

The Deaf Lutheran

A MISSIONARY MONTHLY

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For Ascension Day

"Where I am, there shall also My servant be." John 12:26

Where Jesus has in glory gone,
There I, His child, shall be;
There I shall rest within His arms,
And there His face I'll see.

By faith I know that this is true,
For in Him I have part;
His words "There shall My servant be"
Are locked within my heart.

ALBA WESTMARK

More Precious than Jewels

While earthly success and glory do not always bring joy, the knowledge of sins forgiven gives true peace and happiness to the soul. The Word of God assures us of divine pardon through the blood of Jesus; it teaches that through Christ we are on the way to heaven. This is the gift of God. Money, virtues, and good deeds cannot buy it. Jesus invites you to accept this gift, to believe on Him, and to know that through Him your heavy burden of guilt has been removed.

Some men today, like the Pharisee of the Gospel Luke 18:9-14, endeavor to save themselves by their own deeds and virtues.

The Pharisee had the praise of the world. He boasted of his good deeds and expected God to grant his prayer because of those good works. Jesus said this man was not forgiven by God. God is holy, and no sinful flesh may boast before Him. He saw that this man's virtues were not prompted by gratitude to God or love of his neighbor but by love of self. The Pharisee desired the praise of his fellowmen; therefore he paraded his virtues before their eyes and ears. Many men today who receive the applause of the world for their

charities and good deeds are likewise not justified before God because their motives are self-love. The world may laud and sing their praises, but God knows the deceit of their hearts.

The publican was a sorrowful sinner. He also probably had virtues, but he was ashamed of the wickedness of his heart. He prayed: "Lord, have mercy upon me, a sinner." Jesus said this man was truly justified before God. The world knew the man, a sinner; but before God, he was a saint, washed clean of all his sins. Only a penitent sinner who trusts in the forgiveness and mercy of God through Jesus is holy in the eyes of God and justified before Him. Are you a penitent sinner, trusting only in God's mercy through Jesus for your salvation?

O. C. S.

Studies in Luther's Catechism

THE SECOND ARTICLE

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

Jesus will come again. That we call His second coming. At His first coming He came into this world as a little babe, was born in a stable and laid in a manger on hay and on straw. He came poor and humble. But how different His second coming!

Jesus Will Come with Great Power and Glory

When Jesus ascended into heaven, angels said to the disciples: "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. And how did He go into heaven? Acts 1:9 we read: "While they

beheld, He was taken up, and a cloud received Him out of their sight." And David prophesies of His going up into heaven in these words: "God is gone up with a shout, the Lord with the sound of a trumpet," Ps. 47:5. And so He will come again. Jesus Himself says: "They shall see the Son of Man coming in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory," Matt. 24:30. And Paul describes the second coming of Jesus with these words: "The Lord Himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trump of God," 1 Thess. 4:16. Indeed, it will be a "glorious appearing [coming] of the great God and our Savior Jesus Christ," Titus 2:13.

Jesus Will Come to Judge

The first time He came to save. When He was born, the angel said to the shepherds: "Unto you is born . . . a Savior," Luke 2:11. But He will come again to judge. When He "shall come in His glory and all the holy angels with Him, then shall He sit upon the throne of His glory," Matt. 25:31. Paul writes to Timothy: "The Lord Jesus Christ, who shall judge . . . at His appearing [coming]," 2 Tim. 4:1. In the house of Cornelius, Peter preached of Jesus "ordained of God to be Judge," Acts 10:42.

Jesus Will Come to Judge All People

When our Lord Jesus speaks of Judgment Day, He says: "Before Him shall be gathered all nations," Matt. 25:32. And Paul writes: "We shall all stand before the judgment-seat of Christ. — So, then, every one of us shall give account of himself to God," Rom. 14:10, 12. And in his letter to Timothy we read: "He shall judge the quick [living] and the dead," as we confess in our Creed. And in the last book of our Bible, John writes: "I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened. And the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books according to their works," Rev. 20:12-14.

Watch and Pray

Friend, you and I must go before the judgment-seat of Christ. Are you ready? You will be ready only if you lay your sins on Him who died for you and believe in Him who rose again. O stay in Him! Watch and pray!

J. L. S.

THE BREAD OF LIFE

Bible-Study for May

"If Christ be not raised, your faith is vain, ye are yet in your sins." 1 Cor. 15:17

Bible-Lesson: Mark 16:9-14

"Now, when Jesus was risen early the first day of the week, He appeared first to Mary Magdalene, out of whom He had cast seven devils. And she went and told them that had been with Him as they mourned and wept. And they, when they had heard that He was alive and had been seen of her, believed not. After that He appeared in another form unto two of them as they walked and went into the country. And they went and told it unto the residue; neither believed they them. Afterward He appeared unto the Eleven as they sat at meat, and upbraided them with their unbelief and hardness of heart because they believed not them which had seen Him after He was risen."

Early on Easter morning a number of women went to the grave of Jesus to anoint His body for burial. When they arrived at the grave, however, they found that it was open and that the body of Jesus was no longer in the grave. They thought that His body had been stolen; and one of them, Mary Magdalene, at once returned to the city to tell the disciples. The other women entered the grave, and there an angel told them that Jesus of Nazareth, who had been crucified and buried, was risen from the dead and that they should see Him, as He had said unto them.

Mary Magdalene, the disciple out of whom Jesus had cast (driven) seven devils, was the first to see the risen Savior. After telling Peter and John that the body of Jesus had been stolen, she returned to the grave. And while she stood at the empty grave and wept, Jesus appeared unto her and called her by name. What joy must have filled her heart when she saw her Savior and heard His voice! She fell at His feet and cried, "Master!" Then Jesus spoke to her again, telling her to go at once and inform the sorrowing disciples that she had seen the risen Lord. So great was their sorrow, however, and so bitter their grief over the death of their Lord that they refused to believe her words. Neither did they believe the report of the other women who had seen the risen Savior as they returned to the city. "Their words seemed to them as idle tales, and they believed them not."

But the disciples' sorrow was turned into

joy, their unbelief into faith, when they saw the risen Savior with their own eyes. In the afternoon of Easter Day He appeared to two disciples as they walked toward the village of Emmaus. In the evening of the same day He entered the room where the eleven disciples sat at meat. And though for a moment "they believed not for joy," their doubt quickly turned into faith. Now they realized that their Savior was risen and that their faith in Him had not been in vain.

We, too, can rejoice in the risen Savior. Our faith in Him is not in vain. We know that He is the Savior indeed and that through faith in Him we are children of God, reconciled through Him, and heirs of eternal life.

E. EN.

IN THE EDITOR'S MAIL

Milwaukee, Wis.—Palm Sunday, 1941, was a day of great rejoicing for the Milwaukee congregation when a class of 8 deaf promised faithfulness to the Triune God and knelt at His altar to receive His blessing. During the past 40 years this is the largest class that ever joined the congregation at one time. The communicant membership now exceeds the 100 mark. The new members are the following: Mr. and Mrs. Guy Brown, Mr. and Mrs. Herm. Past, Mrs. Mida Holub, Mr. Chas. Martin, Mr. Wallace Reinick, and Miss Bernice Gleason.

The Milwaukee congregation is now making plans for the fortieth anniversary of dedication on June 8. The entire church property is being repaired, repainted, and redecorated for the occasion.

On March 23 a class of thirteen pupils from the State School for Deaf was confirmed in Redeemer Lutheran Church, Delavan. These are the names: Lloyd Hagen, Robert Pagel, Robert Holmlund, Leo Edward Pease, Rose Ina Pease, Lois Sjoquist, Annette Hering, Betty Berg, Betty Morrow, Shirley Reinick, Aurelia Hense, Edith Erickson, and Gertrude Dittes. Nearly 90 pupils are enrolled in the various instruction classes conducted by the undersigned.

During the past twenty months a total of 37 deaf in the Milwaukee Field have been admitted as communicant members after due instruction in the doctrines of the Lutheran Church. Thus the preaching of Christ Crucified draws sinners to the Savior among the deaf as well as among the hearing. This should be a great encouragement to all Lutheran members to support the mission-work of our dear Lutheran Church with much zeal and enthusiasm. M. E. A. MUELLER

Indianapolis, Ind.—Since our last report to the DEAF LUTHERAN the angel of death has visited the Indiana field three times. In January, a year ago, God called unto Himself Mr. Rud. Brinkmann, a communicant member of the Evansville group since December,

1938. The funeral service was held by Pastor Walter C. Brauer of our Trinity Church in that city. The widow of the deceased is now making her home with her very aged parents. Mrs. Brinkmann, who also is a communicant member, is totally blind in one eye and is being medically treated to save the much-impaired sight of the other eye. To ease the strain on that eye and to prepare for total blindness, should it come by the will of the Lord, Mrs. Brinkmann is learning the Moon type alphabet for the blind and will be supplied with proper reading-material by Pastor O. C. Schroeder, our Synod's missionary to the blind people.

In January of this year Reba Dunn, not a communicant member but a very faithful attendant at our services in Terre Haute, a sincere believer in her Savior Jesus and His cleansing and atoning blood, as we truly believe, was struck fatally by a speeding auto and died the next day without regaining consciousness. Mrs. Robert Taylor, whose husband died almost a year ago after a prolonged sickness, though with him in the same auto, escaped death as by a miracle. As is proper, Mrs. Taylor gives honor to God for having escaped sudden death or perhaps lifelong injury.

However, not all has been sorrow. June, 1940, Rosemary Jane Sapp of Logansport, Ind., became the bride of Mr. Randall L. Houchins of Coral Ridge, Ky. For a number of months the young people resided in Louisville. Now, because Mr. Houchins obtained a steady job in Logansport, they live in that city. In the pastor's residence in Indianapolis, likewise in June, 1940, Miss Helen Bleck of this city, a communicant member, was married to Mr. Horace L. Ridge of Connersville, Ind., where the young couple now lives. But, best news of all, the communicant flock has increased by seven since January of this year. Leslie Campbell was added to the group by Baptism and confirmation, likewise Miss Mary Raub in Kokomo. In Indianapolis, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Hodges were confirmed on March 23, and Mrs. Ida Dare, Mrs. Herman Long, and Mrs. Leona Jackson (these latter three are past the age of three-score and ten, but in good health and active), were added to the Church by confession of faith after additional instruction in the Bible doctrine of the Lord's Supper. May the Lord of the Church keep all these new members faithful to the end and make them true witnesses for Jesus both by word and a godly life! May the Lord bless the young married couples and be with them in their homes as Savior and Guide! May the same Lord comfort all the bereaved with the knowledge that their loved ones are with Him in Paradise and keep them and us all in the love of the Gospel proclaimed in the Bible, preached in the Sunday services, and sealed in the Sacraments of Baptism and the Lord's Supper!

This year we are using contribution envelopes for the first time. Not all use them, but the heeding of the Biblical instruction by the others as to giving to the Lord for His work of spreading the Gospel of salvation has increased their gifts, so far this year, by about 60 per cent. All expenses of the first quarter, which average about \$26 a month, were covered with the exception of a little over five dollars. We are grateful to the Lord for this increase, for it is He alone who has made

hearts and hands willing. One child of God attending faithfully our services in Vincennes, Ind., a grandma past eighty, living ten miles from Vincennes, in Lawrenceville, Ill., and not well-to-do, gives two dollars a month towards the Lord's work. A young man in Fort Wayne contributes \$3 a month, and the other contributions range from a dollar a month to 50, 25, and 10 cents a month. Can these contributions be increased? By some, no; by others, yes. Let all those of us who have jobs and steady incomes look up to those Christians who give liberally because they love the Lord. Much more can be done by many if they remember how much the Lord loved them to bring them from death and hell to a life eternal in joy and glory.

May the Lord Jesus bless the work of our Church among the deaf; bless our deaf and all others whom the Lord will yet lead into our fold with a living faith in Jesus as their Savior from sin and guilt; bless our deaf with increased knowledge of the Word of God and all its doctrines; bless them with humble, child-like obedience of that Word! W. G.

Kansas City, Mo.—Many deaf people at the following preaching-stations, together with the missionary, appreciate the sincere interest shown us by the various pastors and congregations.

In addition to urging our friends to attend the divine services or even bringing them with them, Bible classes are assisted by the Rev. K. Karstensen in Atchison and by Rev. S. Widiger and Dr. E. Wolfram in Winfield.

Rev. J. Resner conducts biweekly services at Great Bend and conducts other services by appointment in Hudson and Luray.

Mrs. J. P. Baden of Winfield also assists us by providing all those friends annually with the DEAF LUTHERAN, and by extending other courtesies of Christian fellowship.

In a recent service at Springfield, Mo., the infant Donna M. Walker was baptized and received into Christ's kingdom, and, at Wichita, Kans., little George A. Ellinger was baptized.

We are pleased that Miss T. Runge of our Springfield oral church has accepted sponsorship for Donna.

Mrs. M. Loucks of Frankfort, Kans., is recovering from a painful arm fracture.

Mr. P. Parker of Winchester, Kans., is recovering from a minor operation. He is taking instruction in the chief doctrines of the Bible, and while he was at the hospital, he not only studied very diligently but made a fine confession of his faith to other patients of the ward. Matt. 10:32: "Whosoever shall confess Me before men, him will I confess also before My Father which is in heaven." A. E. F.

Mission for Blind and Deaf.—In the past weeks we met several new deaf and one new deaf-blind man in the Calumet district, Whiting, East Chicago, Indiana Harbor, and Hammond, Ind. We expect to teach the former the Catechism and the latter the Moon system of reading for the blind.

A blind man living in Bombay, India, last week sent us this message: "I wish to thank you sincerely for sending me the *Lutheran Herald*. Owing to war conditions it arrives late but safely."

There are over 600,000 blind in India and only a few schools and libraries for the blind in that vast country.

Two friends in Philadelphia, readers of our *Messenger*, said in a letter last week: "We look forward to the coming of the *Messenger* each month and enjoy its contents very much. We are enclosing a contribution and regret that we cannot give more. With sincere thanks and best wishes for success to you and all the members of your staff,

"Gratefully yours,

"Two Friends."

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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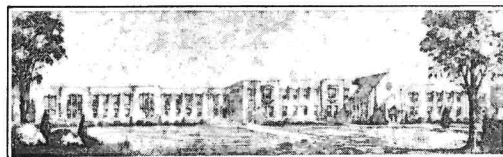
Minister to the Deaf and the Blind

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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