

# *The Deaf Lutheran*



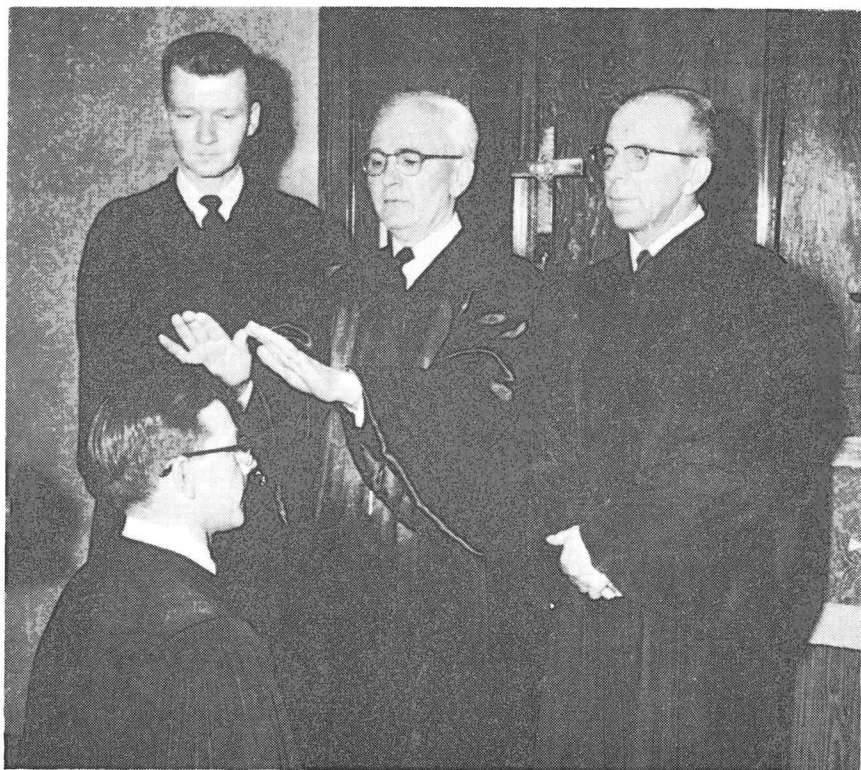
*Ephphatha, that is,  
Be opened.*

MARK 7:34

Volume 48

APRIL 1956

Number 4



Rev. E. Mappes, Omaha, Assisted by Rev. H. M. Zagel and (right) Rev. K. Schliepsiek,  
Installs Rev. L. M. Stacy at Des Moines, Jan. 5, 1956

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### Minister of the Deaf and the Blind

Rev. O. C. Schroeder, B. D., 1648 E. 85th St., Chicago 17, Ill. — REgent 413621

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

Published monthly by Concordia Publishing House, St. Louis 18, Mo. Subscription price, 50 cents per annum anywhere in the world, payable strictly in advance. Entered as second-class matter at the Post Office at St. Louis, Mo., under the Act of March 3, 1879. Acceptance for mailing at special rate of postage provided for in Section 1103, Act of October 3, 1917, authorized on January 14, 1935. Send all subscriptions, changes of address, and cancellations to Rev. Wm. Reinking, 7209 Nashville Ave., St. Louis 17, Mo.

The DEAF LUTHERAN goes to press on the 3d Friday, two weeks before issue. Send all news, pictures, stories, articles to Rev. N. P. Uhlig, Editor, 104 Finley St., Jacksonville, Ill.

## Meet Mr. Gustave F. Kruse of St. Paul, Minn., Treasurer of the Board of Missions to Deaf, The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

The DEAF LUTHERAN is very happy to be able to bring to its readers the story of the man who has served The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod as the Treasurer of the Board of Missions to Deaf for over twenty-five years. When the Editor asked him for data about his part and service in behalf of the Mission to Deaf, he expressed the thought that he did not feel that he played any particularly important part. Which is a statement that will flatly be contradicted by all the workers whose salaries he paid out over the years; for especially the wives of the missionaries and the children are very thankful for those services; and his checks were always right and promptly on time, and if not, probably the U.S. mail service slipped up. So far as we know, he does not make mistakes, and the Editor has often marveled at the speed with which his eye takes in a column of figures and comes up with the answer almost faster than the adding machine does.

Gustave F. Kruse saw the light of day August 6, 1878, in a small village 10 or 12 miles beyond the northern limits of the city of Hamburg in Germany. In the spring of 1879 his parents, C. Henry and Doris Kruse, came to America and settled at Pine City, Minn. He was baptized in Germany. He says that he recalls the small two-room country school at Pine City. The children learned the fundamental three R's, and grades were not much bothered with; but still the children learned

to think and to read and write and to figure. And they learned to keep on learning. When he was big enough, the boy went to work, and he says he has had no regrets.

He was confirmed in April 1893 by the pastor of the German Lutheran church of Pine City, the Rev. August F. Ude, of which congregation his parents and Mr. and Mrs. John and Margaret Schoettler were



Mr. and Mrs. G. F. Kruse, and (right) His Sister, Mrs. Mary Lindschau

charter members. The latter were the parents of Elizabeth E. Schoettler, who was united with him in holy matrimony November 4, 1904. They celebrated their golden wedding anniversary two years ago. They were early childhood friends and schoolmates. They have a son

and a daughter, five grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren.

Leaving school at the age of fourteen years, Mr. Kruse found employment at the Pine City station of the St. Paul and Duluth Railroad. His story is one of humble beginning and steady advancement to positions of great responsibility. When at the age of eighteen he with his parents moved to Sandstone, Minn., he entered the employ of the Great Northern R. R. Then he went up the ladder step by step. Starting as a section hand, he was engine wiper, hostler helper, call boy of train and engine crews, yard clerk, yardmaster, freight bill clerk at Sandstone, then held various positions in the division superintendent's office of the Great Northern at Superior, Wis., including that of chief clerk to the division superintendent. He resigned in 1913 to accept a position as transportation rate man and examiner with the Railroad and Warehouse Commission of the state of Minnesota, retaining that position for thirty-two years until his retirement on February 1, 1945. He holds certificates as a practitioner before the Minnesota Railroad Commission and the Interstate Commerce Commission.

Mr. Kruse loved outdoor sports, fishing, baseball, ice skating, and swimming, and liked to bowl until illness deprived him of a limb.

The Kruses have been faithful members of the Lutheran Church all their life. They have been members of Redeemer Lutheran Church, St. Paul, over 43 years under Pastors Kreinheder and Paul and Fred and Herbert Lindemann. He served as secretary and treasurer of the Sunday school and auditor of the congregation for several years.

Mr. Kruse, who was a Western Union messenger at the time of the great forest fire of September 1, 1894, vividly recalls the scenes of that terrible conflagration, which destroyed a dozen towns and villages, including Hinckley, Sandstone, and Indian Creek.

Asked about his work as member of the Board of Missions to Deaf, of which body he has been a member for a quarter century, serving as treasurer, he modestly claimed no great service, though he actually held and faithfully executed very responsible functions. He was greatly interested in the Lord's work and in the bringing of the Gospel to the Deaf. "Every phase of the work has been interesting; but most of all satisfying is the knowledge that it has been a great privilege to serve my Lord in His vineyard, and as a humble servant under His guidance to do everything to the honor and glory of His holy name decently and in order."

These words are well spoken. May God reward and bless His faithful servant.

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"THE path of the just is as the shining light that shineth more and more unto the perfect day," *Proverbs 4:18*.

"God does not comfort us to make us comfortable, but to make us comforters."

JOWETT

#### NOTICE

Ephphatha Conference, July 1  
to 4, 1956, Concordia College,  
St. Paul, Minn.



## Our "Venture of Faith"

To venture something means to try something that seems to be hard or uncertain. The term "Venture of Faith" is used in our circles frequently since July 1955. Last July 500 "Visitors" had a meeting at St. Paul. The name "Visitor" is used in our church for the leader, or chairman, of the "circuit." A "circuit" is composed of a group of five to ten churches in a certain area or city, and each of the thirty-two Districts of our Synod has a number of circuits. These Visitors were assembled for an important meeting, discussing ways and means to regulate better some things of interest and importance to all, in this case the gathering of the funds for the extensive work of preaching the Gospel.

In Synod the funds are gathered for many purposes, ranging from the carrying on of preaching in the whole world to the education of pastors and teachers so that men are prepared for the work. Then there are many good institutions and departments that must be cared for. It takes much money, and frequently it was necessary to arrange for special collections, which are sometimes called "drives" or "campaigns" to get support for such special purposes; sometimes building programs must be carried out to replace or enlarge the facilities of the departments. The regular expenses were taken care of in the general fund which is simply called the "Budget." Then came the extra collections, which made it harder to gather the Budget requirements.

Last year's Budget called for \$9,100,000. Special requirements for various building operations and in-

stitutions are figured to require twenty million dollars the next five years.

At St. Paul these many leaders discussed the situation. It was felt that instead of having large "drives," why not divide the twenty million by five, which makes four million a year, and set our goal of the Budget for that much higher? And they said, "Can we venture, or try, to collect so much more for the Budget each year and do away with special "drives"?"

Believing that our Christians realize that the need is there for much harder effort to gain this goal, they decided to ask Synod to try for that goal. So they set \$12,900,000 as the goal for 1956 and called this a "Venture of Faith."

It will mean a much greater effort for all; it will mean greater contribution by everyone for Christ and for the "faith which was once delivered unto the saints." It is delivered to us now, that is, it is given to us now to carry on the great work of preaching the Gospel to all.

Our Deaf are benefiting from that effort. Our Synod carries on a greater work among the Deaf in our country than any other church denomination. We have almost forty men doing this work, who devote all their time to serving the Deaf. So the Deaf have a great interest in the success of the effort to gather the necessary funds by regular, increased, steady contributions.

We need prayer, study, interest, money. If we prize what Jesus did for the world, namely, that He saved it with His suffering, death, and resurrection, we will with love and faith try our best so that the "Venture of Faith" becomes a "Victory of Faith."



**Madison, Wis.** — Miss Beverly Beasley of Lafayette and Lee Blackman of Golden, married December 9 at Lafayette.

**Wedding.** Miss Philippa Farwell of Dodgeville, Wis., and Robert Nichols of Delavan, at Ridgeway, Wis., October 15; they live at Darien, Wis.

**Indianapolis.** — On January 23 Eric Martin Nickerson arrived at the home of Vicar and Mrs. John Nickerson. Congratulations!

**Des Moines, Iowa.** — Terrilei L. Rickabaugh, born August 22, 1955, to Mr. and Mrs. LeRoy Rickabaugh of Des Moines, was baptized January 29. May God keep him in His grace.—Our sympathies go to Mr. Rudolph Peterson of Cedar Falls, Iowa, whose wife passed away January 7, and to Mrs. Wm. Meester, whose father, Rev. Rhode, was taken from her by death in January.

**New York.** — The children of Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Martin of Brooklyn, Kathleen Carol and Ernest Junior, were laid into the arms of Jesus by Holy Baptism on January 8. May God keep these His lambs.

**Portland, Oreg.** — Christian P. Hagen, who was born in Norway in 1864, the father of Selma Cooke, Clara Skoglund, and Marian Beck, and of Kenneth, Ted, and John Hagen, passed away February 5 at Portland and was buried February 7 at Canby, Oreg., Pastor Ring interpreting the service for the bene-

fit of the Deaf. Our sympathies to all.

(A note in the bulletin of Pastor Ring of Portland informed us of the death of the father of Rev. A. L. Hauptmann at Los Angeles in early February. Our sympathies go to the mourners. Ed.)

**Spokane, Wash.** — In order better to serve the Montana Deaf, Pastor Hauptmann visits Montana via the airlines now, thus saving much time and physical strength. May God keep him safe on these journeys over the mountains.

**Jacksonville, Ill.** — During the last two weeks of January, Pastor Uhlig, Regional Representative of the Board of Missions to Deaf for the Dixie area, visited stations in Texas, Oklahoma, Mississippi, Louisiana, and Alabama with Pastors Oermann of Houston and Sampson of Jackson, Miss., and Vicar Bottlinger of Oklahoma City. In February he visited stations at Atlanta and Savannah, Ga., and the Florida stations with Pastor Gyle and Vicar Rasch. February 19—23 he took part in the Evangelism Week of the Miami Lutheran churches as guest missionary for Pastor Gyle's Miami Deaf group. During his absence from Jacksonville, students from the St. Louis and Springfield seminaries and Mrs. Cl. Broecker of Jacksonville served the Central Illinois stations.

**Seattle, Wash.** — On December 15 Pastor John C. Beyer had the rare joy of baptizing two Deaf in a Cana-

dian penitentiary. One was a white man and one an Indian, who has since been released and is gone to a reservation a thousand miles away. The white man's instruction is being continued until he can be received into full membership with the church. The instruction of these men was beset with difficulties in the prison, the visiting time being restricted, and naturally some other problems had to be met. But they progressed satisfactorily so that they could be baptized now before they became parted. One is reminded of the jailer at Philippi, whom Paul baptized in the night in prison, and one thinks of the work of many chaplains in prisons with the inmates of prisons. Freedom of the soul through the forgiveness of sin can be gotten even in prison while the body is not free.

**Sidney, Nebr.** — On January 13

eleven Deaf gathered here for a service by Pastor Clark Bailey of Denver. It was the first service for Deaf here. There are about twenty-five Deaf in the vicinity of Sidney, and fine interest was shown by them, for they invited Rev. Bailey to come again. Thus one place after another is added to the list of cities blessed with the Gospel brought the Deaf through our church. May the group at Sidney appreciate and benefit from these services.

**Memphis, Tenn.** — Rev. Victor Brugge, who has been a wonderful helper to the Deaf of Memphis, at the time of this writing lay very seriously ill at the hospital. For over nine hours the doctors worked over him at the operating table. A series of operations had to be performed, all serious, and about three fourths of his stomach was removed. He had been working de-



**A Study in Faces**

Rev. L. M. Stacy, installed Jan. 5 at Calvary, Des Moines, Greeted by the Officers of the Congregation

spite his physical handicap, until he had to undergo this operation. May God restore him again. He is pastor of Trinity Congregation, in whose parish house the Deaf congregation has its fine chapel.

**Newark, N. J.** — St. Matthew's Deaf Lutheran Church on January 29 in a special service of thanksgiving praised God for the privilege of having had services for twenty years. Pastor C. Roland Gerhold, their minister, untiringly works so that no Deaf person in that area can on Judgment Day say to the Judge Eternal that he had no chance to learn the way to heaven. It is true; while many people, Deaf and hearing folks alike, think very little about hearing God's Word and accepting Jesus as their own personal Savior, they will one day wish they had done so, when the only One who can successfully save them from everlasting death, Jesus, will have to say, "My salvation you did not want; your own righteousness does not help you; depart from Me!" Let us use God's Word and believe, and thank God for the chance to hear it often. May God bless Newark's St. Matthew's!

**St. Louis.** — Holy Cross has lost its parsonage. The state of Missouri bought it for \$16,550, as it stands in the way of the Daniel Boone Expressway, which is being built through St. Louis. Pastor Reinking must vacate by July 1 of this year. No site for a new parsonage and chapel has been found at the time of this writing. — When **Vicar Robert R. Rasch**, now at Jacksonville, Fla., was married at Luther Memorial Church, St. Louis, on January 4, Pastor Reinking interpreted the service for the Deaf. Mr. Rasch had helped Rev. Reinking for a year at

Holy Cross, and many Deaf witnessed the ceremony, in which he and **Miss Ina Aline**, the daughter of Capt. and Mrs. Wayne **Lockhart**, were united in holy wedlock. — Rev. Reinking was guest speaker February 4 to 9 at Grace Church, Minneapolis, Rev. C. C. Bremer, pastor, and reports a wonderful success there during the Evangelization Week. The attendance of the Deaf grew every evening; and on the final night there were 51 present. This was in Minneapolis; and at Calvary in St. Paul, where Rev. L. M. Stacy of Des Moines was guest speaker for the host pastor, Rev. G. R. Kraus, in the same week, a very fine series of meetings was enjoyed.

**Miami, Fla.** — At the beginning of 1955 the classes instructed at Saint Augustine had fifteen children; the year closed with 80 on the roll. Pastor Gyle of Miami and Vicar Rasch of Jacksonville instructed these classes. — Pastor Gyle writes that the Miami group, which is working and saving to gather funds for its own chapel, has over \$1,000 saved up, doubling its savings in 1955. — Pastor Gyle, who hails from California, reported that three of his relatives passed on during the year, one of these being his father. While one regrets the passing of loved ones, Christians always know and realize that God's hand governs our lives, and when He calls some loved one, the Christian finds comfort in the thought that the Lord's ways are always good and wise.

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For we must share if we would keep  
Those good things from above;  
Failing to share, we fail to keep;  
Such is the law of love.



# Catechism

## Studies in Luther's Catechism

### CHRISTIAN QUESTIONS WITH THEIR ANSWERS

#### Questions 1—6

Following the Table of Duties in our Catechism you will find "Christian Questions with Their Answers, Drawn Up by Dr. Martin Luther for Those Who Intend to Go to the Sacrament." What a blessing if everyone would read and study these questions before going to the Lord's Table! Paul says: "Let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of that bread and drink of that cup." 1 Corinthians 11:28. Our Catechism therefore adds these words at the close: "These questions and answers are no child's play, but are drawn up with great earnestness of purpose by the venerable and pious Dr. Luther for both young and old. Let each one take heed and likewise consider it a serious matter." Therefore before we go to the Holy Supper, let us prayerfully ask ourselves these questions.

#### To Know Our Sin Is Most Necessary

The first question therefore reads: "Do you believe that you are a sinner?" If you do not believe that you are a sinner, then you will not see the need of Jesus and also no need of the Lord's Supper. The Holy Supper will be a blessing to you only if you can say: "Yes, I believe it; I am a sinner." "How do you

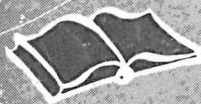
know this?" is the next question. And the answer given is: "From the Ten Commandments; these I have not kept." Study the Ten Commandments, and you will learn that God's Word is true when it says: "By the Law is the knowledge of sin." Romans 3:20. The Ten Commandments are like a mirror unto us.

#### With Sorrow for Sin Go to the Holy Supper

People who say: "Sin is only a little mistake. God is like a good and kind Father who will overlook these little mistakes," these are not prepared to come to the Sacrament. Only those who are sorry for their sin are well prepared. The third question therefore is: "Are you also sorry for your sins?" Blessed are you if you can answer: "Yes, I am sorry that I have sinned against God." Great sorrow must fill our hearts, for we daily sin much. And our God is "not a God that has pleasure in wickedness." Psalm 5:4. Therefore this question: "What have you deserved of God by your sins?" Our Catechism gives us this answer: "His wrath (anger) and displeasure, temporal (bodily) death and eternal damnation." Many laugh at the idea of an angry God and punishment in hell. But here is what God says: "Cursed is everyone that continueth not in *all things* which are written in the Book of the Law, to do them," Galatians 3:10. Therefore a poor sinner must say: "I am lost."

(Continued on page 58)





## Know Your Bible

### The Book of Esther

At first glance one might think that the Book of Esther is just an interesting story telling how God defeated a wicked plot that would have destroyed the Jewish nation. Its importance becomes clearer when we remember what this destruction would have meant.

Esther was a beautiful Jewish girl who became the queen of Ahasuerus, who is known as Xerxes of Persia and who ruled 485—465 B. C. This was the king who tried to conquer the Greeks but was not able to do so.

Esther, the Jewess, became queen when Queen Vashti fell into disfavor. Esther did not let it be known that she was Jewish. She was the cousin of Mordecai, a respected man at the palace, who had saved the king's life from assassins but had not been rewarded.

Haman was an ambitious man who was made chief of all the princes. Mordecai refused to honor him, and Haman then planned to kill Mordecai and all Jews, casting lots to pick the day of slaughter. Mordecai urged Esther to ask the king for mercy and to stop Haman. She did, and the Jews were saved, and Haman was punished.

Since that time Jews celebrate the Feast of Purim, meaning lots, because Haman had cast lots to pick the day for the killing of all Jews. Esther's stepson Artaxerxes became king after Xerxes and gave Nehe-

miah permission to go to Jerusalem and to rebuild the walls and city.

If the Jews had been destroyed, there would have been, humanly speaking, a different course of history. But that the nation be not destroyed so that Jesus could come, therefore they were preserved. And Esther has become a heroine, being the instrument through which God foiled the wicked plan of Haman and protected the people.

The book was read every year at the Feast of Purim in the early part of March.

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### Studies in Luther's Catechism

*(Continued from preceding page)*

#### There Is Hope for a Lost Sinner

A Christian ready to go to the Holy Supper will answer the next question: "Do you also hope to be saved?" with these words: "Yes, such is my hope." And on what does the poor sinner build his hope of salvation? Not upon himself, not upon his works, but alone upon Jesus Christ. Therefore he will answer the question: "In whom, then, do you trust?" saying: "In my dear Lord Jesus Christ."

#### Take Your Catechism and Read

Again read these six questions with their answers, and you will readily see how well they prepare our hearts for the Holy Sacrament. In our next study we shall learn more of Christ.

J. L. S.



## Bible Quiz

Because Job's friends acted as though they knew everything, what did Job say would die with them? Job 12:2.

How many times should a heretic, a false teacher, be admonished, before Christians reject him and turn away from him? Titus 3:10.

How do we know that we really know Jesus? 1 John 2:3.

What does Jesus promise to all that come to Him? Matthew 11:28.

"Hate" often in the Bible means to "love less." Whom must we "hate" like that if we want to be real disciples of Jesus? Luke 14:26.

Jesus uses the most painful tortures on earth to give us an idea of the pain and tortures of hell. Which pains hurt most? Mark 9:43.

Which is one way to receive Jesus into our home? Mark 9:37.

How did Rahab help the spies of Israel to escape? Joshua 2:15.

What did the spies of Israel leave with Rahab to put in her window so the Jewish soldiers would know her house and protect her and her family? Joshua 2:18.

What were the words of greeting and the answer to them in the days of old Israel? Ruth 2:4.

How did Jerusalem look when the Jews had been led to Babylon as prisoners? Lamentation 1:1.

How did the chief butler reward Joseph who had comforted him by explaining his dream to him? Genesis 40:23.

Jeremiah warned the king and the

people, but why did that not help them? Jeremiah 37:2.

For what purpose were people created by God? Ephesians 2:10.

What are God's thoughts toward us when He sends crosses, as He did to the Jews that were taken to Babylon as prisoners? Jeremiah 29:11.

What solemn advice did Jeremiah give to all the inhabitants of the earth? Jeremiah 22:29.

How can a person show his love for his friends? John 15:13.

What did two women eat for food at a time of great famine? 2 Kings 6:29.

What always happens to nations that do not serve God? Isaiah 60:12.

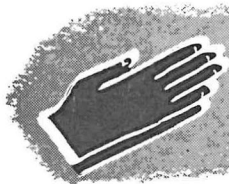
What will everyone born in this world have plenty of, even if he is only a few days old? Job 14:1.

Why did Caleb enter the Promised Land with Joshua, while all other men did not enter it? Deuteronomy 1:36.

Paul calls the Jews "natural branches" of the tree of the church, because they were God's people, from whom Jesus came. They were broken off because of unbelief. What can happen to the heathen people who were chosen in their place for the same reason? Romans 11:21.

What is good advice when we are downhearted? Psalm 27:14.

The prophet Hosea preached to disobedient people and called his son Loammi. What does this name mean? Hosea 1:9.



# Devotions

Selections and Devotions are by Rev. Clark R. Bailey, Denver.

## 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 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.

Easter Sunday, April 1

Luke 24:4-7

"Hallelujah! Why seek you the Living among the dead?" So said the angels at the grave of Jesus. Let us not look for life and satisfaction among the things of this world, but rather look to Him who was dead and is alive forever. Live with Him.

*Prayer:* O Jesus, Hero Almighty, let us through faith share Your victory over sin, death, and hell, and live with You forever. Amen.

Monday, April 2

1 Timothy 6:1-10

Let us thank God that we have freedom to work in America, and let us do an honest day's work. But true happiness does not come from earthly blessings or worldly possessions. Christ is our only Source of contentment and joy.

*Prayer:* O God, never let the blessings of this life blind us to the glories You have prepared for us in heaven. Amen.

Tuesday, April 3

1 Timothy 6:11-21

While we are in the world, Jesus expects us to live always for Him. It is a fight, but He promises to help us as long as we let Him direct our lives. We should work to be rich in spiritual blessings.

*Prayer:* Dear Father in heaven, let us share our rich blessings, both spiritual and earthly, with other people and lead them to You through faith in Jesus. Amen.

Wednesday, April 4

2 Timothy 1:1-18

God has blessed us with the knowledge that Jesus is our Savior from sin and our Way of Life in this world. We must never let the temptations of this world lead us away from the "sound words . . . in Christ Jesus."

*Prayer:* O Jesus, You have destroyed death and given us life. Please keep us in Your grace and love. Help us serve You in all things. Amen.

Thursday, April 5

2 Timothy 2:1-26

We must remember that God's Word is the guide in our spiritual life, not our own ideas about God or heaven or happiness. We should study the Bible carefully and diligently and daily.

*Prayer:* O Holy Spirit, help us to study the Word regularly. Give us the blessing of Your grace to understand it for our spiritual growth. Amen.

Friday, April 6

2 Timothy 3:1-17

Often we are tempted to forget about the spiritual teachings of the Bible and to follow the ideas and teachings of men. Their ideas may sound wonderful to us, but we must always keep Jesus and the Holy Scriptures first in our life.

*Prayer:* Holy Father, through Your Holy Spirit give us the strength to follow Jesus always, that we may never leave Him to follow the false ideas of men. Amen.

Saturday, April 7

2 Timothy 4:1-22

We must always use every opportunity to talk about Jesus, the Savior, and the way to heaven. We should ask God to give us that courage and wisdom to show the way clearly; then we shall receive the crown of righteousness.

*Prayer:* We pray, Father in heaven, give to our ministers and teachers wisdom and courage to proclaim Your Word. Never let them stray from the Truth of the Bible. Amen.

Sunday, April 8

First Sunday after Easter

Luke 1:1-25

Sometimes it is hard for us to accept the promises of God's Word. God promises us rich blessings, both in this life and in eternity, if we will have faith in Him and His Word.

*Prayer:* Dear loving Father, when I doubt Your love to me, let me see again all the wonderful promises You have made and fulfilled to the people that love You. Amen.

Monday, April 9

Luke 1:26-56

For many centuries God had promised to send a Savior. Now He tells this humble woman that she will bear a Son who will bring happiness to all sinners. Let us daily bring this Good News to the hearts of people saddened by sin.

*Prayer:* Almighty God, let us daily think about the wonderful blessing You have given us through faith in Jesus. Amen.

Tuesday, April 10

Luke 1:57-80

Today God has prepared many messengers to carry the news of the Savior into all the world. We should support this work with our prayers and our gifts for missions.

*Prayer:* O heavenly Father, may we always love to spread the News of the Savior into all the world. When our faith is weak, please make it strong. Amen.

Wednesday, April 11

Luke 2:1-20

These few words of Holy Scripture tell us a wonderful story. It is

good that we read them again also during Lent and after Easter and remember that the Babe of Bethlehem became the Christ of Calvary and the open tomb, to save us from our sins.

*Prayer:* Dear Lord Jesus, thank You for leaving Your home in heaven to live on this earth to save me from my sins. Amen.

Thursday, April 12

Luke 2:21-52

We have peace in our lives because we keep Jesus in our hearts. And when our last day shall come, we can say, "Lord, now let Your servant depart in peace."

*Prayer:* O Jesus, You Shepherd of all youth, please help all children to love You. Give them the desire to worship You and to study Your Bible. Amen.

Friday, April 13

Luke 3:1-23

Through the washing of Holy Baptism we are made clean from sin. Through the blessing of the Holy Spirit we have faith in Christ, even the forgiveness of sins.

*Prayer:* O blessed Trinity, Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, let me never forget the blessings I have received through my Baptism. May I always keep my baptismal vows unto life everlasting. Amen.

Saturday, April 14

Luke 4:1-15

Daily the devil tempts us to follow his way instead of following Jesus. But we thank God that we have a Savior who was "tempted in all points like as we are, yet without sin."

*Prayer:* Dear Lord Jesus, when the temptations of this life become strong and I feel weak, take my hand and lead me safely through the danger. Amen.

Sunday, April 15

Second Sunday after Easter

Luke 4:16-44

Jesus is truly the Son of God and the Savior from sin. He led a humble life, yet He did marvelous things. Each of us can also do great things for Jesus in our daily life through faith in Him and His Word.

*Prayer:* O Jesus, You Good Physician, give health and comfort to those who are sick in body and mind. Let them find peace through faith in You. Amen.

Monday, April 16

Luke 5:1-39

Many people today say they accept God and Jesus' teachings. But there are many thousands more who are still in the darkness of sin. Are you fishing for these souls?

*Prayer:* Dear Father, give me a large portion of Your Holy Spirit so that I can show people their sin and the way to forgiveness through faith in Jesus. Amen.

Tuesday, April 17

Luke 6:1-49

In this wonderful sermon Jesus tells us many things for our daily life. Through faith in Him we come out of the darkness of this world and its selfishness into the light of the Gospel.

*Prayer:* May we always love You, Lord Jesus, and live according to Your Word. Help us to show kindness to people in need and to lead many souls to You. Amen.



Wednesday, April 18

Luke 7:1-30

God expects great faith from us. He tells us that we do not have because we do not ask. By daily study of the Bible and daily prayer we strengthen our faith.

*Prayer:* Heavenly Father, when the way seems dark, through Your Holy Spirit give to Your churches wisdom and courage to carry the Gospel into all the world. Amen.

Thursday, April 19

Luke 7:31-50

Jesus came into the world to forgive ALL sins. He promised to forgive us our little daily sins. And He promises to forgive the greatest sin, if we turn to Him in sorrow and ask His pardon.

*Prayer:* Dear Savior, never let the load of my sins and guilt be too heavy. Give me daily forgiveness and new life through faith in You. Amen.

Friday, April 20

Luke 8:1-25

God has sown the seed of His Word in our hearts. Now we must let that good seed grow into a strong spiritual life and bring forth a great harvest for Jesus.

*Prayer:* O Lord God, do not let the pleasures and worries of this life hinder Your Word in my heart. Let me help in the building of Your kingdom. Amen.

Saturday, April 21

Luke 8:26-56

Jesus came into the world to "seek and to save" all people. We must help in the work of spreading the Gospel. When God has done

great things for us, we should tell our friends.

*Prayer:* Gracious Father in heaven, often we do not know how to pray to You or to say thank-you as we should. May our words and thoughts always be prayers of thanks to You. Amen.

Sunday, April 22

Third Sunday after Easter

Luke 9:1-27

Each of us can be a missionary for Jesus to our friends. We should be eager to show them the way to heaven through faith in Jesus.

*Prayer:* O Lord, when You ask for people to tell of Your love, let me answer, "Here am I, send me." Amen.

Monday, April 23

Luke 9:28-62

The simple faith and trust of a child is a great faith in the eyes of Jesus. We should not ask, "Why?" or "How?" but simply trust the promises of the Bible.

*Prayer:* Dear Lord Jesus, when doubts in our mind want to lead us away from You, let Your Holy Spirit give us the assurance that Your Word is truth. Amen.

Tuesday, April 24

Luke 10:1-42

God has prepared the hearts of people to hear His Gospel. We should be happy to labor for Him in our daily life and speak His words of life with courage.

*Prayer:* O Lord, open our hearts, and let us support the hospitals and institutions of mercy of our church with our prayers and with our gifts. Amen.

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