

The Deaf Lutheran



*Ephphatha, that is,
Be opened.*

MARK 7:34

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"Stewards"

Essay, written by Mrs. Eva Wear of Pilgrim Lutheran Church of the Deaf, Kansas City, and delivered at the Midwest Regional Conference at Omaha, October 16 and 17, 1954, and published at the request of the conference.

One of the most important questions in life is: "What is our relationship to God and His relationship to us?"

We all know God as our loving heavenly Father, and we have learned to love and honor Him as dear children, but that is not all. We have a divinely appointed relationship with God as **stewards**.

Few people realize the important duties of stewardship that apply to themselves personally and to their property and talents.

The dictionary tells us that a steward is a caretaker, or manager. We all remember the steward at

school. He has the responsibility of handling the money, to pay all expenses of running the school and to pay all bills. He must keep an accurate account of every dollar spent and make frequent reports. He is held responsible for any shortages and is accountable to the state.

With God true stewardship is more than managing the wealth God gives us. Christian stewardship involves our responsibility to God in connection with all we possess, our mind, influence, time, health, and money, even our life. And God says that we must give an account of how we use these.

How did we happen to get into this position? God sent His Son into the world to save us. Jesus shed His own precious blood on the cross to redeem us from our sins. We were bought with a price; we are not our own, says 1 Corinthians 6: 19, 20. We are redeemed to a life of service. All that we are and have

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These ministers preach in more than 275 cities in our land; they conduct classes in religion at over 50 city and 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.

THE DEAF LUTHERAN

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is like an endowment trust for which we are and will be held accountable.

Jesus gave us proof of our responsibility as stewards in the parable of the talents, recorded in Matthew 25:14-25.

There are many departments of stewardship. And while we cannot here enter upon all of them, let us consider some that are of very great importance. I shall mention and speak about five:

1. Mental Faculties
2. Influence
3. Time
4. Health
5. Money

Mental Faculties When God made man, He made every nerve and organ for a purpose. He did not waste anything. In wisdom did He make them all; there is nothing that is useless. Some of our physical organs develop as we grow up; others must be trained and developed by proper use. Our mental faculties are of this kind. Only God can make the delicate system of brain and nerves, but man must develop it by study and training. God is very much displeased with people who are too lazy or too careless to train their mind so that they may become intelligent, useful citizens and able to take a useful place in the church and community.

We are commanded to love God with all our mind. Our mind never stops growing unless we stop studying and learning. We should do all we can to learn to become intelligent, efficient workers. We can become intelligent, efficient, Christian workers through regular attendance at Sunday school and Bible-study classes and by reading good worthwhile books and magazines. But

avoid reading worthless novels and magazines. A good steward will get as much education as possible so that he may be able to share his knowledge with others. None of us knows when or where or how we may be called upon to use our mental faculties for God's glory and the neighbor's welfare. If we neglect cultivating a good mind and putting it to use for the glory of God, we are just as guilty as the unfaithful steward who hid his talent in the ground, where it would do no good.

Those who hunger for more knowledge that they may serve God and their fellow men will in return receive more blessings from God. Through the regular study of God's Word your mental powers become more active, and you will gradually become more efficient and self-disciplined. One does not need to be a college or university graduate to serve God. An average person with a well-disciplined mind can do more and better work for Christ than a highly educated mind out of control.

Influence Influence is something from which no one ever is free. It carries with it responsibility. Influence goes where we go; it is a shadow always with us. What you are, the thing you say, what you do, has an influence upon others. It is in the way you dress, in your voice and every action. It is like a stone thrown into a quiet pool. It starts a small ripple that grows and grows wider until it has spread all around the pool. It spreads evil and gloom or faith and courage and hope. You no doubt have met many a young person who has said, "I will live my own life." But it is impossible. We cannot live among other people without influ-

encing them or they us. So we can properly say that our influence brings and carries with it a serious responsibility.

We have a responsibility not only to the present generation but to the generations yet to come after us. Our influence will live on in our children and grandchildren. Perhaps you have heard it said that "the child of today is the man of tomorrow." The kind of world they will live in "tomorrow" will depend a lot on the influences in which they grow up today.

Children are a mighty factor in the stewardship of parents. The Bible tells us to "bring up a child in the way he should go." Parents commit a great sin when they permit their children to stay away from church and Sunday school and permit them to fill their minds with unholy and filthy comic-book stories. Adults must be especially careful around children in their speech and actions. Children are naturally imitative and easily influenced. Man cannot trust himself to be a good influence, because man by nature is jealous, selfish, suspicious, frivolous, and unclean and must be "born again." We need God's Word and prayer to be good stewards in the matter of our conduct.

Time I have said before that "our time belongs to God," but I can repeat it again. Thomas Edison said, "Time is the most valuable thing in the world." Recently a writer in *Life* said, "Life is but the trusteeship [stewardship] of time." The Bible warns us to "redeem [make good use of] the time, for the days are evil," Ephesians 5:16.

Our time on earth is a training time to prepare us for heaven. So

time is holy and precious, and the Christian steward will use his time wisely and for God's glory. God does not demand all of our time, because He knows that we must have time to earn our living and time for rest and recreation, but God does demand properly that we give some of our time for the spreading of the Gospel and for public worship and private devotions. He expects us to give some of our time to our church and to assist the pastor in visiting the sick and to win souls and share the common church work.

Monday morning some of us will report for work or school, God willing. We will be on time and punch our time cards promptly. If we are late or absent, we shall be asked the reason for that, and our employers will ask an accounting of us. God does not expect us to punch time cards, but just the same He will ask an accounting of us if we foolishly wasted time that should have been spent in His service.

It is quite common in our congregations that some think if they tithe (pay one tenth) or even less, that they do not have to give time to the Lord's work. But this is wrong. And it is not only a duty but a privilege and honor for everyone who has health and strength to take an active part in the work of the congregation. Tithes and contributions are good and essential, but they cannot take the place of personal service. Work is just as much a part of God's plan as devotions. Christ worked. He learned to work when He was young. Our churches need more workers. We want them to come cheerfully and voluntarily and offer their services to the Lord. There is a place for everyone to

serve in some capacity. Talk with your pastor, and ask him where you can best serve. And when he gives you an assignment, report promptly and work diligently, not wasting the time in gossip or idle play.

It is amazing how many people say they have no time on Sunday morning for worship. With all the modern conveniences people have to lighten their work, they have no time for God. Years ago our grandparents did not have all the labor-saving devices we have now, but they took time to go to worship even if it took hours of slow and tiresome plodding for miles with horses to get to church.

A true Christian will take time for worship. When I was a little girl, I remember hearing my mother sing: "Take time to be holy, talk often with thy God." I have forgotten all the words except these lines. That is what God wants us to do with a portion of our time.

Health Stewardship of the powers of the body is closely connected with the stewardship of the faculties of the mind. Without a healthy spirit we cannot serve God, and without a healthy body we cannot serve Him well either. Christ made it clear that we owe God the careful management of our body. St. Paul said: "Know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own? For ye are bought with a price; therefore glorify God in your body." 1 Corinthians 6:19, 20. Also: "Know ye not that ye are the temple of God? . . . If any man defile the temple of God, him shall God destroy."—"I will dwell in them and walk in them." 1 Corinthians 3:16, 17

and 2 Corinthians 6:16. So our bodies are sacred. We love our beautiful churches and would not think of doing anything to mar or destroy them. Why, then, do men mar and do things to ruin their body, which is a living temple of God? God made men in His likeness to serve Him and His church on earth.

The stewardship of our bodies involves everything for its physical and mental growth. All our skills, talents, and abilities depend upon a healthy body and mind. We cannot take our place in business or social or religious life if our bodies are unfit. Then we are a burden on our family, friends, and the state. Let us pray God to help us keep our bodies strong, healthy, and clean, that we may better serve Him and the community in which we live. Do not wait until too old to serve.

Money Tithing, giving the Lord one tenth of your income, has always been a touchy subject. Jesus found it necessary often to deal with man's selfishness in regard to his wealth. He repeatedly condemned the love of money as the root of all evil and a stumbling block to those that would find salvation. But God trusted man with money. He gives men the power and talent to get wealth. But God asks for a return of His own. Just as the rich man who traveled into a far country gave out money to his servants to work with and expected them to earn returns for him, so God expects His stewards to use their money wisely, and He asks an accounting of them how they used it.

A Christian steward never forgets in managing his money that he is doing so as a co-laborer with God. God gives us the talent to earn it,

and we out of loving, thankful hearts share it with Him in gratitude for all His many blessings. Money is of great value when it is wisely used. It can be food for the hungry, clothing for the poor, and can carry the Gospel to the unsaved, but money has no more value than sand when it is selfishly hoarded or carelessly thrown away in slothful living.

Some have told me that the Deaf should not be asked to pay tithes and contributions to the church. Why not? Because they say that the Deaf are different, they have hard times, are more unfortunate than other people. Self-pity! How silly it sounds! God sends His rain on the deaf farmer as well as on the hearing one. The deaf worker belongs to the same union as his fellow workers and draws the same wages. The Deaf have fine cars and good homes and the same blessings and talents as the hearing man. The Government does not exempt them from paying income tax. Why not? Because they are as able and efficient workers and an asset to their community as their hearing neighbors. Jesus Himself said, "The Deaf hear." We have the glorious Gospel preached unto us, and we have been saved by the blood of Jesus, and that makes us altogether Christian stewards with our hearing neighbors. Let no one tell you that you are exempt from supporting your church and missions.

Most of you present here at the Midwest Regional Conference are leaders in your home congregations, and to you God has given a special responsibility. The Deaf in your home community need the leadership that a real Christian steward can give them. It will not be an easy

job. It will take time and your strength, but if we all went home and responded to Jesus' invitation, "Let your light shine before men!" our churches would be full, and our missions would have the greatest growth for Christ and His Gospel.

When once a Christian understands the duties of stewardship, he will look upon the world as his field and his fellow man as his responsibility. By being faithful in little duties we will work on the plan of addition, and God will work with us on the plan of multiplication.

Many lay people are waiting for some great work to be offered them, because they are too ambitious and too impatient to do little things. God says that if we are faithful in little things, He will make us ruler over many things, Matthew 25:21.

THE MAN WITH THE CONSECRATED CAR

He couldn't speak before a crowd; he couldn't teach a class;
But when he came to church, he brought the folks "en masse."
He couldn't sing to save his life; in public couldn't pray.
But always his old "jalopy" was just crammed on each Lord's day.

And though he could not sing or speak, nor lead in prayer,
He listened well, he had a smile, and he was always there
With all the others whom he brought, who lived both near and far.
And God's work prospered, for he had a consecrated car.

W. H. AULENBACH

Too many people conduct their lives on the cafeteria plan—self-service only.

In this world it is not what we take up, but what we give up, that makes us rich.—BEECHER.

THE yoke of God will never fit a stiff neck.



Field Gleanings

Jacksonville, Ill.—A charter member of Christ Church of the Deaf, **Wm. F. Lebkuecher**, died April 27 at the age of 78 years and was given Christian burial April 29. He had been of failing health the last years, and the Lord mercifully let him depart without much suffering. He was the first trustee of our congregation and in his quiet, faithful way did what he could. "Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord."

U.

Bloomington, Ill. — On April 17, in the chapel of the new beautiful church of Trinity Lutheran Church, **Mr. William Kehr** and **Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Wichman** were received as members. Mrs. Wichman (Dorothy Hottel) was baptized. The Bloomington group is a very much interested and active group. Mr. and Mrs. Fred Friday of Anchor, some 35 miles away, come regularly to the services. There are not too many Deaf in the community, but those there make up for numbers by their interest. May God bless and keep the new members with the old ones in that spirit.

U.

Chicago, Ill. — St. Philip's Lutheran Church, of which the Rev. Marmaduke Carter, D.D., has long been the pastor, is the home of our Negro Deaf Congregation of Chicago. For two years this fine group of very much interested Christians has been served by **Vicar H. Drachenberg**, who has been doing excellent work there. He now returns to Concordia Theological Sem-

inary at St. Louis to complete his studies, and will be graduated in 1956.

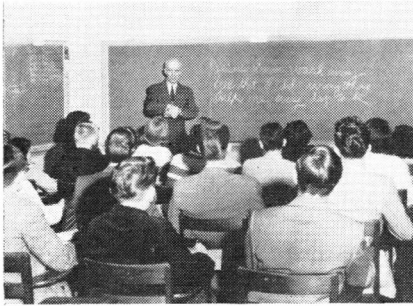
On the afternoon of April 24 he was given a farewell banquet. Mrs. G. Woodfolk was in charge of the affair, assisted by several ladies of the Ladies' Aid Society. The dinner consisted of ham with the usual trimmings plus a large cake with the inscription "Good-by and Good Luck, Vicar Herbert Drachenberg." Thirty-four Deaf took part. Dr. and Mrs. Carter and Rev. and Mrs. Scheibert were also present, and Dr. Carter and Rev. Scheibert spoke. Vicar Drachenberg was presented with a carved crucifix and other gifts.

Vicar Drachenberg preached his farewell sermon May 8. On Palm Sunday he confirmed **Mesdames Agnes Jackson, Bernice Briggs, and Stella Hunt**. The Deaf group at St. Philip's is like the Bereans of the New Testament; they "searched daily" in the Scriptures, studying Matthew and beginning the study of the Acts this last year.

Rev. E. Scheibert of Our Savior Deaf Church will supply the group during the vacancy. **Candidate Richard Borchers** of Concordia Seminary in St. Louis has been given the call to St. Philip's.

Austin, Tex. — **Kitty Ann Streger**, infant daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Milton Streger of Hamilton, Tex., was baptized in the Lutheran Church for the Deaf on Sunday, April 24. Mr. Wilburn Streger and Mrs. E. R. Oermann are her sponsors.

Fargo, N. Dak. — The accompanying picture shows both the senior and the junior confirmation class of the State School for the Deaf at Devils Lake, N. Dak. The senior group, consisting of six boys, has been confirmed on Sunday, May 15.



Rev. W. Ferber and the Fargo Senior and Junior Clan

As a rule, most of the parents come for these confirmation services, even though they may live several hundred miles away. We wish to thank the parents for this their interest. The junior confirmation class will have two more years of preparatory work before the day of pledging their faithfulness to their Savior will come. All children, beginning with the junior confirmation class and older, have a second Sunday school period of 45 minutes, which they give to the memorizing of important Bible passages and hymns. At present we are memorizing hymns, which we are trying to commit to memory so well that they will remain with us for life. W. F.

Miami, Fla. — Deaf Zion Lutheran Church, Miami, celebrated its third year as a mission (preaching station). Members held the first regular business meeting on January 30, 1955, at the home of Mr. Leo Snell. Pastor L. F. Knight — the pastor of

the hearing Lutheran church that has been our church home, who is such a great help to us — and Mr. Snell were chosen as the trustees of the building fund. The entire fund (\$585 at present) is loaned out at 3%, 4%, and 5% to Districts of the Lutheran Church. The 5% note will earn an additional \$75 in fifteen years.

Our Miami attendance, since we are conducting weekly instead of bi-monthly meetings, has been 20, and the offerings were \$160 as compared with \$47 for the first quarter of the years, respectively.

Dr. J. L. Salvner, Executive Secretary of the Missions to Deaf, visited the northern stations in March. The fine attendances at Jacksonville, Savannah, Gainesville, and Saint Augustine have brought us a vicar from Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, **Mr. Rob. B. Bauer**, who has been a great help for the work in the northern area. He will return to the seminary to complete his work there; but we are happy to state that he will be succeeded for a year by **Vicar Robert Rasch**, who has been assigned to us. The Lord has been blessing the work in the entire area; also the West Florida Coast has a number of good stations that should have more frequent services than we are now able to give them.

F. F. G.

David Paul Oermann, infant son of Rev. and Mrs. Ervin Oermann, was baptized in the Lutheran Church for the Deaf on Easter Sunday, April 10. Miss Winnie Davis is his sponsor.

E. R. O.

If you want to test your memory, try to remember the things that worried you yesterday.

Thank the Lord, New Workers!

This heading does not necessarily mean that the new workers should thank the Lord; they are doing that, no doubt, that they are privileged to serve Him in the work among the Deaf. We mean, in writing this, that the entire Deaf Mission should thank the Lord for the new workers.

A shift has occurred in the Mission among the workers. We lost two men. **Rev. Floyd Possehl** of St. Paul has accepted a call into hearing work, going to a mission in Duluth, and **Rev. Robt. Mackensen** of Madison, Wis., has accepted a call into hearing work and will serve four small congregations in Wisconsin; he enters the Lutheran Synod of Wisconsin thereby.

We regret the loss of both men. Both have been doing excellent work. Rev. Possehl's activity in Oklahoma and New York and last in St. Paul was marked by good achievements that will make his name remembered long. Rev. Robt. Mackensen has been doing a very excellent piece of work in Delavan at the State School for the Deaf and at the large number of stations he has served in Wisconsin in addition to the work at the School, notably his work at Madison, where a flourishing congregation of Deaf now is. May God reward these men in their work now with the hearing. We hope that they will not fail to serve the Deaf of their vicinity; for there are always Deaf near one everywhere, and they need spiritual and often physical help.

But we thank the Lord that He has given us five new workers, in a measure offsetting the loss. At the

recent meeting of the Board for the Assignment of Calls we were successful in getting two candidates who will be permanent workers, and three vicars who serve for a year and then continue their studies at the seminaries to graduate.

Candidate William Hausmann of New York, the son of deaf parents, was assigned to serve in New York City, where the work has been going ahead so wonderfully under Rev. Geo. Kraus.

Candidate Richard Borchers is going to St. Philip's, Chicago, to serve the thriving Negro Deaf congregation there and to furnish an additional worker for Chicago, where so many Deaf live.

Oklahoma is being benefited by getting **Vicar Wayne Bottlinger** from the St. Louis Concordia Seminary for the next year. This relieves Pastor Ervin Oermann of Austin, Tex., whose extensive field needed a worker. He now can give more attention to Texas with its many stations and groups.

Vicar Robert Rasch of St. Louis goes to Jacksonville, Fla., to take over the work in the northern area of that large field. He follows **Vicar Robert Bauer**, who has been serving there and now returns to St. Louis for his final year of study.

The Madison, Wis., congregation has extended a call to **Pastor Martin Kosche** of Indianapolis to succeed Rev. Mackensen in the Wisconsin field, and he has accepted. Thus that field is supplied; but Indianapolis and the Indiana area will for a year be supplied by **Vicar John Nickerson** of the Springfield Concordia Seminary, who goes to Indianapolis. He takes his wife and three children

(Concluded on last page)



Know Your Bible

The Book of Ruth

The charming book of Ruth, the Moabitess, has only four chapters and 95 verses, but it is worthy of study and is important, showing us that Jesus is the Savior and Lord of the non-Jews as well as of the Hebrews. For Ruth, who was not of the Jews, was taken into the line from which King David and eventually Jesus came.

The story takes us back to the days of the Judges, about 1300 before Christ, when there was a famine in the Jewish land and Elimelech and his wife, Naomi, and his sons, Mahlon and Chilion, left the land and moved to the country of Moab, southeast from Palestine and the Dead Sea. The two sons married women of Moab; Chilion's wife was Orpah, and Mahlon's wife was Ruth.

Sorrow came to them; the father and the two sons died. Grief-stricken, Naomi wanted to return to her homeland, where there was food again. She did not expect the two women of Moab to leave their homeland, and urged them to stay. Orpah did stay; Ruth, however, who had learned to love her mother-in-law and who undoubtedly knew the Fourth Commandment, which tells us to honor father and mother, would not leave her sad and aging mother-in-law but would be to her a dutiful daughter and supporter.

And as God promised that He will bless good children, so He blessed Ruth and Naomi through Ruth.

Boaz, a distant relative of Elimelech in their home city Bethlehem, took great interest in Ruth and favored her by kindly permitting her to gather food in his fields at harvest.

It was a law that, when a man died without children, the nearest relative marry the widow and thus heirs be obtained and the property not be lost to the family and the family not die out. In the third chapter we are told how Ruth asked Boaz to marry her and thus to save the property and to preserve the family of Naomi and her dead husband, Mahlon. He agreed but stated that a nearer relative was there, who had the first chance to redeem the property.

The next day Boaz arranged for a court meeting in the gate of the city and told that nearer relative his duty, but he refused and gave up his right to buy the property because he did not want to accept his other duty to Ruth. To make the agreement sure, the man gave his shoe to Boaz according to their custom. So Boaz redeemed the property, took Ruth to be his wife, and so obeyed the law that the family inheritance be not lost and the name not die out. God blessed the marriage and gave them a son, Obed, from whom later sprang Jesse and King David and Mary and Jesus. So Ruth, a former heathen woman by faith was admitted into the kingdom of God in the Old Testament and became a foremother of Jesus.

U.



Devotions

Selections are from "Feeding on His Word," a daily Bible-reading guide for 1955 by the Board for Parish Education of The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod, 210 N. Broadway, St. Louis 2, Mo. Obtainable there. 5 cents.

SUGGESTED USE

1. As you open your Bible, say: "Speak, Lord, Thy servant hears."
2. After finding the place in the Bible, read the short explanation given under the date.
3. Now read the words of the Bible. *Read slowly, and think what each verse says.*
4. Read again the short explanation and the prayer, adding what is on your heart and perhaps the Lord's prayer.

Wednesday, June 1
1 Corinthians 12:1-11

The Corinthians had only recently come from heathendom to faith. They and we should know that only the Holy Spirit brings man to faith and gives many different gifts for the purpose that God be glorified and man benefited through the church.

Prayer: Lord, lead us to know, whatever Your gift to us may be, that it is from You and to be used for Your glory. Amen.

Thursday, June 2
1 Corinthians 12:12-27

The church, the total number of believers, has many members and needs and has many gifts. With these we must serve one another in loving humility and live peaceably together as members of the body of Christ, of which He is the Head.

Prayer: O Father of mercy, teach us to work with other Christians in

peaceful harmony and good will.
Amen.

Friday, June 3
Ephesians 4:1-16

There is one true God and one true faith. The defeat of the devil by Jesus brought us the Holy Spirit and many gifts. Through the faithful use of these gifts the members carry on the church's work effectively, preaching the Gospel and building the church.

Prayer: Lord, let us through faithful use of Your Word grow in grace and in the knowledge of Christ. Amen.

Saturday, June 4
Romans 12:3-8

The body has different members, and these have different uses. So it is with the spiritual gifts, they are different and serve different purposes. But let us remember they are gifts and never become proud over our gift but use it properly.

Prayer: Your mercy, O Lord, gave

us our gift; so keep us humble, and let us serve You and our neighbor eagerly and gladly. Amen.

Sunday, June 5

Mark 12:28-34

Though there are three Persons in God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, these three together are the one true God. The test of faith in God is to prefer Him over everything else, obeying His will, and serving the neighbor in love.

Prayer: O most merciful God, make us to love You truly, proving that love by obeying Your Commandments. Amen.

Monday, June 6

Isaiah 45:1-8

There is only one true God, and He can use heathen men and guide even evil so that His name is glorified. So Cyrus, a heathen king, helped God's people by letting Jerusalem be rebuilt. God is to be respected, let us ever realize that.

Prayer: O Lord, bless our missions in Japan, the land of the rising sun, and other dark countries, that men may see Your glory in Christ Jesus. Amen.

Tuesday, June 7

1 Corinthians 8:4-6

Some Christians bought meat in the market that was from animals that had been sacrificed to idols; others thought it wrong. Paul called the meat good because idols really do not exist; there is only one true God, and one Lord, Jesus, through whom we come to God.

Prayer: O Lord, give us grace to surrender our will completely to Your will so that Your will may be done in and by us. Amen.

Wednesday, June 8

Numbers 6:22-27

The Old Testament Christians, as we know, were blessed by the Triune God: by the Father, who created and keeps us; by the Lord Jesus, whose suffering and death atoned for our sins and made the Father to look upon us again graciously; and by the Holy Ghost, who works faith in our hearts and gives us peace. What a wonderful God is our God!

Prayer: O Lord, our hearts are restless until You have given us peace by forgiving our sins for Jesus' sake. Amen.

Thursday, June 9

Mark 1:1-11

John the Baptizer knew that Jesus was the Savior when he baptized Him and the Father spoke and the Spirit came as a dove. In Word and Sacrament heaven still is opened for us, as we there hear the voice of God, see the work of Jesus, and feel the power of the Spirit.

Prayer: O God, we thank You for adopting us as Your children in Holy Baptism. Let us now ever live as Your children should. Amen.

Friday, June 10

2 Corinthians 13:5-14

Paul admonishes his readers and us to examine ourselves, that we may be honest Christians and not reprobates, deceivers. He wishes us that God's grace and love and the Spirit's power keep us in faith. May God grant that to us!

Prayer: O Lord, we are so weak and the evil heart so strong in us; keep us by Your Word and Spirit to life everlasting. Amen.

Saturday, June 11

Isaiah 57:14-21

The great and mighty God will live in those that are sad about their sinfulness. He gives comfort and peace to them that flee to Jesus in faith to find rest in Him.

Prayer: O Lord, lift our loads, heal us in mercy, and lead us humbly in the way of peace for Jesus' sake. Amen.

Sunday, June 12

Ephesians 1:15-23

Let us pray for and thank God for: Wisdom, knowledge of God, eyes that see the glory and richness of salvation, appreciation of our victorious Savior and of the fact that through faith we are members of His church.

Prayer: Lord, give us wisdom to value the crown of life and not to give it up for the worthless joys of this world. Amen.

Monday, June 13

Matthew 16:13-19

The church is built on Jesus, God's Son, the Rock, and the powers of hell cannot destroy it. Every Christian is a member of that church and shares the honor of bringing forgiveness to others by the preaching of the Gospel.

Prayer: O Jesus, in China now the devil through Communism wants to destroy Your church; protect Your flock there, and destroy the wicked plans of Your foes. Amen.

Tuesday, June 14

Daniel 2:36-45

Christ's kingdom, the holy, Christian Church, overcame the great

heathen kingdoms of this world. It will stand forever. The Holy Spirit inspired Daniel to see this 600 years before Christ; a great proof that the Holy Spirit inspired the writers of the Bible.

Prayer: Lord, bless the earth with Christian rulers, that Your church may grow and man may live peacefully. Amen.

Wednesday, June 15

1 Kings 19:9-18

Elijah was downhearted; he thought he was the only believer left. God showed him that there were still 7,000 others and that Elijah should not with terrible force but by quiet preaching rebuild the church which would stand forever. Let us remember this always.

Prayer: Hold Your hand, O Lord, over the Christians left in poor Russia, and open doors for us to preach the Gospel there. Amen.

Thursday, June 16

Psalms 46

This is a great Psalm of victory. The river of life flows on from God's throne, and His people will be protected and happy, come what may. "The kingdom ours remaineth."

Prayer: Stop wars, O God, and let the river of life flow on through mission work everywhere, and use us in this work. Amen.

Friday, June 17

Revelation 7:9-17

Let us through true faith wash our sinful robes in the blood of Christ, that we may stand in that holy crowd around His throne. And let us bring others also from hopelessness to peace and rest.

Prayer: Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be unto You, O God, forever. Amen.

Saturday, June 18

Ephesians 5:23-27

A perfect model for Christian married people is Christ's love for His church; He chose us, cleansed us by Holy Baptism, and loved us unlovely people. Can we ever forget His love?

Prayer: Lord, forgive that we sometimes forget how much You loved us and to what glorious state You have lifted us. Amen.

Sunday, June 19

Acts 4:5-12

Peter and John could not stop speaking about Christ; they knew He is the only Savior the world has and needs. If we, likewise, are really convinced of this, we will convince others, too.

Prayer: Bless, O Lord, our small Mohammedan mission, that it may grow and many of these people may come to faith in Jesus. Amen.

Monday, June 20

Colossians 1:24-29

As soldiers suffer hardships in the fight for victory, so we, like Paul, will suffer as we tell the glorious story of salvation through Christ to all men. But it is worth the effort.

Prayer: Lord, let us grow in Christ and see clearly and do effectively the work given us, showing to men the way of life. Amen.

Tuesday, June 21

Matthew 13:44-50

In the church is found salvation, which is a great treasure and a pearl

worth more than all else. In the groups of church people there may be some that are not true believers, but God knows them. Let us be sincere; we cannot deceive God.

Prayer: Jesus, You are our greatest Treasure. If we have You by faith, we are truly rich. Keep us in Your grace. Amen.

Wednesday, June 22

Isaiah 11:1-12

Isaiah sees the cross of Jesus (v. 1) like the flag of freedom over all the nations (v. 10). Everywhere are found the children of God (vv. 11, 12) in perfect safety and peace (vv. 6-9), blessed by the Savior (vv. 2-5). The church is world-wide.

Prayer: You are truly gracious, Lord, as You bless the poor in spirit and give them the riches of heaven. Bless us, too. Amen.

Thursday, June 23

Isaiah 2:1-4

The mountain of the Lord, Christ's church, will in the New Testament extend over all the earth. In it men will be reborn by faith and get that peace of the heart that makes them peaceful people. To help mission work means to help bring real peace.

Prayer: O Prince of Peace, lead men to faith through Your Word so that there may be peace on earth. Amen.

Friday, June 24

John 18:33-37

Pilate was puzzled. The Man before him acted, spoke, and was accused of being a king, but had no kingdom so far as Pilate could see. But His is a spiritual kingdom of truth, *in* but not of the world, ex-

tending over all, real but different, outlasting all, He is our King.

Prayer: O King Eternal, we honor, obey, and follow You in complete trust through cross and shame to Your eternal kingdom. Amen.

Saturday, June 25

Luke 17:20, 21

God's kingdom comes not with outward show, as many expected in Christ's time and also now. He rules in the hearts of those who have obtained forgiveness and now are bound to Him by cords of love.

Prayer: O Holy Spirit, through the Gospel work faith in man's heart so that God's kingdom may come everywhere. Amen.

Sunday, June 26

Acts 2:43-47

A wonderful day it was, that first day when 3,000 confessed Christ and were baptized. So it happens today still. If we could see one day's total of new believers in the whole world, we would be surprised.

Prayer: Lord, open our hearts, that we like the first Christians gladly share our goods, dry tears, and lift loads. Amen.

Monday, June 27

1 Peter 2:1-10

Peter shows that God has chosen His people in mercy, united them through faith in the Savior, and made them His people to serve and glorify Him. Let us not throw ourselves away in sin; we are His own; serve Him who chose us.

Prayer: We thank You, Lord, for making us priests who can fearlessly go to God in prayer in Your name and be heard. Amen.

Tuesday, June 28

Deuteronomy 7:6-11

Moses reminds the people that God chose them because He kept His promise to Abraham and not because they were better than others. Therefore they should serve Him. The same holds true of us; He chose us in mercy, let us serve Him loyally.

Prayer: O Lord, since Your eyes look for faith, keep us in faith and humble obedience through Your Holy Spirit. Amen.

Wednesday, June 29

John 10:22-29

"My Father gave them Me," says Jesus of His sheep. He owns them, knows, loves, protects them, and gives them eternal life. What comfort! Those who know Him as their Good Shepherd will hear His voice and follow Him only.

Prayer: Lord, our salvation rests upon Your mercy, love, and power, and not upon us. We are in good hands. Thank You. Amen.

Thursday, June 30

Romans 8:28-30

Our text tells us that those whom God has called by the Gospel and brought to faith are the same whom He has chosen in mercy through Christ in eternity, and these He will lead to glory. Since He has called us and brought us to faith, we can believe that He has chosen us. His name be praised!

Prayer: O God of love, when all things seem to be against us, let us remember that all things will work out for our eternal welfare in Your hands if we only believe. Amen.

U.

Thank the Lord!

(Continued from page 89)

along, and they will live in the parsonage at Indianapolis. Vicar Nickerson has been doing fine work among the Springfield, Ill., Deaf, where he organized and taught a Bible class.

Vicar W. O. Neisch, who has been serving for a year at Jacksonville, Ill., with Pastor Uhlig, returns to the St. Louis seminary now to complete his studies. **Vicar Herbert Drachenberg**, having served St. Philip's, Chicago, two years, will also return to St. Louis, as is **Vicar Robt. Bauer** from Jacksonville, Fla. This gives us three experienced and good sign-

ers at the St. Louis seminary this year. **Vicar Ernst Rath**, who had been doing good work while at the Springfield seminary and was doing his vicarage in a hearing congregation in Canada, is returning to Springfield, and we hope he will again help Pastor Uhlig, who will not have the assistance of a vicar this year, but who hopes to be able to call on the three men at St. Louis and the men at the Springfield seminary to help him out.

We end as we started: Thank God for the new workers, and thank God for the finished work of the departing workers; may He bless all the workers and the whole Mission. U.



Bible Quiz

A tanner makes leather. Who was the guest of Simon the tanner in Joppa? Acts 10:32.

The Hebrews had a festival called Purim in which they remembered how the Hebrews were saved through Queen Esther. What does Pur mean? Esther 9:24.

How did the Hebrews celebrate the festival of Purim? Esther 9:22.

Why was it forbidden to eat blood in the Old Testament? Leviticus 17:14.

What will a man not have if his son is a fool? Proverbs 17:21.

How can even a fool be considered wise? Proverbs 17:28.

Does John mention all the miracles that Jesus did? John 20:30.

How should we do all things? 1 Corinthians 16:14.

Why will God make people who do not love the divine truth to believe strong delusions (false doctrines)? 2 Thessalonians 2:11-12.

Which man did not die? Hebrews 11:5.

What is better than riches? Proverbs 22:1.

Why will there be no need of candles or other light in heaven? Revelation 22:5.

How old was Joseph when he died? Genesis 50:26.

What descriptive name was given to James and John? Mark 3:17.

Who was known as the "dreamer"? Genesis 37:19.

What cruel queen tried to kill all her grandchildren? 2 Kings 11:1.