

The Deaf Lutheran

A MISSIONARY MONTHLY

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of Missouri, Ohio, and Other States*

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No. 3

Day by Day with Jesus

Day by day with Jesus
All my life I spend;
For He is my Savior
And my truest Friend.

Day by day with Jesus,
God's dear will I do;
If my Lord was faithful,
Should I not be true?

Day by day with Jesus,
Sin I ever flee;
How can I be evil
Since He died for me?

Day by day with Jesus,
Life is full of praise;
For His endless mercy
Rests on all my ways.

Day by day with Jesus,
I am truly blest;
Every hour is happy;
Peace I have and rest.

Day by day with Jesus
Till life's end is come.
Then my Lord will take me
To my heavenly home.

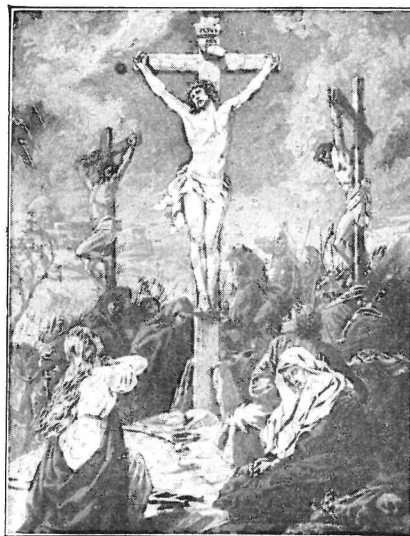
JOHN THEODORE MUELLER

The Great Deliverer

If you lay imprisoned in some great fortress and one who loved you went forth to try to rescue you and fell and died fighting, you would cherish the memory of your friend's valiant effort on your behalf; but you would still remain in chains, undelivered. So would it have been with those whom Christ came to save if He had not risen; those for whom He gave His life would have been undelivered. But Christ has conquered death and holds in His hands the keys of the grave.

Lent

During the six weeks before Easter, Christians everywhere strive more earnestly to grow in the knowledge of the love of God in Christ Jesus and the only way to salvation. All men are in need of salvation. The prophet Isaiah confessed many years ago: "All we, like sheep, have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way"; and St. Paul



teaches: "All have sinned and come short of the glory of God," Rom. 3:23.

Since you are unable to save yourself, God in His infinite mercy has provided for your salvation. St. Peter declares: "For Christ also hath once suffered for sins, the Just for the unjust, that He might bring us to God," 1 Pet. 3:18. Likewise St. Paul tells us: "He [God] made Him [Jesus] to be sin for us who knew no sin, that we might be made the righteousness of God in Him," 2 Cor. 5:21.

Turn, therefore, from your sin and "believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved and thy house," Acts 16:31. During Lent especially confess Christ's name and then lead a godly life to His glory. O. C. S.

Oklahoma City Pastor Ordained

After having received a regular call from our Board of Missions to the Deaf and Blind, Rev. Floyd Possehl, missionary to the deaf at Oklahoma City, was ordained in a special service held at Zion Lutheran Church in Oklahoma City on the evening of January 15. The Rev. John F. Schulz, pastor of Zion Lutheran Congregation, officiated at the ordination, and Rev. E. Mappes of Omaha delivered the sermon verbally and in signs and also interpreted the other part of the service for the deaf present at the service. Rev. Mappes based his remarks on 1 Thess. 5:12, 13, stressing the following two points: "God's advice and admonition to church-members regarding their attitude towards their pastor and God's expectations of His servant, the pastor."

Seven other pastors from Oklahoma City and neighboring towns assisted at the ordination. The church was filled to capacity and about thirty deaf friends attended. This fine attendance showed that this faithful and energetic missionary, Rev. Possehl, is held in high esteem by his colleagues in the office of the ministry and by all the Lutherans in this city. It was a day of rejoicing for the deaf members of the Oklahoma City congregation to see their pastor ordained and to know that he whom they love will continue as their spiritual leader and shepherd in the Lord.

May God grant rich blessings upon both shepherd and flock in the future, as He has in the past, and through the preaching of His Word may many more deaf in this large mission-field be brought to the saving knowledge of Jesus Christ, the Savior. E. M.

"WHY, Jim, old boy, I hear you joined the church and quit your happy life."

"No; I started my happy life and quit my foolishness," said Jim.

Studies in Luther's Catechism

THE SECOND ARTICLE

"Jesus Christ . . . Ascended into Heaven"

Jesus said to His disciples: "Where I am, there shall also My servant be," John 12:26. And where is He? "He ascended into heaven and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty." The meaning of these words we learned to know in our last study. And this is full of comfort for us Christians, as we shall see.

Jesus Christ is Gone to Prepare a Place for Us

When His last hour was near, Jesus said to His disciples: "I go to prepare a place for you," John 14:2. He has gone before us, as a father goes and prepares a new place or home for his family. For a long time they had been living in a poor house. Mother and children are not sad because the father has gone away. No; they rejoice, for he is preparing a beautiful home for them. So we are living in a world of trouble and sorrow, of hatred and jealousy, of fightings and wars, and our dear Lord and Savior is gone to prepare a beautiful place for us in heaven. No, we are not sad because He went away, but we rejoice. For He also said: "If I go to prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you unto Myself, that where I am, there ye may be also," John 14:3.

Jesus Is Gone and Still Prays for Us

But will He really take us to Himself into heaven? We daily sin much and indeed deserve nothing but punishment. It is true; but fear not. "He is even at the right hand of God who also maketh intercession [prayer] for us," Rom. 8:34. He intercedes; that means, He steps between God and us, holds up His pierced hands for us, and cries: "Mercy, mercy! Forgive, forgive!" Therefore John in the second chapter of his First Epistle writes: "If any man sin, we have an Advocate (lawyer) with the Father, Jesus Christ the Righteous." He who shed His blood on the cross for our sins and then arose again for our forgiveness now is with the Father, praying for you and me. No, we cannot be lost!

"Be of Good Cheer," Says the Ascended Jesus

Indeed, you and I can be of good cheer. Jesus is gone to heaven to be with us always and to rule over all things for His Church and to lead it to glory. He is there also to prepare a place for us and will come again and take us to Himself. And while we are in this wicked world, He always prays for us at the right hand of God. Oh, be of good cheer!

J. L. S.

THE BREAD OF LIFE**Bible-Study for March**

"Christ died for our sins, according to the Scriptures," 1 Cor. 15:3

Bible-Lesson: Mark 15:42-47

"And now when the even was come, because it was the Preparation, that is, the day before the Sabbath, Joseph of Arimathea, an honorable councilor, which also waited for the kingdom of God, came and went in boldly unto Pilate and craved the body of Jesus. And Pilate marveled if He were already dead; and calling unto him the centurion, he asked him whether He had been any while dead. And when he knew it of the centurion, he gave the body to Joseph. And he bought fine linen and took Him down and wrapped Him in the linen and laid Him in a sepulcher which was hewn out of a rock and rolled a stone unto the door of the sepulcher. And Mary Magdalene and Mary, the mother of Jesus, beheld where He was laid."

Jesus died on the cross on Friday afternoon, about three o'clock. This was the day before the Sabbath and was called the Day of Preparation. On this day the people made ready for the Sabbath, which began at sunset on Friday and on which they had to rest according to the Law. Jesus was dead. His body could not remain on the cross over the Sabbath. The disciples who had promised to remain with Him had all forsaken Him. And the Sabbath was close at hand. Who was to bury Him?

It was Joseph of Arimathea who then went to Pilate and asked permission to take the body of Jesus and bury it. Joseph was a disciple of Jesus. For fear of the Jews, however, he had not made known his faith until now. He was also a member of the Jewish Council which had condemned Jesus to death, but he had not consented to their wicked deed. Now that Jesus was dead, he could no longer hide his faith. Boldly he went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. He meant to say:

"Jesus is my Savior. I love Him. He is mine, and I am His." He was no longer ashamed to confess his faith. So let us boldly confess our faith in Jesus, even in the face of danger and opposition.

When Joseph asked for the body of Jesus, Pilate marveled (wondered) if He were already dead. He therefore called the centurion (captain) who was at the cross. And when he learned from him that Jesus was dead, he gave the body to Joseph.

Joseph, together with Nicodemus, the Pharisee who had come to Jesus by night, took Jesus' body down from the cross and wrapped it in fine linen cloth with the spices which Nicodemus had brought. Then they laid the body in a new sepulcher (grave) which was hewn (cut) out of a rock. And they closed the grave by rolling a stone before the door.

Joseph and Nicodemus were not alone in this work of love. Several women, among them Mary Magdalene and Mary, the mother of Jesus, were with them at the grave. They had come to see where His body was laid to rest.

This Jesus laid into the grave on Good Friday is our Savior. He was laid into the grave for us, and therefore the grave no longer need fill us with fear and terror. For us Christians it is a place of rest, where we shall sleep in peace until our Savior wakes us on the Great Resurrection Day.

E. EN.

IN THE EDITOR'S MAIL

Minneapolis Mission.—An old member of our mission, Robert Kuske of Arlington, Minnesota, passed away on Friday, December 13, after a few weeks' illness. November 27 the pastor was there and conducted a service in the Kuske home. In this service Mr. and Mrs. Kuske partook of the Lord's Supper. Thus, shortly before his death, Jesus sealed to him the forgiveness of all his sins with His body and blood. December 3, ten days before his death, the Kuskes were married twenty-five years. Monday, December 16, funeral services were held in Arlington, the pastor basing his remarks on Luke 2:28-31. He died at the age of 78 years, 6 months, and 27 days. Our comfort is that he knew, and believed in, Jesus, the only Savior. John writes: "Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth," Rev. 14:13. Will your death be such a blessed death? May God grant it! J. L. S.

Omaha, Nebraska.—Mrs. Albert Johnson, one of our Omaha members, passed away on February 3 at a

hospital in Oakland, Nebraska. She had been suffering from a heart ailment and other complications for some time. After she had gone to the home of her parents, near Oakland, on December 19 in order to be under constant care of her physician and to be given the proper rest, the Lord willed that she should not return to her own home in Omaha; but He took her to the heavenly mansions, where there is peace and rest forever for a true believer.

Mrs. Johnson attended the Omaha School for the Deaf, and since she was seven years old, she attended religious-instruction classes with the present missionary. She was confirmed in May, 1931. Since June 4, 1939, the day of her marriage, she lived in Omaha and attended services regularly with her husband unless sickness prevented. She was an active member of our ladies' aid society. Mrs. Johnson reached the age of 24 years, and her early death was a shock to her husband, parents, brother, and sister, and to her many other relatives and friends. May the Lord comfort the bereaved with the thought and assurance that she is now safe in the arms of the Savior in whom she believed.

Funeral services were conducted at St. John's Lutheran Church near Oakland. Her pastor and the Rev. John Harms of the local congregation both delivered short addresses, and burial took place in the Lutheran cemetery adjoining the church-grounds.

One of our oldest deaf friends, Mr. O. W. Brown, 85 years of age, of Fonda, Iowa, was taken from this vale of tears on February 9 and, as we firmly believe, is now at rest with his dear Lord and Savior. Funeral services were conducted on February 12 at the home of his son, Mr. William Brown near Fonda, the undersigned officiating. Mr. Brown attended services quite regularly at Fort Dodge, Iowa. On October 13, 1940, he was still able to make the trip to Fort Dodge with his son, and he showed a lively interest in the preaching of God's Word. During the following months, however, he gradually became weaker, until the Lord finally relieved him of all earthly suffering.

The third anniversary of the dedication of our church in Omaha was celebrated on February 20 with a family dinner and program. Almost all members of the congregation turned out, and some brought friends. It will be an evening long to be remembered. We ask God for His continued blessings upon our congregation and its work in the future. E. M.

Mission for Blind and Deaf.—Mrs. E. Dolan, a resident of the Illinois Home for the Deaf, met with an automobile accident in January. We called on her at the Evanston Hospital and found her in good spirits, trusting in the Lord. The nurse informed us that Mrs. Dolan would be able to return to the Home shortly.

Following are some excerpts from recent letters received from readers of our publications for the blind:

From *Tennessee*: "I enjoy the *Messenger* very much. It has been more beneficial and companionable than I could ever say."

From *Missouri*: "Mother wishes to thank you for the *Herald*. It helps her in many ways and the spiritual guidance is a never-ending comfort.

From *Pennsylvania*: "The *Lutheran Messenger* arrived today. I love that wonderful magazine and hope I may continue reading it for many years.

From *California*: "Your *Herald* is worth much to me. I am so grateful to have it coming regularly. Please continue sending it."

From *Illinois*: "I have received the *Lutheran Herald* for several years and enjoyed reading it greatly. I wish to thank you. It is a source of comfort to all who read it, and the good that it is doing will not go unrewarded." O. C. S.

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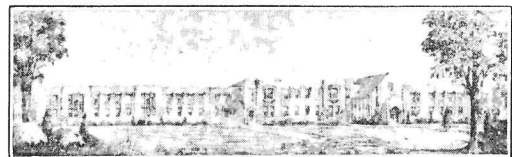
Minister to the Deaf and the Blind

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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