

The Deaf Lutheran



*Ephphatha, that is,
Be opened.*

MARK 7:34

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Number 11



Ephphatha Conference, St. Paul, July 1—5, 1955

Front row (left to right): Pastors G. W. Gaertner, E. Mappes, N. P. Uhlig, J. L. Salvner, Cl. Bremer, Geo. Kraus, W. Westermann, Bob. E. Cordes, W. Ferber, Vicar J. Nickerson. (Middle row) A. E. Ferber, Vicar H. Hoeman, N. E. Borchers, W. Bottlinger, Delb. Thies, Theo. DeLaney, E. Scheibert, Wm. J. Hausmann, H. W. Rohe, D. E. Doerner, L. M. Stacy, M. J. Sampson. Rear row: Vicar R. Rasch, C. R. Bailey, F. G. Gyle, W. H. Lange, R. Borchers, C. R. Gerhold, G. C. Ring, M. Kosche, A. T. Jonas, Wm. Reinking

Ephphatha Conference Meets in St. Paul

The annual Ephphatha Conference, composed of 40 pastors and vicars and the members of the Board of Missions to the Deaf, convened from July 1 to 5 in Concordia College, St. Paul, Minn. The conference was opened in nearby Cal-

vary Church for the Deaf with a Communion service, in which Pastor C. R. Bailey delivered an inspiring sermon.

Speaking for the Board of Missions to the Deaf, Pastor Wm. Buege, the Chairman, and Dr. J. L. Salvner,

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Minister of the Deaf and the Blind

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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

Official Paper of Lutheran Churches of the Deaf

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the Executive Secretary, gave various reports and addresses on the present status of the work, its growth, possible expansion, and problems. We rejoiced to hear that we now have 38 pastors and two vicars of the Deaf, and we list over 9,000 members, over 4,000 communicants, over 1,700 children in religious classes, and 23 churches or chapels. During 1954 all our deaf churches and missions have contributed more than \$75,000, while the Board of Missions to the Deaf added about \$200,000 to balance the budget of our church work. This large sum is made up of the mission gifts of hearing churches of The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod, for which we are highly grateful.

Since God has caused our work among the Deaf to grow well and to expand, the tasks of the Executive Secretary, Dr. J. L. Salvner, have increased to the extent that the six assistants to Dr. Salvner, called regional representatives, were encouraged by the board and the conference, to visit churches and pastors of their area to inspire, help, and encourage them. These regional representatives are Rev. W. Westermann in the Atlantic Zone; Rev. Theo. Frederking in the Great Lakes Zone; Rev. E. C. Mappes in the Midwest Zone; Rev. N. P. Uhlig in the Dixie Zone; Rev. Geo. W. Gaertner in the Pacific Zone; and Rev. W. Ferber in the North Central Zone.

The officers of Ephphatha Conference are Rev. Clarence Bremer of Minneapolis, chairman; Rev. George R. Kraus of St. Paul, vice-chairman; Rev. Theo. DeLaney of San Francisco, secretary. All meetings were opened by brief periods of worship, which were conducted by the chaplain, Pastor M. J. Sampson. During

the entire conference much time was devoted to set forth how to bring the Word of God and the Gospel of Jesus to the Deaf by means of the oral and manual methods. Pastor A. Ferber gave a class demonstration showing the use of the oral method in our religious classes, while Pastor N. P. Uhlig conducted a class in the manual method on the subject "The Means of Grace." An interpretation of our rite of Baptism was rendered by Pastor D. Boerner, and Rev. Theo. DeLaney explained manually the difficult chapter of Romans 7.

Considerable discussion took place on the question what to do to prevent losses of members which move from one city or state to another without leaving their new address. Our readers might be helpful if they know the address of certain deaf friends who have moved elsewhere. We urge all such members and friends to give the new address to the pastor, and he then will notify the nearest pastor of such persons as have moved elsewhere.

Pastor Reinking reported that each month over 6,000 copies of the DEAF LUTHERAN are sent out either in bulk or by direct mailing. Since the cost of printing and sending the DEAF LUTHERAN has grown enormously, our churches and our subscribers are encouraged to pay promptly for their subscriptions.

We greatly rejoiced to hear that Mr. William Ludwig, a deaf theological student, has done well in the Seminary of Springfield, Ill. We all wish him God's continued blessing and sincerely hope that he will someday become one of our ministers to the Deaf. Contrary to wrong rumors our church has never

made a ruling to forbid the Deaf to become ministers.

The meetings of Ephphatha Conference have in late years been held at St. Paul, at present the seat of the Board of Missions to Deaf. The conference decided to ask the board whether future meetings could not be held at Concordia Teachers College at River Forest, since its location, Chicago, is more central and more easily reached from all parts of the U. S. than the Twin Cities.

There was established some years ago a Lutheran Deaf Missions Society by our Lutheran Deaf having as its object the extension of missions among the Deaf in foreign countries. The conference instructed the treasurer of this society to send a check for \$100 to the Lutheran Medical Missions Association for a hearing aid for a native nurse in our Lutheran hospital in India.

In order to vary the usual program of the conference, it was decided to conduct a series of workshops at our next meeting. So we shall have a sign language workshop, an oral workshop, a youth workshop, and a stewardship workshop. In these there will be demonstrations and panel discussions. In addition to these, we shall have special reports and essays.

We had the pleasure of having Dr. Herman Mayer, Secretary of Missions of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, at our meeting for several days. His presence not only assured us of many interesting reports on various missions and mission work but also gave him a better insight into the work and problems of the Mission to the Deaf, which makes for better co-ordination and integration of our many missions.

One of the difficulties with which our workers must contend is the fact that there are very little readily usable Sunday school materials and helps for religious instruction of deaf children available. Thus each worker frequently must rewrite or produce by himself his materials for teaching. The reason for the difficulty lies in the first place in the limited vocabulary of the average deaf child and in this, that the workers' chances for meeting the classes are fewer on account of the distances to be traveled by the workers in visiting their scattered groups; and printing costs are high, since the market for such materials is limited. A resolution was offered at this conference to elect a committee to rewrite some Sunday school materials and have them published. Since there was little time for discussion of the phases and problems involved, the resolution was not adopted. But there is really a great need to be filled with regard to teaching materials in religion for the Deaf. It is to be hoped that this matter will be looked into by those in authority. Especially the newer and less-experienced workers need be given assistance so that effective teaching may be achieved.

The sessions of the Ephphatha Conference annually are a source of inspiration and needed assistance to the workers among the Deaf. Let us give to God alone all praise and glory for any reported growth of, or blessing on, our work of leading the Deaf to Christ and to heaven. May our readers often pray to God to guide and to bless all our pastors to the Deaf so that the church among the Deaf will progress and God be glorified by the faith and lives of our Christians.

T. FREDERKING

"Vexilla Regis Prodeunt!"

This was the cry which electrified the armies of old Rome, which conquered the world. "*Vexilla regis prodeunt*," the Latin war cry, means, "The banners of the king are going forward!" When the command to advance was given and the flags of the legions moved, this cry was uttered, and Rome's soldiers immediately broke forward in the march to another victory.

At the meeting of the North Central Regional Conference of deaf lay people and pastors at St. Paul September 10 a resolution was offered and adopted which recalls this war cry. It calls for action in the war of the Cross against forces of darkness among the Deaf of heathen lands. The resolution follows:

"WHEREAS, Our Lord has commanded us to preach the Gospel to every creature in every nation; and since this command also includes the Deaf of every nation; and

WHEREAS, The nation of Japan has approximately 80,000 deaf people among whom no substantial Christian church work is being undertaken; and

WHEREAS, Our Lord has singularly blessed the work among the Deaf in the United States by The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod; therefore be it

Resolved, That (1) we, the members of the Deaf Missions Society of The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod, use the funds we have in our present treasury for an exploratory mission trip in Japan by a man whom our Board of Missions to the Deaf shall choose, the purpose of this trip being the opening and establish-

ing of deaf mission work in Japan by The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod; and

That (2) we ask approval for this trip from our Board of Missions to the Deaf and Synod's Foreign Mission Board; and

That (3) we, the North Central Region, petition the representative of each of the five other regions to obtain approval of each field in his region for these resolutions; and

That (4) since the cost of the round trip to Japan and the survey in Japan will cost approximately \$1,700 (including round-trip airplane ticket, food, and lodging), and since the Deaf Missions Society has approximately \$1,100 on deposit, we encourage our people and congregations to contribute to the Deaf Missions Society the remaining \$600 necessary for this survey trip as soon as possible; and

That (5) this survey be completed in time to report to General Synod in June 1956."

The royal banners forward go,
The Cross shines forth in mystic glow.

Well done! When the Lutheran Deaf Missions Society some years ago was organized in the East, it was a small beginning, and it still is a small and relatively weak organization. But "great oaks from little acorns grow." You Deaf, come to the help of the little sapling. It needs about \$600 to put this survey over, and this survey may well mean the beginning of expansion of our work among Deaf in foreign countries. It should mean that. It can be done. Some groups have been sending money to

(Concluded on last page)



At the time when this was written the situation in the vacant fields was as follows:

Mount Calvary, Des Moines, Iowa, called the **Rev. Richard Meyer** of Pasadena, Calif., after Rev. Luther Russert had declined the call.

Rev. C. Theodore Kuehn of Wallingford, Conn., declined the call to Columbus, Ohio, and the **Rev. E. O. Krug** of Wabash, Ind., was given a call. Rev. Krug has been doing part-time Deaf work in several Indiana cities in addition to the work in his hearing congregation.

St. Paul, Minn. — The **North Central Regional Conference** met at St. Paul, September 10. Opening devotions were conducted by the regional representative of the zone, Rev. W. Ferber of Fargo, N. Dak., at 1 P.M. The theme of the entire conference was "The Office of the Keys and Confession." The entire program centered in this important teaching of the Bible.

In the business meeting Rev. Ferber was elected chairman and Mr. Calvin Wilson secretary. Rev. Ferber was empowered to set the next conference date after due consultation with the other congregations in the region.

Pastor C. Bremer of Minneapolis opened the doctrinal part of the program with his paper on the "Scriptural Basis for the Doctrine of the Office of the Keys." He used a large flip chart, with the Bible passages written out, for the class. This worked very well for both pas-

tors and laymen. An interesting discussion followed the presentation.

Next, Pastor Kraus of St. Paul presented a visual demonstration of the Office of the Keys. Pastor Kraus used a flip chart with diagrams and stories to demonstrate the use of the Office of the Keys.

Pastor Kosche of Madison, Wis., then offered his paper on the "Private Use of the Office of the Keys in the Local Congregation." This was an excellent paper on the practical use of this doctrine in the lives of our people. Quite a bit of discussion followed this paper.

Pastor Ferber then gave an excellent chalk talk on "Love—the Basis of the Doctrine of Excommunication." (We wish Pastor Ferber would offer more of his chalk talks to the men in the field.) An interesting word Pastor Ferber coined is "incommunication," by which is meant bringing the excommunicated person back into the fold. We could use more incommunication in all our churches.

Mrs. William Grewie of Fergus Falls, a member of Pastor Ferber's church "stole the show." Her lecture on the use of the Office of the Keys in the home was real spiritual food for every parent. Bible-centered, psychologically sound, well written, this paper should be in the hands of all our parents. It was the high point of the day to hear her essay. Brothers and sisters, we need more laymen and women like Mrs. Grewie.

The Madison, Wis., congregation

extended the invitation to us for our next convention. This was accepted. Rev. Ferber closed the meeting with prayer at 4:55 P. M.

The evening session began at 7 P. M. with the presentation of a resolution to the entire mission field in the United States concerning our Deaf mission work in foreign countries, especially Japan. The resolutions passed unanimously. Movies and slides were then shown by Mr. Berger of the congregation in Saint Paul. The evening session closed with the evening suffrages by Pastor Kraus and Mr. Berger at 9 P. M.

Not to be forgotten was the superb supper the ladies of Calvary served free to the entire gathering. After the supper a freewill offering was taken for the Deaf Missions. That collection amounted to \$22.00.

CALVIN WILSON

Springfield, Ill. — With the return of the students to Concordia Theological Seminary, "Field Captain" Earl Thaler gathered a group of about twenty-five students whom he is instructing in the sign language. He is very active in the Sunday school of Christ for the Deaf Chapel at Jacksonville, where he and Wm. Ludwig and others teach. Every Sunday morning a group of five or six students drive out to Jacksonville and teach and do secretarial and supervisory work. This is a great help to Pastor Uhlig and goes over very well with the Deaf children. About ninety children were enrolled at the beginning of the fall term. There are about 450 children enrolled in the Illinois School for the Deaf. — Mr. Thaler brought a task force of six to twelve men out on several Saturdays, and these men painted the fellowship hall below the chapel and put up

blackboards and curtains for partitions of the Sunday school room. These men should get a rising vote of thanks.

Madison, Wis. — On August 20 Miss Eileen June Nadler became the bride of Robert Lee Clark, Milwaukee. Rev. Kosche performed the ceremony in Immanuel Lutheran Church. May God bless the union. The couple resides now in Milwaukee.

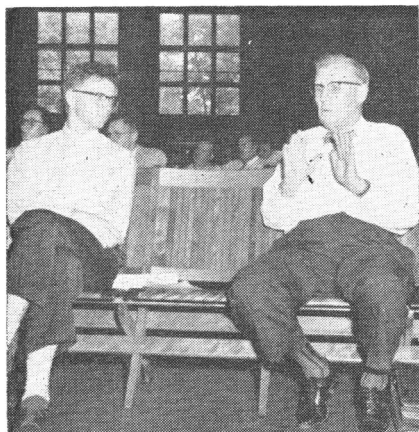
M. K.

Peoria, Ill. — Miss Alice Rigby of Kingston Mines, Ill., died after a lingering illness at Peoria August 20 and was buried August 22 at Kingston Mines. She was a faithful attendant at our Peoria services. She was 65 years old.

U.

Miami, Fla. — Mr. Rob. Bauer, who assisted us as vicar at Jacksonville, Fla., was united in holy matrimony on August 23 with Miss Eleanor M. Klann of Edmonton, Alberta. They are living in St. Louis, where Mr. Bauer is completing his studies at Concordia Seminary. He will be graduated next June. Also married were Miss Barbara Verhoosky and Mr. Dewey McDonald, July 22, at Redeemer Lutheran Church, Miami. God bless these unions. — Forty-two Deaf boys and girls were in our summer classes, a record total: St. Augustine, 6; Jacksonville, 13; Hialeah, 22; Alaska, 1, Bill Scott, who was taught by mail. F. F. G.

Jacksonville, Ill. — Christ (Deaf) Congregation joined the Central Illinois District of The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod and was received at the convention in Springfield August 21—25. It was represented by Mr. Clarence Broecker and Pastor Uhlig. Mr. Broecker is president of the congregation. He is a teacher in the



Clarence Broecker and Pastor N. P. Uhlig

Illinois School for the Deaf. An accompanying cut shows the two sitting in the gymnasium of Concordia Seminary, where the sessions were held. Pastor Uhlig sioned the proceedings for Mr. Broecker, getting some help in these "all-day" tasks from his son, Rev. Walter Uhlig, pastor of nearby Pleasant Plains, Ill., and Rev. Geo. Ring of Portland, Oreg., who was a visitor on sick leave after an operation.

Rev. Uhlig and Mr. Broecker were given an interview during the days of the convention over the Springfield television station.

Minneapolis, Minn. — On September 11 the 40th anniversary of the dedication of Grace Chapel was observed, Dr. Salvner preaching the sermon. He was the only present of the congregation that dedicated the chapel forty years ago. — On August 14 **Sandra Ann Olson**, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Marvin Olson, was baptized, and on August 21 **Terry Lee Kabrud**, son of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Kabrud. — On August 5 **Miss Marjorie Young and Mr. Michael J. Zroka** were married. The next day **Miss Marian Rolf and Mr. Edward Lindbro** were united in marriage at Waconia. May the Lord bless all these. C. B.

Spokane, Wash. — **Jane Louise**, infant daughter of Pastor and Mrs. August L. **Hauptman**, born July 8, was laid in the arms of Jesus in Holy Baptism on July 24. God bless that happy family.



Catechism

The Doctrine of the Sacraments (Continued)

By THEO. DELANEY

Last month we learned that a Sacrament is a holy act that God instituted and in which we are to use some visible things which are to be used with God's Word and in and through which He promises to give us forgiveness. We are now to

study some "extra sacraments," besides Baptism and the Holy Supper, that are said by some to be true sacraments.

First, we look at **penance**. Certainly God has commanded us to confess our sins also to one another. James 5:16: "Confess your faults one to another"; and Matthew 18:15: "If your brother trespass against you, go and tell him his fault between you

and him alone. If he hear you, you have gained your brother." God also commands His church to forgive sins. John 20:22, 23: "Receive ye the Holy Ghost. If you forgive anyone's sins, they are forgiven. If you retain anyone's sins, they are retained," not forgiven; Matthew 16:19: "I will give you the keys of the kingdom of Heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven; and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven"; 2 Corinthians 2:10: "Anyone that you forgive anything, I also forgive. If I forgave anything, for your sakes I forgave him before Christ." But God has not commanded any slavish confession of all sins to a preacher or a priest.

God truly forgives sins to penitent sinners. 1 John 1:8-10: "If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say that we have not sinned, we make Him a liar, and His Word is not in us." But God's Word does not tell us to use some visible means (things) to forgive these sins. Therefore we say, **Penance is not** a sacrament.

Next we look at **confirmation**. God's Word uses the word "confirm" in Acts 14:21, 22: "And when they had preached the Gospel in that city and had taught many, they returned to Lystra and to Iconium and Antioch, confirming the souls of the disciples and exhorting them to continue in the faith, and that we must through much tribulation enter into the kingdom of God." However, this cannot be interpreted to mean anything like present-day confirmation. It actually means that Paul and

his companions made the Christians stronger in their faith by coming back to these cities where they had so much trouble, thus showing that by faith they had no fear for their lives but rather were bold to spread the good news about Jesus. Even the Roman Catholic Church does not apply this verse to confirmation. They translate "reassuring the disciples." Certainly this is not a command nor an institution of confirmation by God. In Luke 22:32: "When you are converted, strengthen thy brethren," the word used in Greek means "to confirm," "make strong." It here also does not mean a special holy act, and nowhere the Bible tells us that God has instituted confirmation as a sacrament.

In confirmation some churches use a visible thing, an oil called "chrism." And all churches that have confirmation have the confirming minister lay hands upon the head of the candidate. But God did not command that the chrism be used, nor that the hands be laid in this way upon the head in confirmation, and that is not using any visible thing either, but it is an act. Nor does God in the Bible tell us that this act forgives sins. Therefore we say and teach that **confirmation is not a sacrament**. In the Lutheran Church we use confirmation as a holy act through which people renew the promise that the sponsors made for them in Holy Baptism when they were babies. It does not forgive their sins. It simply shows that now they personally make the promise to be faithful to God and that they have been instructed in the Christian doctrine. When adults have not been baptized but are instructed and then baptized, we should not say that they

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Know Your Bible

The Two Books of the Kings

These two books originally were one. They give us the history of the Jewish nation but not all details. The account begins with the nation in its greatest glory and ends with the story of its fall and captivity. Under David, the great general, the nation had become strong. Under Solomon, who was a great builder, it became a powerful and rich nation. A period of about 400 years is covered.

The death of David (ch. 2:10) brought Solomon upon the throne. He built the beautiful Temple at Jerusalem. He developed commerce and industry, built great navies and ports. He was a learned and wise man. His fame spread everywhere. His trade routes extended far into Asia and Africa. With riches came luxury. He had seven hundred wives and three hundred concubines, and with many of these, the daughters of princes from many lands, came false worship and idolatry into the nation. His income was stated at twenty million dollars annually. The taxes of the people became very high. In old age he fell into idolatry and "did evil in the sight of the Lord."

Rehoboam, Solomon's son, became king after him. Disregarding the wise counsel of the elders and accepting the foolhardy advice of the young men when the people asked for relief from the high taxes (ch. 12: 3-11), Rehoboam brought about a rebellion. Ten tribes broke away

under Jeroboam and became the Kingdom of Israel. Only the tribes of Judah and Benjamin stayed with Rehoboam and formed the Kingdom of Judah.

Then follows the story of the divided kingdom, and it is a sad story. King after king is mentioned, and of most of them it is said that they were bad, especially the kings of Israel. The kings of Judah have a better record, but many of them, too, were bad. All of the nineteen kings of Israel were bad, and only eight of the twenty kings of Judah were good. The best ones were Jehoshaphat, Hezekiah, and Josiah.

Jeroboam, the first of the kings of Israel, established calf worship, like Egypt's, as the religion. With idol worship came general wickedness, and God's punishment came soon. That kingdom lasted from about 980 B. C. to 722 B. C., when the king of Assyria defeated Israel and now Judah was left alone until it, too, was destroyed and the Jews led into captivity at Babylon in 589 B. C. The dates are not sure, and various students have arrived at slightly different dates.

But it is a sad story of a greatly blest nation that fell away from God and was punished. But God did not forsake His people. Great prophets arose in these centuries, Elijah, Elisha, Isaiah, Amos, Joel, Jeremiah, and others. They warned the wicked and comforted the faithful that held to the Word of God and looked for the Messiah. Some of the finest

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Devotions

Selections are from the Book of Revelation, and the devotions are by Rev. Francis G. Gyle.

Tuesday, November 1,

All Saints Day

Revelation 1:1-8

All believers in the Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, the Son of God, are *saints*. We become holy (saints) when our sins are washed away in Jesus' blood. Then Jesus makes His believers "a kingdom of priests" (v. 6).

Prayer: Lord Jesus, we thank You for making all your people priests. Help us become good workers in Your kingdom always. Amen.

Wednesday, November 2

Revelation 1:3, 7

The time is near (*at hand*). The kingdom of God is among us now! The things written in Revelation are happening today. Only the Day of Judgment is not yet. We do not know when it comes, but John tells us, "He comes with clouds" (v. 7).

Prayer: Holy Spirit, keep us by God's Word in true faith until the Last Day. Bless us when we read and see His Word preached. Amen.

Thursday, November 3

Revelation 2:1-7

The church at Ephesus was strong. The preachers there taught God's Word correctly. There were no false teachers. "You do not love Me as you did at first," Jesus says (v. 4). All our faith and work for Jesus is worth nothing without love.

Prayer: O God, all our gifts and work without love are worth nothing. Help us remember Your love for us in Jesus, our Savior. Amen.

Friday, November 4

Revelation 2:8-11

The church in Smyrna was weak. It was poor. It had suffered at the hands of unbelievers (v. 9). Jesus tells its members to continue faithful till death. "If you trust in Me," He says, "you will not suffer in hell" (v. 11).

Prayer: Lord Jesus, You live forever in heaven to bless us with Your love. Help us understand that with You we are never poor. Amen.

Saturday, November 5

Revelation 2:12-17

The church at Pergamos was two-faced. They preached both Christ and the falsehoods of Balaam and Nicolas. In church they taught correctly; after church they sinned greatly and followed other gods, as in the time of Elijah.

Prayer: Holy Spirit, help us understand and believe that there is only one true God, Father, Son, and Holy Ghost; no other. Amen.

Sunday, November 6

22d After Trinity

Revelation 2:18-29

Thyatira had a church with some good members. But many followed

a woman named Jezebel in idol worship, unclean sex deeds, and doing "good deeds" separate from Christ. Jesus warns them not to follow Satan but to keep God's Law.

Prayer: O God, without You we cannot give You pleasure. By Your mercy let us in all our doings follow Your commandments and be holy. Amen.

Monday, November 7

Revelation 3:1-6

Sardis was a "dead" church. It had a good name, but there were few true Christians in that church. Christ urges Sardis: "Remember what you have received and heard; continue to obey it; repent" (v. 3).

Prayer: Holy Spirit, sometimes our faith is weak and we just ride along on the church bench. Make us strong with Jesus' Gospel. Amen.

Tuesday, November 8

Revelation 3:7-13

Philadelphia in Asia was a weak church. Jesus, the "Key of David," opens to this church the gates of the heavenly Jerusalem. In their weakness they had not left the faith. They had kept God's name holy, trusting in Christ alone.

Prayer: Lord Jesus, You open the kingdom of heaven to all believers. You are the Door. Teach us not to look for some other way. Amen.

Wednesday, November 9

Revelation 3:14-22

Laodicea was lukewarm. The members were "not against Jesus." They were not "for Christ" either. They had a pretty church with fine decorations. They were self-satisfied. Christ tells them to quit being lukewarm, or He will vomit them out.

Prayer: Father, Your Son keeps knocking at men's hearts with Your message of forgiveness. Save and keep us by that Word. Amen.

Thursday, November 10

Revelation 4

"God's in His heaven; all's right with the world." The twenty-four elders of heaven and the four beasts praise God because He made all things for His pleasure. And He is God, yesterday, today, and forevermore.

Prayer: "We all believe in one true God, Father, Son, and Holy Ghost." "Blest and Holy Trinity, Praise forever be to Thee." Amen.

Friday, November 11

Veterans' Day

Revelation 5

Veterans of all nations who died believing God's promises in Christ join with the twenty-four elders and the four beasts. We, too, sing praise to the Lamb of God, Jesus, the King, who defeated sin and death.

Prayer: "And for Thy Gospel let us dare to sacrifice all treasure; Teach us to bear Thy blessed cross, to find in Thee all pleasure." Amen.

Saturday, November 12

Revelation 6:9-17

Christ breaks the fifth and sixth seals of the book that explains the happenings on the earth. The fifth picture shows us that Christians must suffer on earth. The sixth shows God's anger, destroying His enemies.

Prayer: Holy Spirit, give us patience to learn that our sufferings here are small when we think of God's promises about heaven. Amen.

Sunday, November 13

23d After Trinity

Revelation 7:9-17

Some people try to tell us that only 144,000 will be in heaven. But read verses 9 and 10 — “a great multitude which no man could number!” We are members of this white company *now* if we believe in the Lamb of God. Heaven is our home.

Prayer: Our Father, we thank You for making us Your children with the blood of Your Son and the adoption of the Holy Ghost. Amen.

Monday, November 14

Revelation 8

Some people say God cannot be angry with sinners because He is Love. Notice verses 2 and 3; God’s Son gives the prayers of God’s people, whose sins are forgiven. But on His enemies who continue against Him God pours anger.

Prayer: Lord Jesus Christ, hide Your face from our sins, and blot out all our misdeeds; create in us new hearts and lives. Amen.

Tuesday, November 15

Revelation 9:1-5, 14-16, 20-21

Hail, fire, blood, wind and waves, epidemics, darkness at noon — all these things God sends to let us know about His anger over sin. Let us accept His warnings, confess our sins, and ask for mercy in Christ *now*, before it is too late.

Prayer: Lord Jesus, teach us to watch the happenings of our time, so we will remember God’s hatred for sin; turn us to see You. Amen.

Wednesday, November 16

Revelation 10

Christ appears as an angel with a book. He tells John to eat the book before speaking the Gospel to all people. Preachers and teachers must learn and teach *all* the news about God, both Law (about sin) and Gospel (about mercy).

Prayer: Holy Spirit, help us understand God’s Word and know both the hard truth about sin and the good news of mercy in Christ. Amen.

Thursday, November 17

Revelation 11:15-19

This is God’s time of victory and judgment. All angels and souls in heaven sing praises, because the Temple of God is in heaven. This happened in a picture on earth when Joshua took Jericho with seven trumpets and brought the ark in.

Prayer: Our Father, we give thanks for Your promise to pardon us and to beat down Satan under our feet, through faith in Christ. Amen.

Friday, November 18

Revelation 12:1-9

Now let us go back and read Genesis 3:15, 16! In Revelation John sees a moving picture of the history of Christ against Satan. See the mother (1-3), the Son of God (5), the stay in Egypt (6), and the Lent and Easter Story (7-9).

Prayer: Our Father, You know beforehand all that will happen on earth. We thank You for knowing us and saving us in Christ. Amen.

Saturday, November 19

Revelation 13

The first beast pictures world governments that are against the Gospel (like Roman Empire, Hitler, Communism). The second beast looks like a Lamb (Christ) but speaks with a dragon's voice (Satan's). It is Antichrist, false Christianity.

Prayer: Holy Spirit, keep our hearts turned toward the Lamb of God, Jesus Christ. Save us from the false religions of man's making. Amen.

Sunday, November 20

Last in Trinity

Revelation 14:6-13

Those who believe the Gospel of Christ (6,7) live the life the third angel tells about (12) and are rewarded for their deeds done in faith (13). The two angels show false gods destroyed (8) and their followers punished (10,11).

Prayer: Lord Jesus, we should be punished for our sins and failure to obey You. Pardon us, and give us new life in You. Amen.

Monday, November 21

Revelation 15:1-8

In Revelation we see three "great signs in heaven." The man Child of ch. 12:1, the red dragon of 12:3, and now the last Judgment. Seven angels show the seven sicknesses which will complete God's anger and show His righteousness.

Prayer: Holy Spirit, rule our hearts and minds so that we remember Judgment Day and turn to Christ in faith for life eternal. Amen.

Tuesday, November 22

Revelation 16:13-15

Evil work comes from evil governments, from the false Christs, and from false wonder-workers. Their words are like slimy frogs. With their power they mislead many people, calling themselves friends and servants of God. Watch out! (15)

Prayer: Heavenly Father, You alone know the Day and the hour of Judgment. Keep us from false faiths and always ready for Jesus. Amen.

Wednesday, November 23

Revelation 17:1-6

Now we return to the third of the last seven plagues. "Babylon" is a great mystery. A power on this earth is pictured as a rich woman, the mother of all evil women and all filthy sins, sins which God hates the most, false religion.

Prayer: Holy Spirit, keep our churches from the sins of false worship, trust in riches, and unclean life. Keep us pure in Christ. Amen.

Thursday, November 24

Thanksgiving

Revelation 18:21-24

Chapter 18 tells us more about the sins and the last destruction of Babylon, the false church that rules with power on earth. Thanks to God, we are free to worship as He commands in the Holy Bible, without fear of a police church!

Prayer: Lord Jesus, we thank You because You have judged those who do wrong to Your Word. Teach us to value and use our freedom. Amen.

Friday, November 25

Revelation 19:1-9

Amen, so let it be! Alleluia, praise the Lord! Every Christian who keeps faith in Christ as his or her Savior and Lord is invited to the wedding supper of the Lamb. This is Jesus' heavenly marriage to His church. Are you one of His?

Prayer: Our Father, we thank You for giving Your Son to be the Bridegroom of His people, the church. Our God is Victor; Alleluia! Amen.

Saturday, November 26

Revelation 20:1-6

From Jesus' words (John 12:31 and Luke 10:18) we know that Jesus "bound" the devil; "thousand years" means a long time; He is the Angel (v. 1; see ch. 1:18) with the key to hell; the "first resurrection" (v. 5) means to come to faith (John 5:25). In heaven Jesus rules forever with His people.

Prayer: Lord Jesus, we thank You because Your rising from the dead made us able to live with You forever as kings and priests. Amen.

Sunday, November 27

First in Advent

Revelation 21:1-8

After God destroys heaven and earth, He creates a new heaven, which is named Jerusalem. There His people are happy forever with Him. These words are true, and we can depend on them. They come from the everlasting God.

Prayer: Holy Spirit, help us hunger and thirst for the knowledge and love of God so that we can drink His water and receive His life. Amen.

Monday, November 28

Revelation 22:1-7

Look carefully at verses 6 and 7. What God tells us in Revelation is true and dependable. Today we see the things happen that God has told us in this book. We shall be happy if we keep His word by obeying it in faith (v. 7).

Prayer: Holy Spirit, be with us as we read God's Word in this book. Help us in our Bible reading to see Christ and grow in faith. Amen.

Tuesday, November 29

Revelation 22:8-15

John reports what he saw in this book. The angel tells him not to shut (seal) the book, because the prophecies are happening now. We are happy if we obey God's command to wash our robes white from sin by faith in the blood of our Redeemer.

Prayer: "Jesus, Thy blood and righteousness my beauty are, my glorious dress!" In You alone I have sure hope for life in heaven. Amen.

Wednesday, November 30

St. Andrew's Day

Revelation 22:16-21

The Bible speaks for itself. If anyone adds to or subtracts from its words, do not believe him. In Revelation we learn that Jesus is coming soon. (Advent means coming.) He comes to us and calls us to come, follow Him (Matthew 4:18-22).

Prayer: Our Father, we thank You for the joy You give us at the Christmas season and the everlasting joy that shall be ours when Jesus returns. Amen.

"Vexilla Regis Prodeunt!"

(Continued from page 165)

the treasurer of the Lutheran Deaf Missions Society, Rev. Theo. DeLaney, 2034 32d Ave., San Francisco 16, Calif. If we all help a little, the first step can soon be taken; but let us help more than a little and show to all that the Deaf mean to go forward as the royal banner of our King Jesus goes forward. This gives us a great project to work for. "Forward! March! — Pray! Pay!"

Catechism

(Continued from page 169)

were baptized and confirmed; they were baptized. Confirmation ap-

plies to people that were baptized as children; and these, not the church, confirm — make strong and renew — their promise to believe in the Triune God and to be faithful to Him. Adults who make the baptismal promise with full knowledge of its meaning have nothing to confirm (make strong).

Know Your Bible

(Continued from page 170)

prophecies of Jesus were spoken by these men in these times. May we never forget that "righteousness exalteth a nation, but sin is a reproach to any people" (Proverbs 14:34).
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Bible Quiz

How did the prophet Elisha make unusable water good? 2 Kings 2:21.

What was the name of the wife of Moses? Exodus 18:2.

Why were Hymeneus and Alexander "delivered unto Satan"? We would say excommunicated, or expelled, from the congregation. 1 Timothy 1:20.

What does every wise woman do? Proverbs 14:1.

What were the names of the two sons of Moses? Exodus 18:34.

Counting a day for a year, how many days was the prophet Ezekiel to lie only on his left side to symbolize the years of punishment of the Jewish nation? Ezekiel 4:4, 5.

Why is sorrow better than laughter? Ecclesiastes 7:3.

In what respect is every man like every woman? Romans 3:23.

What was to be used as fuel to bake the barley cakes that Ezekiel had to eat for 390 days (v. 12), and what was he allowed to use instead that many poor people in Eastern countries still use? Ezekiel 4:15.

How many porches, or halls, were in the hospital Bethesda by the pool of healing waters? John 5:2.

How did God prove that He really loves everybody and wants everybody to be saved? John 3:16.

What is the food of the poorest people in time of great want and trouble? Ezekiel 4:17.

What made the army of Syria flee when four lepers came to them at night? 2 Kings 7:4-7.