

The Deaf Lutheran

A MISSIONARY MONTHLY

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The Cross Our Protection

The prairie-fire is a never-to-be-forgotten sight. If the wind is blowing very strongly, the prairie-fire will travel faster than a horse can gallop. Those who have settled on the prairies see the devouring flames come, and they know they cannot run away from them. What do they do? They burn a large space in the vicinity of their home; in a short time a very large piece of ground is absolutely cleared and blackened. Then they go and stand on the ground where the fire has already been. When the great devouring prairie-fire comes up, it stops there; it can go no farther—there is nothing to burn.

There is one place of safety for us. It is where the fire has already been. That is the cross on Calvary, the cross of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Your Easter

Friend, in your eager toil and strife

Have you crucified the Lord of life?

Have you laid the loving Christ away

In the dust of a sordid yesterday?

Busy there in the market-place,

Have you long forgot His heavenly face?

Are His tender words all lost to you?

Has your heart grown cold to His love so true?

'Tis Easter, friend; lift up your eyes

And bid the Christ for you arise;

Make this the resurrection day

When in your heart He comes to stay;

Bid faith arise from out the gloom

Where you have marked His dusty tomb;

Make Him your Guest, your Friend, your Guide;

So shall His joy with you abide.

FRANCES M. MORTON in *Sunday-School Times*

What does Easter Mean to You?

To the vast majority of men Easter means nothing. It is to them merely a seasonal festival indicative of the arrival of spring and an opportunity for a display of fashionable finery. To us it means that He who bore our sins on



the cross has come forth from the grave, bearing in His hands our victory over sin, death, and hell. For us the significance of the Easter Festival is summed up in the words "If Christ be not raised, your faith is vain, ye are yet in your sins." With jubilant hearts we gather around the open tomb. "Now is Christ risen

from the dead and become the First-fruits of them that slept." In the face of the wondrous fact of His resurrection all petty trials and troubles of life fade, and even the burdened and heavy-hearted can join in the victorious jubilation of the children of God. In this spirit we shall again celebrate the Easter Festival. Sel.

Studies in Luther's Catechism

THE SECOND ARTICLE

"From thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead"

Jesus has gone up to heaven and there rules over all things at the right hand of God, prepares a place for us, and prays for us. And, O joy, when He spoke of His going away into heaven He also said: "I will come again and receive you unto Myself," John 14:3.

Jesus Will Come Again

So often Jesus spoke of His second coming. In Matt. 25:31 He says: "The Son of Man shall come in His glory and all the holy angels with Him; then shall He sit upon the throne of His glory." As Jesus was ascending into heaven and the disciples steadfastly looked toward heaven, behold, two angels stood by them and said: "This same Jesus which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen Him go into heaven," Acts 1:11. In one of his sermons Peter says: "God shall send Jesus Christ," Acts 3:20; and in his First Epistle to the Thessalonians, Paul writes: "The Lord Himself shall descend from heaven," 1 Thess. 4:16; and to his young friend Timothy he writes of "the appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ," 1 Tim. 6:14. Take your Bible, and while you are reading it, write down every verse which speaks of Christ's second coming, and you will be surprised to find how often the Bible speaks of it. Therefore in every service we confess in the words of our Creed: "From thence He shall come."

Many Will Not Believe It

Many people will not believe that Jesus will come again. They tell us: "Long ago the disciples said, 'Little children, it is the last time' (1 John 2:18) and, 'The end of all things

is at hand' (1 Pet. 4:7), and the world still stands. Christians again and again have told us: 'Jesus is coming again. Are you ready?' but Jesus has not yet come. It is all foolishness." When people say this, the Bible again is fulfilled. It speaks of these people in 2 Pet. 3:3,4, saying: "There shall come in the Last Days scoffers, walking after their own lusts [wishes] and saying, Where is the promise of His coming? For since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as they were from the beginning of the creation." And why does Jesus let us wait so long for His coming again? Peter answers: "The Lord is not slack [slow] concerning His promise, as some men count slackness [slowness], but is long-suffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish [be lost], but that all should come to repentance," 2 Pet. 3:9. Jesus surely will come again. He waits with His coming because He wants people to turn to Him and be saved, before He comes again.

Wait for His Coming Again

Yes, He will come again. Wait for Him, trusting in Him who suffered and died for you on Good Friday and rose again on Easter Sunday. Then you will be ready when He comes again to receive you unto Himself. May God in His mercy grant it! J. L. S.

THE BREAD OF LIFE

Bible-Study for April

"Jesus was delivered for our offenses and was raised again for our justification." Rom. 4:25

Bible-Lesson: Mark 16:1-8

"And when the Sabbath was past, Mary Magdalene and Mary, the mother of James, and Salome, had bought sweet spices that they might come and anoint Him. And very early in the morning, the first day of the week, they came unto the sepulcher at the rising of the sun. And they said among themselves, Who shall roll us away the stone from the door of the sepulcher? And when they looked, they saw that the stone was rolled away; for it was very great. And entering into the sepulcher, they saw a young man sitting on the right side, clothed in a long white garment; and they were affrighted. And he saith unto them, Be not affrighted. Ye seek Jesus of Nazareth, which was crucified; He is risen; He is not here; behold the place where they laid Him. But go your way, tell His disciples and Peter that He goeth

before you into Galilee; there shall ye see Him, as He said unto you. And they went out quickly and fled from the sepulcher, for they trembled and were amazed; neither said they anything to any man, for they were afraid."

On Good Friday afternoon, shortly before the Sabbath began, Joseph and Nicodemus had taken the body of Jesus from the cross and laid it into the grave. Several women, disciples of Jesus, had accompanied them to watch where His body was laid. But the Sabbath was about to begin; so they had to return to their homes and rest, according to the Law. There was not enough time on Friday afternoon to anoint the body of Jesus properly. That work of love had to wait until the Sabbath was ended. So Joseph and Nicodemus closed the grave with a large stone, and all the disciples returned to the city to keep the Sabbath.

Early on Sunday morning, before the sun had risen, the women were on their way to the grave to anoint the body of Jesus. They had bought the necessary spices and perfumes the night before. As they walked toward the grave they remembered that it had been closed with a large stone, and they wondered who would help them roll away the stone.

When they were still at some distance from the grave, however, they looked and saw that the stone was rolled away. The grave was open! The women were filled with fear at the sight of the open grave. One of them, Mary Magdalene, at once ran back to the city to tell the disciples that the body of Jesus had been stolen. Some of the women, however, entered the grave, but they did not find Jesus. Instead they saw there a young man sitting on the right side, clothed in a long white garment. It was an angel of the Lord. His presence frightened the women. Sinful human beings cannot but tremble at the sight of God's holy angels. But the angel had a message for them which was to remove all their fears. It was a message which brings peace and joy to sinners everywhere, also to you and to me. The angel said: "Be not affrighted [afraid]. Ye seek Jesus of Nazareth, which was crucified; He is risen; He is not here; behold the place where they laid Him." What a glorious message of peace and hope!

The message "He is risen" was not in-

tended for these few women alone. The angel instructed them to go and "tell His disciples and Peter." What joy must have been theirs after those hours and days of indescribable sorrow and sadness which had come upon them through Jesus' death, when once they understood and believed this message: "He is risen," and when they saw Him face to face — their Lord and Savior.

"He is risen," also for you, my friend. Out of His grave there has come life and joy and salvation for you, for all sinners. For He was delivered (put to death) for our offenses (sins) and was raised again for our justification.

E. EN.

IN THE EDITOR'S MAIL

South Dakota. — On December 21, 1940, our Yankton congregation received Mr. and Mrs. Guy Sylliasen into communicant membership. After diligent study of the chief teachings of the Bible they showed to the members present their faith and understanding and were confirmed. We pray that they may grow in wisdom and knowledge until the day of their perfect salvation in heaven.

Sunday, December 29, 1940, the infant son of Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Van Dyk was baptized after the regular service in Sioux Falls. May the Holy Spirit continue that work which He has begun in the heart and soul of this child!

We are sorry to announce that the infant child of Mr. and Mrs. Karl Karlen, born a short time ago, died a few days after birth. We extend our sympathy to the parents, with the comfort and strength of God's Word, in their sorrow.

The weekly Wednesday evening Bible class in Sioux Falls is being used this year as a substitute for Lenten services. During the Lenten season we are studying the prophecies of the suffering and death of the Savior. These meetings are visibly producing a better knowledge and stronger faith among our deaf to meet any troubles or difficulties which may result from the present world crisis. We are happy to see the confidence and trust of our deaf, which looks to the future with faith and not fear.

A. T. JONAS

Omaha, Nebraska. — Mr. Roy Rose, a communicant member of our Boone, Iowa, congregation, submitted to an operation for rupture on February 28. At this writing he is still at the hospital but is improving. We hope he will soon be with us at services again.

Mrs. Geo. Hagen of Ames, Iowa, and Mrs. Roy Rose of Ogden, Iowa, have begun instruction in the Catechism and are doing much of the work by correspondence. A number of other adult deaf are preparing for confirmation at the various preaching-stations.

Mrs. Mary Moellering, a sincere and faithful member of our Omaha congregation, has been ill all Winter and unable to attend services; however, she is improving

steadily, and when warm weather comes, she hopes to occupy her usual place in the church service.

Sixteen pupils from the Council Bluffs, Iowa, school and five from the Omaha school are preparing for confirmation, which will be held in Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Omaha on May 4. 89 pupils attend our various instruction classes at Council Bluffs and 42 at the Omaha school. E. M.

St. Paul Mission.—In and near Waterloo, Iowa, several Lutheran deaf live, some of whom Pastor Mappes confirmed while they were at the Iowa State School for the Deaf. Desiring to keep these young people with our Church, we have begun services in Waterloo; in each of the first two services 15 deaf attended. We plan to serve them regularly.

Mr. Wm. Peterson and Miss Marion Schaible were united in marriage in Calvary Chapel on October 19. May Jesus be their permanent House Guest, and may they be frequent visitors in His house also!

On February 3 Mr. and Mrs. Melvin Odeen of Black River Falls, Wis., became the parents of a baby girl. Because Dolores Jean was not quite well, she was baptized by a local Lutheran pastor, Rev. A. M. Romstad, on February 4. Two days later God took the little girl to Himself again. She was buried on February 6 by Pastor Romstad. We extend our deep sympathy to Mr. and Mrs. Odeen. May God comfort them and heal their wounded hearts! "The Lord gave, and the Lord hath taken away; blessed be the name of the Lord," Job 1:21.

In the evening of January 12 Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Hansen of St. Paul were riding in their car with four other deaf people and a small daughter of one of the other ladies. Less than a mile from our church, owing probably to blinding head-lights and the very icy condition of the street, the car skidded and crashed into a tree. All occupants were injured and required medical care. Mrs. Hansen suffered a broken back and other injuries, which finally caused her death on March 1.

During the seven weeks she was in two hospitals we had frequent opportunities to visit her and to comfort and cheer her with the Word of God and the assurance of the forgiveness of her sins which she received by partaking of the Lord's Supper.

She passed away rather unexpectedly at a time when she seemed to be improving, at the relatively young age of 44 years. Surely not one of us could guess that God would call Mrs. Hansen at so early an age. What a solemn warning to those who are neglecting the house of God and the Word of God! Let each of us therefore say with the Christian poet, "Who knows how near my end may be?" Funeral services were conducted on March 6.

My God, for Jesus' sake I pray
Thy peace may bless my dying day.

Mrs. N. E. Olson, who is hard of hearing, and who formerly lived in St. Paul and attended our services there a number of times, passed away in Bismarck, N. Dak., on March 1. She was given a Christian burial on March 4. J. A. C. B.

Mission for Blind and Deaf.—Mr. A. Mertz, a deaf-blind Lutheran living in Cook County, has been ill for some time. In the past month he has recovered some-

what and is now better able to receive the comforts of our blessed religion. At our last visit he was very happy to be reminded of the hopeful and comforting Bible-truths which we all need to know. We wish him a complete recovery.

At times we do not hear from certain of the readers of our Lutheran periodicals for the blind for years, and then we receive a communication such as this:

"Mr. V. passed away last month. Your magazine was a real blessing to him, as I know it has been to others. I wish to thank you for all the good, enjoyment, and pleasure it brought him while he lived."

O. C. S.

Lutheran Ministers to the Deaf

Rev. A. Boll, 192 Hewes St., Brooklyn, N. Y.
Rev. N. E. Borchardt, 11719 Evanston Ave., Detroit, Mich.
Rev. E. Scheibert, 1400 N. Ridgeway Ave., Chicago, Ill.
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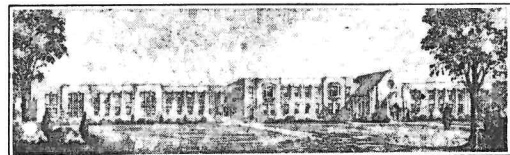
Minister to the Deaf and the Blind

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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