not, Jesus rules also today for the good of His Church. He will let nothing happen that will hurt His Church. Fear not! J. L. S.

THE BREAD OF LIFE

Bible-Study for February

"By His own blood He entered in once into the Holy Place, having obtained eternal redemption for us," Heb. 9:12

Bible-Lesson: Mark 15:38-41

"And the veil of the Temple was rent in twain from the top to the bottom. And when the centurion which stood over against Him saw that He so cried out and gave up the ghost, he said, Truly, this Man was the Son of God! There were also women looking on afar off; among whom was Mary Magdalene and Mary, the mother of James the Less and of Joses, and Salome, (who also, when He was in Galilee, followed Him, and ministered unto Him,) and many other women which came up with Him unto Jerusalem."

When Jesus died on the cross, the great, heavy veil (curtain) which hung in the Temple was torn into two parts from the top to the bottom. This veil separated the Holy Place from the Most Holy Place, the Holy of Holies, where the Ark of the Covenant with the mercy-seat was kept and where God had His dwelling. The Holy of Holies was shut off from view by the large, heavy curtain. No person was permitted to see this Most Holy Place in the Temple, much less enter into it, save the high priest, and he could do so only once a year, on the great Day of Atonement, to sprinkle the blood of atonement on the Ark of the Covenant. This heavy curtain, shutting off the Holy of Holies, constantly reminded the Jews of the fact that their sins separated them from their God and that they could not come into His presence unless atonement had been made for their sins by the shedding of blood.

When Jesus died, He shed His blood for the sins of the world and thereby obtained salvation for all men. As the way into the Holy of Holies in the Temple was opened when the curtain was torn in two, so now the way to God is open for every sinner through the atoning blood of Jesus. Now every sinner can come to God in Jesus' name and receive mercy and forgiveness. Friend, this way to God is also open for you. Only the blood of Jesus Christ, God's Son, can cleanse you from your sins and open the way to God and heaven for you.

And His blood can save because it is the blood of the Son of God, the Savior whom God had promised. The centurion, the Roman officer who had charge of the soldiers at the cross, realized this when he saw how Jesus died, for he exclaimed: "Truly, this Man was the Son of God!"

At the cross there also stood a number of women, disciples of Jesus, whose hearts were filled with love to Him and who had ministered unto Him when He was in Galilee. They had remained faithful to Him.

So let us who by God's grace have come to faith in Jesus remain faithful to Him all the days of our life and serve Him in willing obedience and love.

E. EN.

450 Preachers

"How does your church grow so fast?" one man asked the pastor of a church that had been small and now was getting to be large. He said: "It is because I have 450 preachers to help me."

"I didn't know that," said the man. "Who are they?"

The pastor explained: "When I preach the Gospel, about 450 people come to hear me. Then they go out and live as I preached. By their life they are preaching all week long, and they bring other people with them by their life and by their words. So you see, I have 450 preachers to help me."

How many preachers has your pastor to help him?

Where Is Hell?

A young fellow had been going around with others like himself who loved sin and did much sin. But this young fellow, by the grace of God, turned to God and began to think how he could save the friends with whom he had sinned. So he sent each of them little sheets and tracts and also talked to them. But they made fun of him. One day one of them said to him: "Look here, you don't even know where hell is, so how can you know there is one?" But the young fellow said: "I can tell you where hell is. Hell is at the end of a life without Jesus."

Three Pictures

A believer may see three pictures of himself in God's Word — what he was, what he is, and what he will be. A picture of his former condition he finds in Eph. 2:12: "At the time ye were without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel and strangers from the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world." His present position is described in 1 John 3:2: "Beloved, now are we the sons of God." His future glory is pictured in the same verse: "It doth not yet appear what we shall be; but we know that... we shall be like Him."

THE sinner must first be converted; then will follow a Christian life, which works like leaven in this world.

IN THE EDITOR'S MAIL

Minneapolis Mission. — Our children's Christmas service took place on the evening of Sunday, Dec. 29. Twenty-four children took part, children of deaf parents, deaf boys and girls of the Minneapolis School and also of the Faribault State School. All sang the praises of God for the gift of His Son, the best Christmas gift in all the world. Again our church was filled, about seventy-five deaf and fifty hearing friends attending. Pastor Beyer kindly assisted us. Every boy and girl received candy and oranges and a wooden plaque with these words in gold: "The Lord is my Shepherd." Mr. Erxleben, teacher of Immanuel School, played the Christmas carols for us. May this Christmas joy ever remain in our hearts!

In the morning service of Dec. 29 the following officers were installed for 1941: President, Lyle M. Hansen; Vice-President, Victor Trost; Secretary, Clarence Gruber; Treasurer, Elton Koch; Trustees, Messrs. Engh and Savage; Auditors, Messrs. P. Kopprasch and J. Stauber. May God give them His Holy Spirit and wisdom from on high!

The ladies' aid brought Christmas cheer to the sick in Minneapolis and to the patients in the Anoka State Hospital by sending them candy and oranges. The pastor visited and told them of the Savior born also for them and then handed them the gift from the ladies' aid. — For 1941 the aid elected the following officers: President, Mrs. Ivar Carlson; Vice-President, Mrs. Erik Engh; Secretary, Mrs. Nona Bauer; Treasurer, Mrs. M. Johnson; Committee for Visiting the Sick: Mrs. I. Carlson, Mrs. E. Engh, and Mrs. Anna Coffmann. May God also bless their work in the church unto the glory of His name. J. L. S.

Omaha, Nebr. — The wedding of Mr. Harold Nord of Blaine, Kansas, and Miss Nadeen Dey, member of our Omaha congregation, took place at Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Omaha on the afternoon of December 21. Miss Dey was an employee at the Omaha school before her marriage. The young couple are making their home near Blaine, Kansas, on a farm. God bless your wedded life and grant you much happiness!

Another wedding was that of Mr. Emiel Schultz and Miss Dorothy McKenzie, both of our Omaha congregation. They were married on the evening of January 9 at the parsonage. Both had been working in Omaha, but Mr. Schultz was transferred to Wichita, Kansas, where he is employed by the Barnett and Ramel Optical Co. We certainly wish Mr. and Mrs. Schultz much success in their new surroundings and hope they will keep us informed about themselves. God be with you and keep you in the faith in His Word!

Thus we had to bid farewell to three young people of our congregation within three weeks' time. We hope however that they will always take an interest in their Lutheran Church wherever they may reside.

New officers of our Omaha congregation elected on January 2 are the following: President, Nick Petersen; Secretary, Earl Petersen; Treasurer, Oscar Treuke; Auditors, Hans Neujahr and Henry Hoss; Elders, Teddy Andersen (one year) and Earl Petersen (two years); Trustees, Henry Hoss (one year), Hans Neu-

jahr (two years), and Nick Petersen (three years). These officers were installed on Sunday, January 5.

On December 16 a Christmas treat was given all the Lutheran pupils of the Omaha school by the Junior and Senior Walther Leagues of First Lutheran Church (Rev. L. Acker, pastor). Each child received a bag of candy and a small booklet of Bible-stories and a Bedtime Prayer Reminder, a card with the picture of Jesus the Good Shepherd and, below, an illuminated cross, which is visible in the dark. The children showed their appreciation by sending a letter of thanks to the Walther Leagues with the signatures of all the pupils in the Lutheran classes. E. M.

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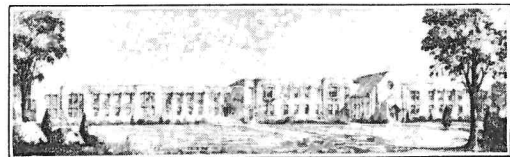
Minister to the Deaf and the Blind

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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