

The Deaf Lutheran



*Ephphatha, that is,
Be opened.*

MARK 7:34

Volume 49

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Number 6

PENTECOST

We now implore God the Holy Ghost
For the true faith, which we need the most,
That in our last moments He may befriend us
And, as homeward we journey, attend us. Lord, have mercy!

Shine in our hearts, O most precious Light,
That we Jesus Christ may know aright,
Clinging to our Savior, whose blood hath bought us,
Who again to our homeland hath brought us. Lord, have mercy!

Thou sacred Love, grace on us bestow,
Set our hearts with heavenly fire aglow
That with hearts united we love each other,
Of one mind, in peace with every brother. Lord, have mercy!

Thou highest Comfort in every need,
Grant that neither shame nor death we heed,
That e'en then our courage may never fail us
When the Foe shall accuse and assail us. Lord, have mercy! Amen.

Martin Luther, 1524. First stanza, author unknown, c. 1250

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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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Field Gleanings

CONFERENCE NOTICES

The 1957 meeting of Ephphatha Conference will be held at Concordia Teachers College, River Forest, Ill., July 5—9.

The Eastern Deaf Retreat will be at Pocono Pines, Pa., June 7—9. Details from pastors. Theme: "Be Strong in the Lord."

The Montana Lutheran Deaf Lay Conference will meet June 23 at Billings, Mont.

The Northwest Laymen's Conference will meet at Lutherland, near Tacoma, July 19 to 21. Theme: "Fishers of Men." Speaker: Rev. A. J. Jonas.

NOTE: The Dixie Deaf Lutheran Conference was held May 11 and 12 at Oklahoma City with "Witnessing" as its theme; and the Great Lakes Regional Conference was held in Chicago also in May. Reports from these meetings should be forthcoming soon.

Minneapolis. — **Rev. Clarence Bremer**, who on account of illness had not preached since the middle of December, preached his farewell sermon at Grace Church March 31. He has accepted a call to Dumont, Minn., where he serves two smaller hearing congregations, having been advised after his breakdown to leave the large Deaf field where he served so long and so well. On March 24, after the service conducted by Dr.

Salvner (who had served Grace Congregation during Rev. Bremer's illness), the ladies of Grace served a dinner for the members, arranged for a surprise for Pastor Bremer and his family, for they brought before him a beautiful cake with "Farewell" and "God be with you" and set it before him. He received as a present a set of Dr. F. Pieper's Dogmatics consisting of three volumes on Lutheran doctrine, and a purse. Gifts for Mrs. Bremer and their two children were also there. Rev. Bremer was installed at Dumont April 7 and preached his introductory sermon on Easter Sunday. May God bless Rev. Bremer and his family in their new home.

Memphis, Tenn. — **Miss Geraldine Smith and Mr. Charles Greer** were married on February 23. May God bless this couple with many happy years together, filled with love for Him and for each other. — In Birmingham, Ala., the Lutheran Club for the Deaf was organized in April. Its objects are worship, education, service, recreation. In the paper that invited prospective members to join, they were warned against gossip clubs, daredevil clubs, snobby clubs, and secret clubs, but were urged to join a club that has Jesus Christ in its center. Such a Christian club is a good club. The club meets in the home of one of the members.

Chicago. — **Rev. Richard Borchers**, who has been serving the South Side Deaf for two years, has ac-

cepted a call into hearing work and leaves the Deaf Mission. We regret to see him leave the work with the Deaf, for he has been doing very fine work and was blessed with success. Sixteen members were in 1956 gained by him through confirmation. May God bless his future work also.

Columbus, Ohio. — On April 7, at **Lima, Ohio, Larry Dean Schindel-decker**, infant son of Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Schindeldecker, was baptized. May the Lord bless and keep him. — On April 10, at **Bryan, Ohio, Jonathan Mark Clark**, 13-month-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Clark, was buried. May God comfort the mourning parents. — These two items tell us a lesson; little children may die as well as adults die; little children are born of flesh and as such are flesh standing in need of regeneration, which, so far as we know, can be achieved with infants only through Holy Baptism. "Suffer the little children to come unto Me," said Jesus. — On April 22, in a Lutheran church in Columbus, Ohio, **Miss Celestine Wisecup** and **Mr. Arthur H. Baden** were united in holy matrimony. May God bless their marriage.

Miami, Fla. — "Celebration of the dedication of Zion Deaf Lutheran Congregation's first chapel in Bay Shore Lutheran Church took place March 3 and 10. Preaching services were conducted by Rev. E. O. Krug, Rev. Ben. Schumacher, Rev. Lawson Knight, Rev. Walter Lutz. . . . Five years ago The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod held its first regular service for the Deaf of Miami at Bay Shore Church. This was the beginning of Pastor Gyle's ministry in Florida and parts of Georgia and

South Carolina. . . . Members of this mission for the Deaf contributed \$22.24 per communicant member for the work of Synod during 1956, making the 'big ten' in that category for the second year in succession." From the *Florida-Georgia District Witness*.

Seattle, Wash. — In the service of March 28 a beautiful credence bracket was dedicated, which was given to Our Redeemer Church by **Mr. and Mrs. H. M. Andrews** in memory of their daughter, **Mrs. Victor Berge**, whom the Lord called to the heavenly home last year.

A CHANCE TO HELP

Our Synod has many requests from small congregations for church extension loans which these churches repay as time goes on. One little church is our Bethel Church in Denver, just organized, as an item in "Field Gleanings" sets forth. There is need for a parsonage. A loan of \$6,000 for down payment would get such a parsonage. These few Deaf cannot swing such a deal; but there may be among our reading Deaf and hearing people some who are able to loan money in any amount to the Church Extension Fund of Synod; and if the loans are earmarked for Bethel Deaf Parsonage in Denver, they will go to that place, and the need in Denver will be met. Speak to your pastor; he will assist you; or write to Rev. Clark R. Bailey, 3521 Fillmore St., Denver 5, Colo.

Pittsburgh, Pa.—**Albert James Brant**, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Wilbur Brant of Franklin, Pa., was received into the kingdom of God's grace by Holy Baptism on March 21. May Almighty God, who caused him to be born again of water and the Spirit, keep him in faith unto life everlasting. — On March 18 the body of **Mrs. Anna Bloedel**, widow of the late George Bloedel, was laid to rest. She died March 15.

Hartford, Conn.—**Mr. Felix Bonvouloir** became a member of the Hartford mission in March. May God keep him close to the Savior in faith.

Des Moines, Iowa.—**Mrs. Bernice Huntington Kephart** (Mrs. Robert Kephart) and **Mrs. Patricia Burnett White** were received into membership by confirmation. May God keep them and strengthen them in faith always. — **Miss Claudia Nelson** and **Mr. Edgar Merrifield** were united in holy matrimony at Calvary Church on March 2. May they have God's blessing in their union. — Our Calvary Church received a beautiful picture of Christ for the altar from **Mrs. John Miller** and children in memory of her husband, and a baptism bowl and candle savers from **Mrs. C. Thompson** and sisters in memory of their mother, who departed this life last year.

Omaha, Nebr.—On March 7, at the service in **Council Bluffs**, **Donald Herbert Lingner**, infant son of Mr. and Mrs. Donald Lingner, and **Kerry Dale Derby**, son of Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Derby, were laid into the arms of Jesus in Holy Baptism. The sponsors for the Lingner infant are the Derby parents, and Mr. and Mrs. Lingner assumed sponsorship

for the Derby infant. In the service at **Grand Island, Nebr.**, on March 24 **Jerry Leo** and **Penny Ann**, children of **Mr. and Mrs. Arnold Taylor** of Fairview, Oreg., were baptized. Mrs. Taylor has been visiting with her parents near Chapman, Nebr.

Jacksonville, Ill.—On April 7 **Mr. Kenneth Wilson** joined Christ Church by Baptism and confession of faith, and during the first quarter of the year **Mr. A. Ravn** was added to the membership list. May God keep these new members in faith. — In the 13 services in the first quarter of 1957 the average attendance was 90, and the gifts were \$384, with \$66 for missions. The interest shown is very good.

New York.—Interest in the Deaf Retreat at Pocono Pines, Pa., resort Lutherland, June 7—9, is great, and the New York and Newark Deaf are arranging for a bus to take the people there and back. Last year the conference was held at Camp Pioneer, near Buffalo, and was very much enjoyed. The topic or conference motto this year is: "Be Strong in the Lord."—Pastor and Mrs. Simon were happy to receive the reports from the doctors that Linda, their youngest daughter, is showing good progress in the development of her hip. She is at home, where she now can play without her brace four hours each day. May the Great Physician show His power and grant her a complete recovery.

Denver, Colo.—With the adoption of a constitution on March 31, Bethel Lutheran Church for the Deaf is, as of April 7, 1957, an organized congregation. The first officers are Geo. Dietz, president; Walter Schmidt, secretary; Ray Dietz,

treasurer. There are 23 charter members.—The need of a parsonage, for which about \$6,000 are needed for down payment, resulted in an effort to get this sum in loans at 3 to 4% interest on notes for 60 days to ten years. An article elsewhere in this issue of the **DEAF LUTHERAN** explains the plan.

Jacksonville, Fla.—The evening of April 5 **Miss Myrtle Magill** of Grand Crossing, Fla., became the bride of **Wm. J. Robinson**, Pastor W. Neisch addressing them on Proverbs 3:6. The couple resides here in Jacksonville, where both are employed. May God bless their union.—Pastor Neisch is preparing for membership at Jacksonville two boys of the Florida School for the Deaf and Blind. At the Ligon Home in Atlanta **Miss Ruby Miller**, deaf and sightless, is also preparing to become a member of the Lutheran Church.

St. Louis, Mo.—Eight persons added to the membership list of Holy Cross by confirmation on March 24: **Ermalean Sutton, Utah Williams, William McGuire, Renia Bryant, Evelyn Head, Ernestine Jones, Fannie Bland, and Ruby Burton.** May God strengthen them and keep them in the faith in Jesus.—Mrs. Myrtle Ellis gave birth to a stillborn son; may the Lord comfort the parents.

San Francisco.—June 30 the Annual All-Lutheran Deaf Picnic will be held at Concordia College in Oakland. A service is always held in connection with this annual gathering, which usually attracts more Deaf than any other local event.—Our energetic San Francisco pastor, Rev. Theo. DeLaney, had a month's enforced "vacation" that was neither a vacation nor a picnic;

for he was stricken by an unknown malady which ran his fever to 104 degrees and was later suspected to have been pericarditis. Twice he spent periods at the hospital. He has been ordered to go on a reduced work load for some time. Dr. Gaertner took over a number of the preaching assignments and other tasks during the siege and was kept very busy.—On March 22, as Pastor DeLaney was conducting the funeral service for **William H. Tripp**, an old-time San Francisco member, the first of two strong earthquakes shook the city during the singing of a hymn. During the address, as he was calling attention to the lessons that had been read, and showed that a Christian has nothing to fear even if quakes and death threaten, another shock came, causing excitement among the hearing, but the Deaf remained calm. This incident caused considerable comment among the Deaf and hearing and brought home to many the reality of God's comforting presence in danger. The Lord's voice shakes the earth, and often people must be literally shaken before they give attention to Him.

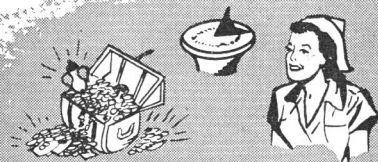
AND we know that all things work together for good to them that love God.—Romans 8:28

FROM the end of the earth will I cry unto Thee, when my heart is overwhelmed; lead me to the Rock that is higher than I.—Psalm 62:2

GRIEF knits two hearts in closer bonds than happiness ever can, and common suffering is a far stronger link than common joy.—*Lamartine*

As one whom his mother comforteth, so will I comfort you.

Isaiah 66:13



Stewardship

It Happened Behind the Bamboo Curtain

Three Chinese men were arrested for witnessing of Christ. They were asked to stop it or be punished. They said: "We cannot deny the Lord Jesus Christ. He was willing to die for us on Calvary, and if it is necessary, we are willing to die for Him!"

They were tied by the thumbs and hung on a pole. The tips of their toes barely touched the ground, and there they hung as the agonizing hours went by. When the first day was ended, their tormentors came and asked, "Are you willing to recant now? Will you turn your back on Christ now? He hasn't saved you! You had better save yourselves." They all answered, "No!"

At the ending of the third day, one of the Chinese relented. He called for his captors. "Cut me down," he cried. "I will no longer be a Christian. I will be a Communist!" They cut him down. He was released. When he arrived home, he was greeted with joy until he made known why they had released him. His fellow Christians seemed stunned to think that he would deny Christ. His own family was astonished that he could leave his companions to bear the cross.

The man could not sleep that night. He could only think of the two hanging by their thumbs while he lay in the comfort and security

of his bed. By morning he was wild with shame and grief. He hurried back to jail. He begged the Communists to hang him up with his companions. "I cannot deny Christ! I must be a Christian."

Now the jailers were astonished. They were so overwhelmed that they released all three of these Chinese. The three, knowing that their lives had been spared for a purpose, began preaching with a zeal they had never had before.

How about you, Christian? Are you ready to suffer and die for your dear Savior Jesus if necessary? You say, "Of course!" Well, if you are ready to make this *greatest* sacrifice, why are you not now making all the *little* sacrifices? Are you now sacrificing time, talent, and wealth for the Savior's kingdom work?

AUGUST L. HAUPTMAN

Deaf Man Preaches Christ on Radio

You are astonished? "How can a deaf man preach on the radio?" you ask. Well, he does it by proxy. He has given a rather large donation to the International Lutheran Hour, which every Sunday preaches Christ Jesus to 63 nations of the world via radio. This deaf man's donations have been so large and so regular

(Continued on page 88)



Know Your Bible

The Song of Solomon

This short book is also known as the Song of Songs, and King Solomon is given as the author and has always been accepted as its author. It is a song of love, and many opinions have been expressed about its meaning and purpose. The Hebrews read this book every year at the time of the Passover, and it has always been regarded a sacred book.

To us people of the Western world it may appear to be a somewhat strange book, but to those of the Eastern, or Oriental, world it did not appear so strange, for it breathes the grandeur of a king's palace. Its language is very choice and, in its original Hebrew language, beautiful and delicate. It has been called a drama of love in which different speakers and ladies of a chorus are heard. The joys and sorrows and hopes and disappointments of true love are expressed.

"Unto the pure all things are pure"; and in that spirit must this book be read and understood. Solomon and his beloved one are types of Christ and His bride, the church. The intimate relation between Christ and His church, as St. Paul speaks about it in Ephesians 5:23-32 and compares it with the relationship between husband and wife, is in the Bible often mentioned under the picture of a bride and her bridegroom, or a wife and her husband, even as turning away from Christ

and His church is called adultery. In Hosea 2:19 God speaks to His people: "I will betroth [be engaged] thee unto Me forever; yea, I will betroth thee unto Me in righteousness and in judgment and in loving-kindness and in mercies. I will even betroth thee unto Me in faithfulness; and thou shalt know the Lord."

So we have here the longing of the Christian for his Savior, and the vow of faithfulness and love of Jesus for His church. John the Baptist, John 3:29 and 30, looked upon Jesus in that light: "He that hath the bride is the Bridegroom; but the friend of the Bridegroom, which standeth and heareth Him, rejoiceth greatly because of the Bridegroom's voice; this my joy is fulfilled. He must increase, but I must decrease." And Jesus, too, in Matthew 9:15 calls Himself the Bridegroom. When we have this understanding of the book, it will become unto us a solemn, sacred book and not a love story.

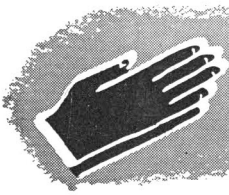
Deaf Man Preaches Christ on Radio

(Continued from page 87)

that he was recently awarded a "Sponsor Certificate" by the Lutheran Hour Staff.

You, too, although you are deaf, can preach Christ on the radio by your faithful support of this great work. You may not be able to sponsor a whole program, but you probably can give a donation regularly, which will help a lot.

AUGUST L. HAUPTMAN



Devotions

The devotions on the Epistle to the Ephesians and the prayer are by Pastor N. P. Uhlig.

PRAYER

O merciful God, the Giver of all blessings, I come to You in the name of Jesus, who is my Savior, and ask You to forgive me my sins. Every day I think wrong thoughts and speak wrong words and do wrong things and forget to do right things. Help me to improve. Make me hungry for Your Word so that I gladly daily read Your Bible and regularly go to church. Make me willing to help bring salvation to others by inviting them to come to church and by giving gladly of my money for Your work. Bless my congregation and pastor and all missionaries and members of my Synod. Keep me and my dear ones from harm, help all in temptation, comfort the sick and troubled, and relieve them of their burdens. Let Your angels watch especially the children and those that are blind or deaf or crippled. I ask it in His name who taught us to pray: Our Father who art in heaven, etc.

Saturday, June 1

Read Ephesians 1:1-7

Blessed and Chosen. Paul writes to the faithful in Ephesus and elsewhere and speaks mainly to them as having come from heathen peoples; so we also are included and reminded that we are blessed indeed, since God gives us *all* spiritual blessings. Before the world was made, He chose us to become His children, having predestinated us (selected before we were here) for Jesus' sake for the glory of His mercy and love that we should be holy. Do we realize what love and honor He gave us? Lord, make us to realize Your love, and help us to live worthy of it. Amen.

June 2

Exaudi Sunday

Read 1 Peter 4:7-11

To God Alone All Glory. The key sentence in today's Epistle is "that God in all things may be glorified."

All our prayers, acts of charity, preaching and serving in church and in private, must glorify God and not us, nor the church, nor the preacher, nor the nation. Americans are hero worshipers; the stars of sports, movies, politics are praised. Let us not be idolaters. Jesus, let us glorify the Triune God. Amen.

Monday, June 3

Read Ephesians 1:8-14

The Mystery of His Will. Verse 10 tells us the "mystery," the "holy secret" of God's will; that it pleased God in and through Christ to gather all things and powers in heaven and earth together into one great head or sum which is to glorify Him. This includes the "powers and principalities" of the unseen and unknown heavenly world, and here on earth the chosen of Jews and non-Jews. Into this glorious company we belong, and the Holy Spirit is given us as a seal that makes this heavenly inheritance sure. Lord, man could

never plan such a glorious kingdom which is Yours, make us appreciate Your goodness. Amen.

Tuesday, June 4

Read Ephesians 1:15-18

A Prayer for Understanding. Paul here assured his congregation that he was very happy that they had come to faith and prayed that they may get the Spirit of wisdom and understanding so that they might begin to appreciate what a glorious hope a Christian has and what a precious inheritance. Lord, our minds are so much occupied with earthly things; make us to see the beauty and glory of the heavenly hope. Amen.

Wednesday, June 5

Read Ephesians 1:19-23

Recognize God's Great Power. Paul wants his hearers to recognize God's great power. His great power created all things and in and through Christ destroyed the power of the devil, who spoiled all things. God's power is particularly shown in the work of God the Son, who now sits, also according to His human nature, at God's right hand and rules over all and especially governs and protects His church, which is His spiritual body. Jesus, You are my Lord, my God, my Savior, my King Eternal. Amen.

Thursday, June 6

Read Ephesians 2:1-3

Man Before Conversion. Christ's great power shows itself in that it gives life to man who before conversion is dead in sins, walking the ways of the wicked world, disobedient, condemned. God alone can give

life. And note that "we all" by nature were such dead, miserable people. If we now "live," how can we still do the dead works of sin? Praise God that He "quickened" us, giving us life through bringing us to faith. Lord, what would we be without You? Make us to realize that always. Amen.

Friday, June 7

Read Ephesians 2:4-7

The Riches of God's Saving Grace. God planned our salvation because He loved His creatures. He raised them from spiritual death. He gave His Son, who became our human Brother, and elevated man to heavenly places through Christ. This surely shows that His grace is exceedingly glorious. Surely, we must love Him for His love towards us. God, we can only stand in wonder when we think of Your mercy and love; give us a great measure of faith and love. Amen.

Saturday, June 8

Read Ephesians 2:8-10

Salvation Is a Free Gift. Here faith and good works are placed aside of each other so that they cannot be misunderstood. Salvation is free, earned by Christ, obtained through faith, and no man can boast that he earned his salvation. Good works are expected by God of us as a fruit of faith. They are brought in thankful service to Him who saved us. These three verses are clear proofs that nobody can or will enter heaven because he did good works. Lord, keep us ever humble and active to do Your will according to Your commandments. Let us hope for salvation only because Jesus saved us. Amen.

June 9

Pentecost Sunday

Read Acts 2:1-13

God's Spirit Gives Life. The Epistle for this Sunday tells the story of the giving of the Spirit, whom Jesus had promised to send to His disciples. This gift electrified them, and they became unafraid to stand before kings and multitudes and to preach Christ, and even to suffer death for Him. The Spirit gave them the message and the courage and ability to bring the life-giving Gospel to the world. That Spirit today has the same power and action. We need that Spirit, and we can have that Spirit. Lord, grant us Thy Spirit, and set us afire to bring the Gospel to perishing people. Amen.

Monday, June 10

Read Ephesians 2:11-13

The Sad State of Man Before Conversion. The Jews boasted that they were God's people because they were circumcised. And Paul tells these non-Jewish Christians that before their conversion they indeed were in a sad condition: without Christ, without hope, without God, outside of the fold. As we look at unconverted people today, we still see how true that is. But through Christ, Jews and non-Jews now are brought into the fold and saved. Lord, move our hearts with pity for the lost, and stir us unto prayer and activity to give them Your Word. Amen.

Tuesday, June 11

Read Ephesians 2:14-18

Christ the Wonderful Prince of Peace. By His work of fulfilling the

Law and removing the penalty of sin Jesus made peace between God and man and between Jew and non-Jew. When believers meet, no matter of what race or nation or color, they recognize in each other fellow redeemed, brethren. Christ broke down the wall; let us not again erect a wall by being intolerant. Through Christ, God now is the reconciled Father of all, and all can and should go to Him together. Jesus, let Your Spirit of peace fill us with love. Amen.

Wednesday, June 12

Read Ephesians 2:19-22

Citizenship in the Kingdom of Heaven. These verses conclude this chapter, one of the most beautiful chapters of the Bible. Through Christ we have citizenship in His kingdom and are members of His family. We are building stones of the great temple called His church. He is the Cornerstone; the church is built upon the divinely inspired doctrine of the prophets and apostles. Let us be thankful, even if we are only small stones, unnoticed by man, in this temple; even the smallest fills its place and is needed. Thank You, Lord, for accepting and using us little stones in Your beautiful temple. Amen.

Thursday, June 13

Read Ephesians 3:1-7

The Mystery of Grace — Also the Gentiles Are Saved. Paul was a prisoner; he was persecuted and imprisoned because he spoke for the non-Jews and had brought them the Gospel. For that cause he bows (as we read in verse 14) his knees and thanks God that also the non-Jews

are to be saved. He feels that he is unworthy to bring the great news to them. What a privilege have we that we, too, may tell others that they can be saved! Lord, make us appreciate the honor and the responsibility that we may help in missionary work. Amen.

Friday, June 14

Read Ephesians 3:8-13

Paul's Purpose and Plea. Paul asked the Christians not to be tired or ashamed of him, a weak man who had much sorrow and had to endure much shame for their sakes. For, after all, he was bringing them the Gospel of God's love, and even the powers and principalities of heaven, the hosts of heaven now unknown to us, marvel at God's love which brings together the glorious assembly of saints, saved through the Gospel which he brings to them. We must never apologize for speaking the Gospel; it is a precious and honorable message. Lord, make us glad messengers of grace. Amen.

Saturday, June 15

Read Ephesians 3:14-21

Paul's Prayer for the Christians. God is the Father of all the classes of powers and principalities, thrones and angels, the different heavenly groups, and also of the groups and classes on earth. To this great God Paul prays that He would grant the Ephesian Christians and us that we might become strong in the inner, new man, and understand and marvel at the wonderful eternal love of God in Christ and begin to see its vast dimensions and be filled with His Spirit. And Paul adds that the great God can grant his prayer and should be glorified by all forever.

Lord, grant that this prayer be fulfilled in our hearts. Amen.

June 16

Trinity Sunday

Read Romans 11:33-36

Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty. Man cannot grasp and understand the greatness and wisdom of God. God's plan of salvation, the mysteries of God's ways, His perfection, and all His judgments and counsels are all beyond finding out. We cannot grasp the Unlimited One with a limited mind. Faith is needed, trust, and obedience. And in that Holy Presence we sinners shall stand one day! Surely only if we are cleansed by Christ's blood. Create in me a clean heart, O God, through the blood of Jesus. Amen.

Monday, June 17

Read Ephesians 4:1-8

Be Peaceful and Helpful. Since Jews and non-Jews are one family having one Lord and one faith and one God, they should live as members of one family in peace. Be humble and not proud; be patient and forgiving, says Paul. And since everyone has some gift or talent, let him use that talent for the benefit of the whole body. How many families and congregations would do well to take particular note of this advice! Lord, give us the spirit of humble love and kind service. Amen.

Tuesday, June 18

Read Ephesians 4:9-16

Growing to Mature Manhood Spiritually. Jesus, who became humble unto death and then was ex-

alted, brought as a blessing of His victory gifts which He gives to His faithful followers. Mentioned are apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors, teachers; His blessings made them such. And they are given that through their teaching the members of His body grow to manhood and get sense and understanding, so that the whole body develops. Let us not be like uncertain learners who are not sure of their faith, but through study of God's Word become firm and understanding Christians. Lord, let us grow in grace. Amen.

Wednesday, June 19

Read Ephesians 4:17-24

The Old and the New Man. The "old man" is the wicked heart that would like to follow the ways of the wicked, blind world; against this internal wickedness we must fight and put it off by daily repentance. On the other hand we daily should put on the "new man," created in righteousness, and try to live holy. This is a hard fight with many defeats; but it is a fight that must go on and will result in steady growth and greater victories through the power of the Holy Spirit. O Holy Spirit, strengthen us in our daily struggle with sin. Amen.

Thursday, June 20

Read Ephesians 4:25-32

Christian Living. The Christian life shows itself in truthfulness; and if we must be angry on account of and against wrong, still we should not sin by going too far; make peace before night; fight the devil; do not steal but give liberally to the needy; do not speak evil and worthless things but speak helpfully; grieve

not the Spirit; don't be bitter but kind. These are all necessary reminders, for often we forget these things. How weak we are! O Holy Spirit, You come through God's Word; make me love it and study it so that I may grow in Christian living daily. Amen.

Friday, June 21

Read Ephesians 5:1-10

Children of Light. In our thoughts we connect evil with darkness and light with holiness. God is Light and Love; and so we are to walk in love as children of light. Paul mentions the sins of uncleanness done in darkness and hidden places but which God sees and strongly condemns, and he says that such persons have no inheritance in the kingdom of Christ. Yield not to temptation but rather reprove and condemn them that do such things. Instead let us do what God wants us to do. O Lord, forgive our many sins and grant us grace to walk Your ways. Amen.

Saturday, June 22

Read Ephesians 5:11-21

Understanding the Will of God. To reprove and condemn the works of darkness done in secret we must have the light and an enlightened understanding, which comes only through Christ. Then we can live wisely, make the best use of our time, avoid drunkenness and be Spirit-filled, thinking of and speaking about God's Word, being thankful for all things, and living peacefully with others. "Christ liveth in me," said Paul at another place. O Savior, give me Your spirit of kindness and love. Amen.

June 23

First Sunday After Trinity

Read 1 John 4:16-21

Love. Love is the feeling of kindness towards somebody. God not only is a loving God, but He is Love. And God wants His children to be loving people, people that love Him first and also love others, even the enemies. If a person says that he loves God while he loves only himself and not the neighbor, he shows thereby that the love of God is not in him. O God, help us to show our love to You by hearing and doing Your will and loving others as ourselves. Amen.

Monday, June 24

Read Ephesians 5:22-24

Christ's Church, a Pattern for the Wife. Christ's church, the true believers of all time, is called Christ's bride, whom He loves, makes beautiful with the jewels of salvation and holiness, and rules with love. And the church loves and respects and obeys Christ, her Lord. So a man chooses a wife, loves, honors, and respects her, while she returns her love to him and willingly serves him in Christian obedience. That is the right Christian view of a wife's position; but Christian wives alone see that. When this order is changed, disorder and unhappiness will be the result, as sin always brings unhappiness. O Lord, let a wife see and understand her position and love You and her husband. Amen.

Tuesday, June 25

Read Ephesians 5:25-33

Christ, a Model for the Husband. Christ loved the church and gave Himself for it and made it beautiful,

rich and glorious. It was all done for love and with love. So a husband should let love be the underlying and overshadowing thing in his life and relationship with the wife. Then he will carry her, lead her in a wise and kindly way, support and protect her, cling to her for life, and remember and respect his promises to her. Only a Christian husband fully understands that. When men forget Christ, then they will easily forget their duty toward their wives, and unhappiness for both and the children will result. O God, You instituted holy matrimony, preserve it by having people respect Your will. Amen.

Wednesday, June 26

Read Ephesians 6:1-4

Christian Home Life. Children, obey and respect your parents, for they are God's representatives to you. Parents, under the special leadership of the father, bring them up as Christians; don't cause them to become set against you and God. This is the prevention and cure of juvenile delinquency; and because people consider this old-fashioned, we have juvenile delinquency. Father in heaven, make parents wise and children obedient. Amen.

Thursday, June 27

Read Ephesians 6:5-9

Labor and Capital. The servants were slaves in those days, but Paul here does not talk to the servants as slaves, but to slaves as servants, and his statements hold good today. Be obedient, follow instructions, don't be two-faced, and know that as Christian servants you do your work to God. And you bosses, remember

to be fair; don't exploit your help; you, too, have a Lord, up there, who is over you, and you must answer to Him. This is the solution of the labor-capital problem. On part of labor, honest work; on part of capital, fair sharing. Lord, let Your mind be in all laborers and in the employers. Amen.

Friday, June 28

Read Ephesians 6:10-17

Christian Warfare. Christians have as enemies the unseen spirits of hell that work also through humans as their instruments. Against them only spiritual weapons are good. But we have such; the Holy Scriptures, properly applied, protect the Christian completely and furnish him weapons that never fail. To use them means victory; to disregard them means defeat. Let us get to know our weapons by reading, studying, and using the Word of God and thus becoming expert in handling the weapons. Lord, let us never forget how dangerous our enemies are, the devil, world, and our evil heart; grant us the victory over these enemies through the use and application of Your holy Word. Amen.

Saturday, June 29

Read Ephesians 6:18-24

Christian Prayer Life. Prayer is the telephone line to God. We can always get Him by prayer telephone, the line is never busy. The answer is always there right away. So let us pray. Pray for the ministers who bring you the message of salvation, and for all believers and all people; all have need of our prayer support. Note the last verse and remember,

if you love the Lord Jesus in sincerity, Paul prayed also for you. Lord, thank You for having given Paul to the church, and for having given us the Epistle to the Ephesians. Amen.

June 30

Second Sunday After Trinity

Read 1 John 3:13-18

True Love Shares Things. The world does not love those who are different from it. So to love one who does not love you is foolishness in the opinion of the world. But a true Christian does not despise those who do not love him, but rather pities them and tries with kindness to overcome their unloveliness. Hate in the heart is murder before God. And true love will share goods and money with the needy and will do so for God's sake and not to get praise from man for it. Lord Jesus, You gave all to us by giving up all for us, give us Your mind that we may love God and our fellow man. Amen.

"Church attendance and crime appear to be like the ingredients of oil and water — they do not mix."

J. EDGAR HOOVER

"A Christianity that costs nothing, does nothing, gives nothing, and suffers nothing is worth nothing."

THE name of the road to heaven still is Calvary.

"BLESSED are they that hear the Word of God and keep it," *Luke 11:28.*

THE traffic sign's sermon is short but good: Keep right!

"A CHRISTIAN, like a kite, rises against, not with, the wind."



Bible Quiz

How did Cornelius express what every worshiper should feel when sitting in the church before the service? Acts 10:33

What reason did Jesus give for showing Himself only to believers and not to everybody after His crucifixion and resurrection? Matthew 23:39

Why would Peter, a fisherman, naturally feel at home in Joppa in the house of Simon the tanner? Acts 10:6

What sad fate came to the nation of Israel because their leaders had officially rejected Jesus? Matthew 23:38

Does God like certain nations more than others? Acts 10:35

Why is it wrong and not at all necessary to worry about things that we do not have? Hebrews 13:5

How long did Paul live in a rented house in Rome? Acts 28:30

What was the clinching and deciding argument of Paul and all Apostles for the truth of their message that we are saved through Jesus Christ? Acts 2:32

How was the street in Damascus called which connected directly the east and the west gates of the city? Acts 9:11

What is more valuable than the whole world? Matthew 16:26

How old was Caleb when he was sent by Moses to spy in the land of Canaan? Joshua 14:7

Does "everybody is doing it" make a thing right? Exodus 23:2

What does a gift, in the sense of a bribe, do? Exodus 23:8

When criminals were punished by beating, what was the largest number of blows that could be struck? Deuteronomy 25:3

How old was Caleb when he asked to get a mountain for an inheritance which was the home of the Anakim, the giants, whom he was willing to drive out and defeat at that age? Joshua 14:10

Why was Caleb sure that he could defeat the giants, the Anakim, at his age? Joshua 14:11

What mountain did Caleb get as an inheritance from Joshua forty-five years after he and Joshua had spied out the land of Canaan? Joshua 14:12, 13

What can a Christian expect here on earth? 2 Timothy 3:12

The sick people had so much faith in Peter's power to cure them that they wanted to be placed on cots in the streets where Peter would pass; even what, did they think, would cure them? Acts 5:15

What should persons that have great talents and abilities never forget? 1 Corinthians 4:7

What form of idol worship is very common? Philipians 23:21