# The Deaf Lutheran

# Published by the Board of Missions for the Deaf of the Lutheran Synod of Missouri, Ohio, and Other States

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#### Confidence

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Into the days that lie ahead Dauntless I'll make my way, For He who made the earth and sea Rules both night and day. And though life's way be steep And nights be filled with pain, The One who made me as I am Can bring me joy again. So let me live each hour, Lord, Cheerful and undismayed, That from life's darkness into the dawn I'll travel unafraid. CORDELIA BLEY

#### "He Hath Done All Things Well"

Jesus visited the Sea of Galilee quite frequently during the years of His ministry. In the 7th chapter of St. Mark's Gospel we read the account of one of the miracles which He performed in this locality. The people who witnessed the healing of the deaf man "were beyond measure astonished, saying, 'He hath done all things well; He maketh both the deaf to hear and the dumb to speak.'" Mark 7:35-37.

The Church of Jesus today does not have the power to cure bodily ills, but Jesus continues to create and sustain spiritual life in the hearts of the deaf through the preaching of His Gospel.

Christian pastors know that the love and the healing power of the Savior still open the ears of the deaf to hear and receive His message; that Jesus still loosens the string of mute tongues to praise His holy name.

Today after 50 years of Lutheran preaching to the deaf we see the spirit of Christ reflected in the consecrated services of faithful ministers to the deaf and in the gifts of Christians offered for the purpose of bringing the deaf to Jesus. It is a miracle of the Savior that today we have several thousand deaf communicants in our Church. We, too, must exclaim joyfully, "He hath done all things well."

In gratitude to God for these blessings the Lutheran Ephphatha Conference of ministers to the deaf intends to glorify God at several jubilee services with Our Savior Lutheran Church for the Deaf in Chicago on October 6.

All glory to God!

# Studies in Luther's Catechism

O. C. S.

#### THE FIFTH PETITION OF THE LORD'S PRAYER

"Forgive — as We Forgive Those Who Trespass Against Us"

We daily need forgiveness, for we daily sin much. Therefore Jesus teaches us to pray: "Forgive us our trespasses." And, thanks to God, in Christ we have forgiveness through His blood. But in this fifth little prayer we find not only a prayer, but also a promise on our part.

#### Forgive Them that Trespass (sin) Against You

We people so often sin against one another and hurt others by speaking or doing something against them. The brothers of Joseph did that. At first they wanted to kill him, but then sold him into slavery. And what should we do when people sin against us? God says in His holy Word: "Forgive one another, even as God for Christ's sake has forgiven you" (Eph. 4:32). Someone perhaps says: "I never will forgive my neighbor, and I never want to meet him again." Did God say this when we were yet in sin? Oh, no! We want God to forgive us our many sins, but so often do not want to forgive even a little sin committed against us. Then we are like that wicked servant of whom Jesus tells us in Matthew 18:23-35. But, remember, in this little prayer we promise to forgive. We pray: "Forgive us, as we forgive." If we do not forgive, we ask God not to forgive us. And then woe unto us! Jesus says: "If ye do not forgive, neither will your Father which is in heaven forgive your trespasses (sins)." Mark 11:26.

Heartily Forgive Them that Sin Against You So often we people say: "I will forgive, but never will I forget." Did we learn to say this from our heavenly Father? Indeed not. God forgives, and forgets. He delights in mercy and casts our sins into the depths of the sea (Micah 7:18, 19). And in Jeremiah 31:34 He says: "I will forgive their iniquity (sin), and I will remember their sin no more." Someone perhaps will say: "Very well! I will forgive and forget this time, but if he does it again, I will not forgive again." What would happen if God would forgive us only once? You know He forgives us every day, and not only once a day, but as often as we ask Him. So we should forgive often, yes, seven times a day, as Jesus says in Luke 17:4. You perhaps will say: "All right, if I must forgive, then I'll forgive." Friend, forgive not because you must, but forgive heartily, gladly, as God gladly forgives you in Christ.

#### Forgive, and Readily Do Good to Them that Sin Against You

Always be ready to do good to them that have sinned against you. That is true forgiveness. That is God's forgiveness. Although we daily sin much, He forgives and daily gives us many good things. Joseph did that to his brothers. He showed them much kindness and love, although they had hurt him very much. So let us always readily do good to them that sin against us.

#### Forgive, as God Forgives

"Forgive one another, if a man have a quarrel against any: even as Christ forgave you, so also do ye" (Col. 3:13). Remember this when you pray: "Forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us." J. L. S.

# THE BREAD OF LIFE

## **Bible Study for October**

#### Acts 6:4,5

But we will give ourselves continually to prayer and to the ministry of the Word. And the saying pleased the whole multitude, and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Ghost, and Philip, and Prochorus, and Nicanor, and Timon, and Parmenas, and Nicolas, a proselyte of Antioch.

"Who shall be a church officer? What qualifications should they have?" From last month's lesson we received instructions, or an answer to these questions. The rule was given (verse 3) to appoint "men full of the Holy Ghost and wisdom, and of honest report." Our present lesson gives the happy news that the Apostles found Stephen and others full of faith and of the Holy Ghost.

The Spirit of the Lord was leading and inspiring these men. (Rom. 8:14.) They now accepted the duties as trustees of the charity fund. Because they were full of faith and of the Holy Ghost, they were dependable in their services. When the Apostles did not need to take care of these details (which the members very well could do), the Apostles could again give their full time to the ministry (preaching) of the Word.

There are many instructions given in the Bible to church members to serve and work for the Lord's kingdom, as the Lord has given them blessings. (Rom. 12:6, 8.) Or Psalm 100:2: "Serve the Lord with gladness." Acts 1:8: "Ye shall be witnesses." In the Lutheran Church we sincerely believe that "we are workers together with Him"-the Lord (2 Cor. 6:1.) In the congregations Jesus. there are voters' assemblies, ladies' aid groups, etc. All have the privilege to elect their own officers in a free and democratic way. Not so long from now the names of candidates for new 1947 officers will be arranged. May the words of this lesson encourage us all to select persons who are of "honest report and full of faith and the Holy Ghost." But in this anniversary year (50th) of our Church, may all of our members and friends give their wisdom (education), time, and strength for greater service for the Lord Jesus.

We believe that most of our members are looking forward to the winter season with joy, to more and greater service in the Kingdom of Jesus. Let us make it our motto: "At Work; All at Work; Always at Work for Jesus. (1 Cor. 9:22 b.)

True Christian faith calls for action. The true Christian cannot be idle. Fire is not fire unless it warms. The sun is not the sun unless it shines. And faith is not faith unless it works for Jesus. The coming months will give all of us opportunity to work for the Lord Jesus and in co-operation with the pastor. May the Holy Spirit lead us that in all our activity "we may by all means save some."

A. E. F.

### Pastor Cordes 25 Years in Office

St. Paul Mission. - On August 18 Calvary Church, St. Paul, celebrated the 25th anniversary of the ordination of its pastor, the Rev. R. F. Cordes. A little more than ten years of the twenty-five he has been serving the deaf. Before he entered our mission, he ministered unto hearing congregations in Montana. There he met two deaf at Park City, and he was anxious to instruct them in the chief teachings of the Bible. These deaf taught him the sign language, and he instructed and confirmed them in 1934. Thus God led him into this work. In the fall of 1935 our Board of Missions called him to work among the deaf in Canada. In January, 1936, he began his work there, residing in Saskatoon, where there is a school for the deaf. Later he moved to Winnipeg, from where he also served Saskatoon and other cities in Canada until the early part of 1942, when he received a call from Calvary Church for the Deaf in St. Paul. He still ministers to the deaf in Winnipeg, while Pastor Fox of Calgary serves the deaf in four other cities in Canada.

A large gathering of deaf had come to rejoice with him in God's bountiful grace and also quite a number of hearing, among them fifteen relatives of Pastor Cordes from Michigan. The service was held in Jehovah Church (J. Schumacher, pastor), and a classmate, the Rev. W. E. Heidorn of Blue Earth, preached the sermon, Pastor J. L. Salvner interpreting, and Pastors C. Bremer and A. J. Lutz rendering the liturgy and hymns in the sign language. In his sermon based upon Psalm 107:1: "Oh, give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good; for His mercy endureth forever," he urged Pastor Cordes and all of us to thank God for His goodness to him during these twentyfive years and then to trust in His everlasting mercy for the future. After the service the ladies of Calvary Church served refreshments, and in an informal meeting the president of



Pastor R. F. Cordes' Twenty-Fifth Anniversary of His Ordination Left to right: Pastors Arnold Lutz, John L. Salvner, D. D., C. Bremer, W. E. Heidorn, R. F. Cordes Pastor Lutz has the permission of his Board to begin work among the deaf of India

the congregation handed him a purse of money in appreciation of his services among them.

May our good Lord be with Pastor Cordes also in the future and grant that he may serve many years more among the deaf unto the glory of Jesus, our only Savior, and the eternal salvation of many deaf. J. L. S.

#### IN THE EDITOR'S MAIL

Omaha, Nebr. — We experienced a real thrill when we attended the Iowa Association for the Deaf convention held at Fort Dodge, Iowa, on Aug. 31 and Sept. 1, meeting many of our friends whom we instructed at the Council Bluffs School and confirmed years ago.

Many we had not seen for a long time, and we noticed that some of those boys and girls had changed somewhat.

About 175 deaf friends attended the service held on Sunday afternoon, Sept. 1. Among them were also visitors from Minnesota, Illinois, and Ohio.

At the Nebraska Association for the Deaf convention in Omaha we also met many friends who had come from all parts of the State of Nebraska as well as a few from other States, graduates from the Omaha school. We attended only the Friday evening opening session at the Omaha convention and were sorry that, since the two conventions were held on the same dates, we could not be present at both.

Under God's blessing we are looking forward to another year of success in our school work at both the



A group of Lutheran deaf in Northern Michigan whom we serve together with similar groups in neighboring cities. Among them are four deaf-blind

Omaha and Council Bluffs Schools. We hope to have large classes again.

Jeanne Cecile, infant daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Harold Teater of Omaha, was brought to Jesus in Holy Baptism at the service on September 8. May God keep her in His grace. Mr. and Mrs. Vernon Meyer were the sponsors. E. M.

Mission for Blind and Deaf. - The chaplain of a prison in England recently wrote that one of the men in his charge has derived great spiritual blessings from reading our Moon Type Herald during the past few years. He asks for additional Lutheran literature. We are able to comply with this request through our Library for the Blind. O. C. S.

### Leaving Her to God

One day in a mission school in Africa a little girl hit her schoolmate. The teacher found it out and asked the child who was struck: "Did you hit her back again?"

"No, ma'am," said the child.

"What did you do?" asked the teacher.

"I left her to God," she said.

Christians will also leave those to God who try to harm them or speak unkind words against them, and will not try to get revenge, but let God judge.

DOES PRAYER HELP? The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much. James 5:16.

BE HUMBLE: Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you in due time. 1 Pet. 5:6.

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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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