

The Deaf Lutheran



*Ephphatha, that is,
Be opened.*

MARK 7:34

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Peace Deaf Congregation, Sioux City, Iowa (Pastor Mappes upper right)
(See story, page 116)

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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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"We Need You . . . Come Back to Us!"

Mahatma Gandhi, the great man of India, had died. At his funeral Mrs. Sarojoni Naidu cried out into the microphone: "Gandhi, rise from the dead. It is the third day. Come back to us! We need you."

Mrs. Naidu showed not only her own great sorrow and distress but also the agony of all other people who are dying in their sins without Christ.

Eternal thanks and praise to God! Someone far greater than Gandhi did rise from the dead on the third day; Jesus Christ did come back from the grave. And He offers every man, woman, and child on earth full forgiveness of all their sins, peace with God, and the sure hope of everlasting life in His heavenly home.

The world has a wonderful, loving Savior. And He is the Savior also of the Deaf all over the world, not only in the U.S. and Canada, where our 38 Lutheran pastors preach the good news of His salvation in over 275 cities.

In most foreign countries the Deaf do not know about the living Christ. Several years ago Lutheran Pastor Arnold Lutz began bringing the Christian Gospel to some of the Deaf in South India. And now missionary work is being planned in Japan, where there are 99 schools with 18,637 deaf pupils. These children receive very little religious instruction. Many adult Deaf live in Japan also. And only a few of them know the precious name of Jesus, the world's only Savior.

Pastor Paul Strege of Japan, who is familiar with deaf mission work,

recently reported we have a great opportunity to work with the Deaf in Japan. What a splendid and God-pleasing thing it would be if all of our deaf people would show their thanks to the risen and living Jesus by helping to begin missionary work among the deaf in Japan. J. A. B.

JOIN and support the Lutheran Deaf Mission Society. Bring the Gospel to the Deaf of other countries.

Conference Notices

The North Dakota, Minnesota, and Wisconsin Regional Conference will meet August 25 and 26 at Silent Lutheran Church, Madison, Wis.

The opening session will begin at 10:00 A.M. Saturday at the church, 1909 Huxley St. A picnic dinner at noon Sunday will be the closing event.

All Deaf who are served by Pastors Bremer, W. Ferber, Kosche, Kraus, Mueller, or Dr. Salvner, are urged to attend this two-day meeting if at all possible—for inspiration, spiritual growth, and Christian fellowship.

Registration fee of \$3.00 includes three meals.

If you are coming, send a card to Rev. Martin Kosche, 1929 Huxley St., Madison 4, Wis., stating when you will arrive and when you will leave.

The Midwest Lutheran Conference will meet at Worthington, Minn., September 29 and 30. The area which this region covers is Western Missouri, Colorado, Kansas, Nebraska, South Dakota, and Iowa. Mr. Marvin Neuschwanger of Des Moines is secretary.

On Being Faithful

Some time ago, Walter Schley, one of the members of the Madison, Wis., congregation, decided to move back to his native state of Montana. But before deciding on a city in which to make his new home, he first contacted his pastor to find out in which cities Rev. Hauptmann, the Lutheran missionary in that area, holds regular services for the Deaf. He did not wish to make his home at a place where it would be next to impossible to attend church.

Having moved to Billings, a city where Rev. Hauptmann preaches, Walter took up his trade of linotype operator.

Several months later he wrote to his former pastor at Madison:

"Ever since I moved here from Madison, I haven't been able to go to church when Rev. Hauptmann preaches.

"I failed last week in having my days off changed to other ones so I could attend the church. My boss in the newspaper shop composing room decides on what days off he thinks best for us of the mechanical forces with respect to peak working efficiencies. I guess I have to wait till the chance comes.

"Enclosed please find a check for \$86 for pledges to the Silent Lutheran Church. Please give it to Mr. Jacob Vertz (financial secretary) when church services are held."

He doesn't state it in the letter, but we are sure that Walter must be staying close to Jesus by daily Bible reading and prayer.

Oh, that all our members would take care to take Jesus with them when they move to other places!

And may the day soon come, Wal-

ter, when you'll have off at church time so that you'll be able to take your place in the congregation at Billings.

M. K.

A Story with a Moral

There is an old story about a wealthy woman. When she died and went to heaven, she was shown to a very small cottage. An angel told her that this was her heavenly home. She objected and wanted to know why she could not live in the fine mansion across the street. "Oh, no!" she was told, "that belongs to your gardener!" — "To my gardener? Why does he have a much better house than mine?" — "Well," said the angel, "we build the houses up here from the materials sent up by the people on earth. You did not send up much; so we couldn't build anything but this little house."

This little story shows a great Bible truth. Our Savior explains this truth when He says: "Lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven." These treasures are those works which we do out of love to God and neighbor in the name and for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ, who loved us and gave Himself for us. Jesus said that even our humblest service, if it is done in His name, is a treasure laid up in heaven for us. "Whosoever shall give unto one of these little ones a cup of cold water in the name of a disciple [as a disciple], verily I say unto you, he shall in no wise lose his reward."

How much wealth here on earth literally goes to waste because people, yes, sad to say, Christian people, have not yet learned that our money is not our money but a trust fund to be used in the service of God and man.

G. C. RING



Field gleanings

The picture of Peace Lutheran Deaf Congregation, Sioux City, Iowa, appears on the front page of this issue of the DEAF LUTHERAN. The congregation numbers 35 communicants. These members take active part in the work of the church, paying their share toward their pastor's salary and contributing very well for synodical purposes, missions, etc.

There is also an active ladies' aid, consisting of eleven members. These ladies contribute toward various charitable organizations and toward other things in connection with the pastor's school work at the Iowa School for the Deaf. They manage suppers and other entertainment during the year.

God grant this congregation His continued blessings in their efforts for His kingdom. E. M.

Fargo, N. Dak. — The Fargo parish is a rather extended parish, extending from Fergus Falls, Minn., Saskatchewan, to Edmonton, Alberta. During the last few years this parish has grown considerably, especially in Canada. In Edmonton a new school, a provincial boarding school, was opened in the partly finished buildings, with an enrollment of 26, of whom 19 are of Protestant parentage, three coming from Lutheran homes. Miss Dorothy Schmidt, an instructor at Edmonton's Concordia, has faithfully instructed these Lutheran children since early spring. Pastor W. Ferber met with all the children of Protestant parentage on two different occasions after the Edmonton Council of Churches had given over all religious work to our Mission to the Deaf. All work done in this school



First meeting of Deaf group of Edmonton, Alberta, May 16, 1956

must be done through the medium of the lip-reading method. In Saskatoon the sign language is used for religious instruction. After several years of instruction by both Pastor John Ulmer of Saskatoon (using the blackboard liberally) and by Pastor W. Ferber a class of nine children was confirmed in Saskatoon on Thursday, May 17. A hard-of-hearing girl from Regina had come to Saskatoon to be confirmed with her deaf sister, having previously received private instruction by the pastor for the Deaf. Three adults

also were confirmed with these ten children, and one adult was baptized. This made a class of ten children and four adults to form the nucleus for our western Canadian communicant membership. In Winnipeg a class of four children was confirmed on Friday, May 25, so that 18 communicant members were added to the Canadian section of the Fargo parish. Candidate Robert Bauer, a native of Edmonton, has been called to take over the work in Saskatchewan and Alberta.

W. F.



Saskatoon, Saskatchewan. Four adults and ten children confirmed, with other Deaf

Rochester, N. Y. — Alpha Lutheran Church was host to the Eastern Regional Conference retreat at Camp Pioneer, near Angola, N. Y., June 8—10. The theme of the meeting was "About Our Father's Business." Highlight of the meeting was the paper of Pastor Uhlig of Jacksonville, Ill., who lectured on "Underestimating God." The points brought out were that we should not underestimate God's Law, God's grace, the kingdom of God among

the Deaf, and the unfinished task of our church. Mr. Fred L. Sparks, superintendent of the Rome, N. Y., School for the Deaf, spoke on "The Role of the School in Religious Education of Youth." Next year's conference will be held at Pocono Crest (Lutherland), Pa. The officers elected for next year are **Lawrence Grimes** of Rochester, president; **Louis Kieffer** of Pittsburgh, vice-president; **Mrs. Carrie Brooks**, Jackson Heights, secretary.



Grace Deaf Congregation, Memphis, Tenn. (Rev. Thies middle, extreme right; Mrs Thies, front left, holds baby; their seven other children across front)

Memphis, Tenn. — **Mr. Lonnie Bradford** and his daughter **Shirley** were baptized at Grace Lutheran on June 3, and on that date at Peace Lutheran Church **Mrs. Willie Jones** and **Mr. and Mrs. John Driver** were baptized, and **Mr. Charles Sledge** was confirmed. — Pastor Thies conducted farewell services at all of his stations in June before moving to Jacksonville, Ill., to take up the work there. At Memphis the Luther Club had a dinner in the church parlors of Trinity Lutheran church on June 16, at which he received a beautiful silver service, appropriately inscribed. Peace Congregation had a farewell picnic at the parsonage on June 24, and he received a purse and other gifts, and the stations Tupelo, Nashville, Benton, Florence, Gadsden, Jackson, Tenn., Hot Springs, and the School at Tal-

ladeaga — all remembered him with gifts. The farewell service at Memphis was held on June 24, and June 26 the beloved family moved to Jacksonville. — **Vicar Herman Graef** and his bride, who were married at Eden, N. Y., June 9, have arrived, and he will serve the field during the next year. — **Rev. John Skinner** of Calvary Lutheran Church, where the Deaf Peace Congregation worships, has taken up the study of the sign language in order to minister to the Deaf as occasion presents itself.

Newark, N. J. — Received into God's kingdom by Holy Baptism on April 29 were **Bertram and William Barron**, and on May 27 **Robert and Nancy Fishbein**. God bless these little lambs of Jesus. C. R. G.

Mattoon, Ill. — **Thomas Albert Jones**, son of Mr. and Mrs. Albert

Jones, was placed into the arms of Jesus in Holy Baptism on May 6.

Portland, Oreg. — On Sunday, July 1, **Rebekah Irene Ring**, daughter of Pastor and Mrs. Geo. Ring, was baptized, and **Idella Jordan, Sophia Rains**, and **Willard Stickney** confirmed. God bless these new members and keep them. G. R.

Omaha, Nebr. — On May 13, at Sioux City, Iowa, **Daniel Lee Good**, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Good of Sergeant Bluff, Iowa, and **Gary Alan Good**, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Leroy Good, who live in Texas, were baptized. **Miss Donna O'Conner** was received as a member by confirmation. **Mrs. Kenneth Cunningham** on May 27 was confirmed at Hastings, Nebr. May God keep all these people in faith until death. — Eight of the twelve graduates of the Nebraska School for the Deaf are members of the Lutheran Church; and of the 28 graduates of the Iowa School for the Deaf 19 were Lutherans, and three had attended the classes faithfully for a number of years. E. M.

Des Moines, Iowa. — We are happy to report that a number of new members were added to the church in this field recently. May 20 **Mr. Chauncey Kintz** was baptized, and **Mr. and Mrs. John Miller** were confirmed at Des Moines. May 27 at Cedar Falls **Floyd Neeley** was baptized, and **Andrew Meester** and **Mrs. Don Anderson** were confirmed. May 28 at Burlington **Mr. and Mrs. Charles Pope, Sr., Hubert Doherty, Mrs. Grace Fleener, Mrs. Belva Huffman**, and **Herbert Moore** were baptized and **Mrs. Herbert Moore** confirmed, and **Davy Huffman**, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Mylo Huffman, was baptized. May God, who began the good work in these people, keep

them in His grace unto life everlasting. — On June 25 **Miss Alice Helberg** and **Mr. Arvin Massey** were united in holy matrimony. Mrs. Massey's home was in Victor, Iowa, but she has been living and working in Des Moines several years; Arvin's home is in Sioux Falls, S. Dak., where the couple now lives. L. M. S.

Jacksonville, Ill. — On June 20 **Mrs. Donnie Gossen** and **Ray Tyler** were married in Hannibal, Mo., in St. John's Lutheran Church. — **Mr. and Mrs. Felix Lupien** have moved to Oakland, Calif., to stay with their daughter, Mrs. Frank Goveia. Mr. Lupien has been confined to the hospital for several months and was still very ill when the move had to be made. The Lupiens are charter members of our church, and both have served the congregation well in a number of offices. He has been treasurer, and she served the auxiliary as president and has been teaching Sunday school. We pray that God will bless and keep them in the sunset of life. — Recently two more bedrooms and a bathroom were constructed in the hitherto unfinished attic of the parsonage, which now has five bedrooms and two baths. **Rev. and Mrs. Thies** and their eight children were happy to move into the enlarged parsonage. He was installed on July 15 by Rev. Howard Tepker, visitor of the Jacksonville Circuit, assisted by Rev. Wm. F. Reinking of St. Louis. — Pastor Uhlig, who conducted his farewell service on June 24 at Jacksonville and at the various stations during the month of June, received farewell gifts from all stations. August 1 he will go to Indianapolis to serve the vacant Indiana Field until it gets a new pastor.



Know Your Bible

The Book of Psalms

The Psalms were the prayers and songs of the Hebrews. There are 150 Psalms, commonly divided into five sections, 1—41, 42—72, 73—89, 90—106, 107—150.

David wrote 75 of the Psalms. Other writers of Psalms were Asaph; the sons of Korah, one of whom was Heman; Solomon, Ethan, and Moses.

Thirty-seven Psalms speak of the coming Messiah, Jesus, and His suffering, work, and glory; sometimes only several verses refer to the Messiah. Psalms 22 and 69 foretell very accurately His suffering. Psalm 110 speaks of His glory, and thus very many Psalms and verses show the hope of Israel through the Messiah, Jesus Christ.

In many Psalms general truths are taught, such as in Psalm 1, Psalm 14, and the glorious Psalm 119, the longest chapter of the Bible, which in 22 sections glorifies the Word of God, which is a Christian's guide. In the Hebrew alphabet are 22 letters, and the 22 sections of 8 verses each, in order, use as the first letter of each verse the letter of that section.

In the historical Psalms, 78, 105, 106, the history of the Hebrew nation is remembered and God's gracious ways.

Psalms of comfort are plentiful, such beautiful prayers as Psalm 27, 73, 91, and 92.

The penitential Psalms are prayers for forgiveness. Noted among these

is Psalm 51, and Psalm 32 is also very often prayed by Christians that are sorry about their sins.

Psalms of praise abound in this precious prayer book. Psalm 19 is a famous song, and no one can fail to be lifted up when he reads Psalm 103. Psalm 117 is the shortest chapter of the Bible and also the middle chapter of the Bible.

There are some Psalms in the book that are called imprecatory, which means that they call upon God to rescue the faithful and destroy the wicked; one might call them prayers for revenge. Psalm 35 is an example. Also Psalm 94.

Many are psalms of thanksgiving, such as Psalm 136. The first verse is perhaps one of the most widely used table prayers: "Oh, give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good, for His mercy endureth forever."

Many Psalms are general prayers such as Psalm 141. The whole book is a book of prayers and has been so used at all times.

Some are called Psalms of Degrees, really Psalms of ascent, or going up, perhaps sung when the people went up annually to the various feasts to Jerusalem, or went up the steps to the temple, or because the sentiments expressed showed an increase of emotion and feeling.

The word *Selah* often occurs. It was perhaps a musical sign of some kind or a pause in the singing.

The Book of Psalms is a most wonderful prayer book. One can do

(Continued on next page)



Catechism

Christian Questions with Their Answers

Questions 17—19

“Christ died for me,” the Christian communicant says. And now our Catechism asks: “What was it that moved [urged] Him to die and make satisfaction for your sins?”

Great Love Moved Jesus to Die

Our Catechism answers this question with these words: “His great love to His Father, and to me and other sinners, as it is written in John 14, Romans 5, Galatians 2, Ephesians 5.” Jesus loved His Father and therefore said: “My meat is to do the will of Him that sent Me and to finish His work” (John 4:34). And He loved also us. “Christ loved the church and gave Himself for it” (Ephesians 5:25). Nothing in us urged Him to die for us. In us He sees only sin, sin, sin.

Go to the Holy Supper for the Strengthening of Your Faith and Love

Question 18 reads: “Why do you wish to go to the Sacrament?” And the answer is: “That I may learn to believe that Christ died for my sin out of great love.” In His Holy Supper He gives us His body to eat and His blood to drink, saying: “My body and My blood is given and shed for you.” Therefore the Lord’s Supper helps us firmly to believe that Jesus died for us. The second part of the answer is: “That I may also learn of Him to love God and

my neighbor.” In the Sacrament we see His great love to His Father and to sinners. This should fill our hearts with love to Him and to all people. The Holy Supper brings great blessings to us.

Christ’s Command and Promise and Our Sin Should Make Us Go Often

“What should admonish [urge] and incite [make willing] a Christian to receive the Sacrament frequently?” When we think of God, “both the command and the promise of Christ, the Lord, should move him.” Often we should go because He says: “This do,” and then also because He promises us forgiveness of sins and seals it to us with His body and blood. And when a Christian thinks of himself, “the trouble that lies heavy on him” should move him to go often. And what is this great trouble? Our great and many sins. Oh, we daily sin much, and that should urge us to hurry to the Holy Supper for forgiveness, life, and salvation. God grant it!

J. L. S.

The Book of Psalms

(Continued from page 121)

no better than use it every day in order to be reminded of the wonderful glories of our good God and His promises of help. Millions have found comfort in “The Lord is my Shepherd,” Psalm 23. Read and pray these prayers often, and you get a great store of beautiful verses for all occasions.

U.



Devotions

The selections are from "Light for Your Way," a daily Bible-reading guide, issued by The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod.

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.

Wednesday, August 1

John 14:1-14

The Way, the Truth, the Life are shown us here. We need God. The way to Him is through Jesus. We must know Jesus, and we know Him through the Word of God.

Prayer: Lord, bless those who teach us the Word of God; especially those young people who are now getting ready to study at our seminaries to become preachers and teachers in the churches. Amen.

Thursday, August 2

John 14:15-31

The proof of love is the obedient service we render those we love. So Jesus tells us that obeying His will is the right way to prove we love Him. Then the riches of His treasures are poured out to us, and we shall have peace and comfort.

Prayer: O Jesus, I thank You for having saved me. Give me strength in the time of temptation to stand firmly for the right and truth. Amen.

Friday, August 3

John 15

A Christian is connected with Christ as the branch is with the vine. Thus the believer gets strength to grow, to bring fruit, and to become so firmly tied together with Jesus that nothing can pull him away. Comfort in trouble, strength for all struggles, and peace in the heart come from that connection.

Prayer: O heavenly Father, give Your blessing that many natives of India and China and other far countries become good workers in Your kingdom. Amen.

Saturday, August 4

John 16

The wicked world, God's enemy, is never slow to make life hard for the honest believer. We need comfort in these trials. But the Holy Spirit, working through the Word in our hearts, gives us comfort and peace.

Prayer: O Holy Spirit, set the hearts of all Christians afire to be-

come willing to suffer and to work for the Lord. Amen.

Sunday, August 5
10th Sunday After Trinity
John 17:1-19

In this great prayer of our High Priest Jesus He prays for His disciples. I am one of His disciples and am in the world. May God help me to be a good influence among those with whom I live and whom I meet daily.

Prayer: Lord, let the leaders of our country be righteous men that we may live peacefully in this world and that Your kingdom may increase in peace. Amen.

Monday, August 6
John 17:20-26

People nowadays want the churches to unite. But union in itself is worthless unless there is unity, which means that those that unite agree in doctrine; Jesus here tells us to be united in the one holy faith.

Prayer: Jesus, give me grace to follow Your Word always, and give that spirit of unity to all so that in one mind we may carry out Your command to preach the Gospel everywhere. Amen.

Tuesday, August 7
John 18:1-27

Judas and Peter deserted Jesus. How often have I deserted Jesus by doing not His but my will! Judas and Peter thought themselves strong and entered temptation and fell. Yield not to temptation!

Prayer: O Holy Spirit, give me strength to surrender my will to God's command and do what God wants me to do. Amen.

Wednesday, August 8
John 18:28-40

Jesus is accused of many things. Men misunderstand Jesus and His purpose. So Christ's followers must expect to be misunderstood. Have I lived in this world for eternity or for an easy life here? Have I dared to stand up for Him and taken the blows and contempt of the world for His sake? Oh, how weak are we!

Prayer: O God, give us men that stand up for the right and will not surrender to unrighteousness even if they must suffer for their convictions. Amen.

Thursday, August 9
John 19:1-16

The Jewish church leaders misled the people and condemned Jesus. May God keep my church from rejecting Christ by teaching error or overlooking sin. The days are evil, and we, everyone in the church, must watch and pray, study and think seriously about God's doctrines.

Prayer: O Jesus, make Your church strong in faith and well grounded in doctrine that men everywhere will be influenced to observe Your Word. Amen.

Friday, August 10
John 19:17-42

Here I see Jesus crucified, dead, and buried for my sins. Here I see my salvation completed. "It is finished," He says, and it is true; I need not and cannot earn salvation; it is prepared, and it is free. What good news!

Prayer: Lord, let men hear and believe this Gospel of salvation; let those in Russia under Communism hear the good news again!

Saturday, August 11

John 20:1-18

This is victory indeed. The Lord arose from the dead. He is thereby shown to be the powerful Son of God, His doctrine true, and the hope of heaven is established. So why should I fear anything now? He lives, and I shall live. How could anything be more certain?

Prayer: Lord, send forth more workers, more missionaries, more lay workers into the mission fields so that the message of salvation be spread over the earth. Amen.

Sunday, August 12

11th Sunday After Trinity

John 20:19-31

As Jesus rejoiced to do His Father's will, so we should be glad to carry out the great command to bring the knowledge of salvation to all that sit in the shadow of death. Let us go and tell.

Prayer: Heavenly Spirit, bless the Bible classes and institutes where lay people are trained to teach and lead in the work of the church. Amen.

Monday, August 13

John 21:1-14

As Jesus was always ready to do the work for which He came, so we must be ready always to do the work for which we are called and thus be really helpful. Here we see Jesus helping with the daily chores and making a meal for his friends. Let us realize He helps us with that work, too.

Prayer: Lord, bless the men that earn the bread and the wives that do the housework, that they realize that Jesus is daily with them, helping them. Amen.

Tuesday, August 14

John 21:15-25

Jesus restores Peter to his task as a forgiven worker, and Peter never forgot what Jesus had done for him by letting him still be His worker. So we all, having forgiveness, must teach and feed people with the bread of life, at home in the family, at work among the fellow men with us, everywhere and always.

Prayer: Lord, since according to the custom of the East only women can teach women, send women teachers to those countries, so that women and children may hear and believe. Amen.

Wednesday, August 15

1 John 2

The blood of Jesus Christ cleanses us of all sin is the key verse of this chapter. Others may have committed worse things than I have, but still the best human is a bad sinner and needs forgiveness. Thank God that we have forgiveness for Jesus' sake.

Prayer: Jesus, I thank You because You have forgiven me. Now give me love to do Your will and willingness to forgive others any wrong they do to me. Amen.

Thursday, August 16

1 John 2

Because God forgives my sin, therefore I don't want to sin. My love for God keeps me from doing wrong as I do not want to offend the good Lord. And I keep His Word before my eyes so that I can always remember His will.

Prayer: Lord, help young and old people to flee from sin, and strengthen faith and love in us all. Make our cold hearts warm with Your love. Amen.

Friday, August 17

1 John 3

What an honor God gave us to call us His sons through Jesus Christ. Then naturally we must live like children of God and love one another. And John again emphasizes that true love of God shows itself in keeping His commandments.

Prayer: O Lord, there is so little love in the world but so much hatred; lead the hearts of all leaders of men towards love and peace for one another that wars may cease. Amen.

Saturday, August 18

1 John 4

John is called the apostle of love; for in his letters he constantly tells us to love God and one another. And He tells us why we should love, namely, because God loved us; Jesus saved us because He loved us first; now we must and do love Him.

Prayer: O Lord, break down the walls that people have built through the caste system in which one class will not have anything to do with those of another class; let mankind begin to understand that we are all of one blood since Adam and we all have the one Savior. Amen.

Sunday, August 19

12th Sunday After Trinity

1 John 5

We must keep the simple but sure facts of our salvation because so many have been substituting other doctrines for them which causes confusion and leads people to false beliefs, so that many believe wrong doctrines.

Prayer: O Lord, keep our church steadfast in the true teachings of the Bible, that men may clearly under-

stand the way to life eternal through Jesus. Amen.

Monday, August 20

Second Epistle of John

John teaches that it is not true love to teach wrong doctrines, but true love holds fast to the doctrine that man is saved through the suffering and death of Jesus, who died for us. Who denies that has not God and is lost. Many people think that it is right to let people think that they can believe whatever they want to and still be saved. This is a terrible error.

Prayer: Lord, make us remember that we must judge all teaching according to the rule of Your Word, and whatever is not in agreement with Your Word we must reject. Amen.

Tuesday, August 21

Third Epistle of John

Gaius was very hospitable, doing kindness to strangers that were in trouble. Hospitality is often forgotten in our selfish age. Diotrephes was not like Gaius, but was a bad example, and John disapproves of such conduct. But when company comes, let us not forget that company should not let us stay from services, for God's business is more important.

Prayer: Lord, bless the retreats which the women of the Lutheran Women's Missionary League have provided for the missionaries in Japan and other countries. Amen.

Wednesday, August 22

Revelation 1

John wrote the Book of Revelation while banned to the island of Patmos. He saw a glorious vision

of Jesus, the King of kings and the First and Last. How do I picture Jesus? As the great Supreme One? The Savior? He is the Lifegiver, who alone can save and did save us. Glory be to His name!

Prayer: O Holy Spirit, give wisdom and understanding to those who write our Sunday school lessons and explain to us the deep wisdom of God. Amen.

Thursday, August 23

Revelation 2:1-11

Congregations are made up of people, and people are sinful and so congregations have good and evil habits. God knows the life of congregations and of individuals. What does He know about my congregation? How does my church look to Him? "What kind of a church would my church be if all the members were like me?"

Prayer: Lord, give wisdom and strength to the executive secretary in our Mission to Deaf, so that he may with blessing do the work of expanding the kingdom by establishing and strengthening congregations. Amen.

Friday, August 24

Revelation 2:12-29

As in the early days, so now false teachers show up every once in a while. Against such we must be on our guard and not permit them to hurt the life of the church. Make me anxious to remain faithful unto the end.

Prayer: Lord, we ask You to bless our Board of Missions to Deaf so that our Deaf Mission may in a greater measure become a fountain of blessing to the Deaf of our Country. Amen.

Saturday, August 25

Revelation 3:1-13

The church in Sardis was a dying church; it had the appearance outwardly of being alive, but many members were falling asleep spiritually. The trouble with some churches nowadays is similar; there is no real understanding and appreciation of the Gospel and no hunger for the Word of God. Soon a church dies if that condition develops. Watch and pray!

Prayer: Heavenly Father, keep alive in me and my church the love for You and the hunger for Your Word. Amen.

Sunday, August 26

13th Sunday After Trinity

Revelation 3:14-22

The church in Laodicea was a lukewarm church, and God severely criticizes its carelessness. Often congregations consider themselves rich and spiritually well advanced when in reality they are poor in the fruits of faith and love. The fate of such is not good. Let us humbly consider our own church and remember that what we are our churches are.

Prayer: Lord, bless and keep the leaders of our Synod watchful to guard and warn them that are in danger of becoming lukewarm. Amen.

Monday, August 27

Revelation 4

In this chapter a picture is given of all creation worshiping God. The 24 elders are the church praising God, represented by the 12 tribes of the Old Testament and the 12 apostles. Theirs is a glorious praise of God. The four beasts or "living

creatures" seem to be the angels through which God rules the universe. They also glorify God.

Prayer: O God, bless those who serve in our churches in choirs and as organists leading the people in Your praise. Amen.

Tuesday, August 28

Revelation 5

The Lamb that was slain is Jesus, who was killed for the sin of the world. He opens the book of the secret wisdom of God which makes human life good. Oh, let us work to give this Gospel to mankind all over the world.

Prayer: Heavenly Father, bless the work of the Bible societies that have given millions of Bibles to all nations of the globe. Amen.

Wednesday, August 29

Revelation 6

The apostle John sees here the terrible troubles that this world has had always, wars, revolutions, aggression, famines, death, suffering, persecutions, and misery. And that has been and will be the situation till Jesus comes again. So let us not hope for a world that some dreamers talk about. The United Nations were considered by many to bring peace, but it was not so.

Prayer: Lord, keep the soldiers and sailors and airmen in mercy as they must serve in the Armed Forces everywhere, and let the chaplains be a blessing to them. Amen.

Thursday, August 30

Revelation 7

God's church is eternal and is not harmed by the woes and troubles of this world. What a comfort to know this! God knows His children and

will keep them and lead them out of all troubles home to Himself.

Prayer: Lord, we thank You for having given us Your Son, in whose blood we have washed ourselves white. Amen.

Friday, August 31

Revelation 8

While we cannot clearly identify the various events here indicated, they are historic events that have upset the peace of the world during the centuries. But during these times when the believers sighed and prayed, the prayers were brought to the throne of God. He does not forget His children.

Prayer: Lord, stop the evil work of the enemies of Your church so that the Christians are spared many troubles, and save us all by Your mercy through Jesus Christ. Amen.

U.

Bible Quiz

What does sleep do to a sick person? John 11:12.

What did the people of Nazareth want to do with their greatest citizen? Luke 4:29.

What is the best food for babies? 1 Peter 2:2.

How can we make the devil flee from us? James 4:7.

What did the wife of the wicked priest Phinehas call the son she bore when she heard the news of her husband's death before she died herself? 1 Samuel 4:21.

What things do we know and what things remain a secret? Deuteronomy 29:29.