

The Deaf Lutheran

A MISSIONARY MONTHLY

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MY PRAYER.

Lord, help me ever thus to pray:
"Thy will, not mine, be done to-day,
And keep me in the narrow way," —
This be my prayer.

Not what this sinful flesh would crave,
But strength to breast the stormy wave
And faith my guilty soul to save, —
This be my prayer.

And not for self alone to pray, —
For all who've wandered far away,
For help to lead them back to-day, —
This be my prayer.

GERTRUDE WARTCHOW.

MY SAVIOR.

My Savior's hallowed name
Is sweet as heavenly manna;
His blessed Word inspires
A jubilant hosanna.

His all-sufficient grace
Abounds o'er my transgression,
His holy, precious blood
Is my supreme possession.

Uplifted on the cross,
He claims my whole attention;
His death, His life, is mine,
His glorious ascension.

To work and wait for Him
Shall be my one endeavor
That, when He comes again,
I may be His forever.

W. M. CZAMANSKE.

EDITORIAL.

Calvary.

The season of Lent is again at hand. During these six weeks before Easter, Christians everywhere think more earnestly about the suffering and death of Jesus. You, too, should honor Him who died that we might live. Your everlasting happiness is at stake. Do not think that your own good works will save you in the presence of the holy God. Confess your sins freely and look to Jesus, the one and only Redeemer of a world lost in sin. John the Baptist, speaking of Him, said: "Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world," John 1, 29. The friends of Jesus confessed: "We believe and are sure that Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God," John 6, 69.

During the next few weeks you will do well to examine your heart carefully. May the blessed Savior be also *your* almighty Helper! By His holy life and suffering on Calvary's cross He won your freedom from the anger of God, from the punishment of sin, and from everlasting ruin. He invites you to accept His great gifts, forgiveness of sins and life everlasting; they are offered to you through His Gospel. Believe Christ's precious promises, and your everlasting happiness is secure. May the Holy Spirit guide and keep you in this truth, and may you serve God thankfully and humbly all the days of your life!

O. C. S.

Studies in Luther's Catechism.

THE FIRST COMMANDMENT.

"Thou shalt have no other gods before Me."

1. "Me."

Who is this "Me" speaking in this commandment? Moses writes: "God spake all these words," Ex. 20, 1. And there is only one God. We read Deut. 6, 4: "The Lord, our God, is *one Lord*." And there is none other, for He says: "I am the Lord, and there is *none else*; there is no God beside Me," Is. 45, 5. And in this one God are three persons. The angels sing: "*Holy, holy, holy*, is the Lord of hosts," Is. 6, 3. And Jesus says: "Baptize all nations in the name of *the Father* and of *the Son* and of *the Holy Ghost*," Matt. 28, 20. Therefore we speak of the Holy Trinity, or the Triune (Three-in-one) God.

2. "Thou."

To whom does God speak in this commandment? When He says "Thou," He speaks to you and me, to every one, not one excepted. O my friend, listen; your God is speaking to you in the commandments. Turn not away. And remember this for every commandment.

3. "Other Gods."

Other gods are false gods, or idols. An idol may be anything besides the Triune God. The golden calf, Ex. 32, was the god of the children of Israel. The rich young man, Matt. 19, 16—22, had money for his god. Other false gods are the Christless gods of many lodges. The saints, as Peter, Paul, Mary, and others, are the gods of others; idols of wood and stone made with men's hands are the "other gods" in heathen lands; and their money, their bank account, their insurance policy, man's wisdom, the joys and pleasures of this world, earthly glory and honor, are the gods of many people in our country. And many "other gods" there are.

4. "Have Other Gods."

To have other gods means to worship them as we should worship the true God. If a man fears men more than God; if he loves money, pleasures, and other things more than his Lord; if he puts his trust in the things of this world, such as money, power, glory, he has other gods. And this God forbids in this commandment. O my friend, who can say, I never have had other gods? Not one.

What shall we do? Let us during this Lenten season go with the suffering Savior and remember the words of the prophet: "He was *wounded for our transgressions*, He was *bruised for our iniquities*. . . . The Lord hath laid upon Him the iniquity [sin] of us all." Is. 53. May the Holy Spirit impress this precious Lenten truth upon your mind and make you to rejoice in this only Savior and urge you to worship the Lord, your God, and to serve Him only! Matt. 4, 10.

J. L. S.

His Mother's Question.

"Yes, I saw considerable of John," said the member of the family who had been away among friends. "John is getting on in the world." There was a moment's pause, and then the gray-haired mother by the fireside asked, "Which world?"

THE BREAD OF LIFE.

Bible-Study for March.

"And of His kingdom there shall be no end,"
Luke 1, 33.

Bible-Lesson: Mark 4, 30—34.

"And He said, Whereunto shall we liken the kingdom of God, or with what comparison shall we compare it? It is like a grain of mustard-seed, which, when it is sown in the earth, is less than all the seeds that be in the earth; but when it is sown, it groweth up and becometh greater than all herbs and shooteth out great branches, so that the fowls of the air may lodge under the shadow of it. And with many such parables spake He the Word unto them, as they were able to hear it. But without a parable spake He not unto them; and when they were alone, He expounded all things to His disciples."

Again Jesus uses a parable to teach an important truth concerning His kingdom, His Church, on earth. He compares the wonderful growth and spread of the kingdom of God to the growth of the mustard-seed. The mustard-seed is the tiniest of all seeds; yet when it is sown into the ground, it grows up and becomes a treelike plant with large branches, in which the fowls of the air (birds) can lodge (live).

So it has also been with the growth and spread of the Christian Church. Its beginning was small and insignificant. Only a few disciples were with Jesus in the beginning. Like the mustard-seed, however, this small number of disciples began to grow. These few disciples went out into the world and preached the Gospel, as Jesus had told them to do, and the Church grew until her branches spread to all parts of the world. God's blessing rested upon His Church; wherever His Word was preached, men were brought to faith in Jesus, and through the centuries many sinners found refuge and salvation in Him.

God's blessing still rests upon His Church to-day, and under His blessing the Church continues to grow and spread. If the beginning of a new church or mission is small, we should not be discouraged. Under God's blessing it will grow. Our Lutheran mission among the deaf had a very small beginning. The first service, which was held some forty years ago, was attended by only sixteen deaf. But this small mission grew, and to-day it is spread over the whole country, bringing the message of Jesus to thousands of deaf. In many cities where the beginning was

very small we have to-day a large number of deaf who love the Word of God and believe in the crucified Savior.

When this Word of salvation is brought to you, do not despise it. Attend the services where the Gospel is preached; accept with a believing heart the message which is proclaimed; assist, according to the ability which the Lord has given you, in the upbuilding and spreading of His kingdom.

Prayer: We thank Thee, Lord Jesus, for Thy mighty Word, by which men from all the ends of the earth have been brought to faith in Thee. Let this Thy Word work mightily also among us for Thy glory and for the salvation of many souls. Amen.

E. E.

IN THE MORNING MAIL.

St. Louis Mission. — On January 17 Frederick Jolt Goff, son of Mr. Gilbert Goff and his wife, Lucille, *née* Pick, born December 23, 1934, was made a child of God by the Sacrament of Holy Baptism, administered by the undersigned. Miss Helena A. Hanser and Mrs. Ferdinand Walther acted as sponsors.

January 27 was a day of rejoicing for the members of Holy Cross Deaf-mute Congregation; for on that day their newly called pastor, the Rev. F. A. Hischke, was installed in a joint service for deaf and hearing in Grace Lutheran Church by the undersigned, Pastors L. J. Sieck and Ad. Behnke assisting. The undersigned preached the installation sermon in the sign-language, which was interpreted for the hearing by Pastor Ad. Behnke. The service was attended by a great number of deaf people; but not many hearing people were present.

Pastor Hischke, formerly of Spokane, Wash., arrived here by automobile on January 21, and Mrs. Hischke and their fourteen-month-old son arrived several hours later by train. The same day Pastor and Mrs. Hischke in their auto began to look around for a residence; but only after a search extending over several days did they find a suitable house. At this writing they are busily engaged in moving their household goods to their new home at 5046 Aubert Ave.

Besides conducting services every Sunday in St. Louis and once a month in St. Charles, Mo., Pastor Hischke is supposed to give instruction in the sign-language to the students of Concordia Seminary, and to take charge of the following stations: Jacksonville, Ill., State School and congregation, Fulton, Mo., State School and the preaching stations, Memphis, Tenn., and Little Rock, Ark.

May the Lord of the Church bless this His servant and grant good success to his work unto His glory and the salvation of many immortal souls!

C. SCHUBKEGEL.

Minneapolis Mission. — In four of our State hospitals the undersigned is ministering to the spiritual needs of 22 deaf. What a blessing, dear reader, that

we can bring the saving Word of the suffering Savior also to them! And, oh, how they rejoice in it! Pray also for this work and gladly bring your offerings.

Both in the Minneapolis school and in the Faribault State School the pastor gives regular instructions. In the Minneapolis school 14 are weekly instructed in God's Word, and in the Faribault school we have 45 with whom we study the Word of the Cross every Saturday morning from 10 to 12, and on the second Sunday of each month we also conduct services in Trinity Church. All these pupils are learning to know their Savior, who loved them and gave Himself for them. And may they take this Jesus with them when they leave school and go out into the world!

J. L. SALVNER.

Mission for Blind and Deaf.—The National Institute for the Blind of London, England, has again offered to contribute £ 50, or \$245 in American money, to help defray the expenses of printing the *Lutheran Herald for the Blind*, Moon type, in 1935. We heartily appreciate this friendly and helpful spirit.

O. C. S.

Just Going Home.

I know not if my eyes shall see
To-morrow's sun
Or if this heart of mine shall know
The morn has come.
It may be that before the dawn
Of a new day
For me the things of earthly life
Shall pass away.
And if perchance this day of life
Shall be my last,
If, ere another morn shall dawn,
My soul shall pass
From this life to that Great Beyond,
This be my plea:
The blood shed by Christ Crucified
Avails for me.
Let me so live each day as though
It were my last
And thus be rid of vain regrets
When life is past.
May I so love and serve my Lord
While here I roam
That, when the Father calls, 'twill be
Just "going home"!

OLIVE W. RIDENOUR.

There Is No Substitute.

A sculptor may take a piece of rough marble and work from it the figure of a Madonna; but it is still nothing but marble and lifeless. A carver may take a piece of wood and work out of it a scene of feasting; but it is still wood and insensible. A watch-cleaner may take a watch the mainspring of which is broken; he may clean every wheel, cog, pin, hand, face, and the case;

but the mainspring not repaired, it will be as useless for going and time-telling as before. A poor man might clothe himself in the garb of a monarch, but he would still be a poor man. A leper may cover all his spots with his garment, but he is still a leper. So the sinner may reform in all the externals of his life, so that to human eye he may seem similar to Saul of Tarsus or Nicodemus, a master in Israel; but except he be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.

Lutheran Missionaries to the Deaf.

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Rev. N. Borchardt, 2132 W. 93d St., Cleveland, O.
Rev. E. Scheibert, 160 Cortland Ave., Detroit, Mich.
Rev. A. C. Dahms, 1400 N. Ridgeway Ave., Chicago, Ill.
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Rev. E. C. Baker, P. O. Box 453, Indianapolis, Ind.
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Missionaries to the Deaf and the Blind.

Rev. O. Schroeder, B. D., 1648 E. 85th St., Chicago, Ill.
Rev. A. Kuntz, 805 Lindaraxa Park, Alhambra, Cal.

These missionaries preach in nearly 200 cities in our land; they conduct classes in religion at many 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.

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