

The Deaf Lutheran

A MISSIONARY MONTHLY

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Resurrection Joy

He is risen! He is risen!
Tell it with a joyful voice;
He has burst His three days' prison,
Let the whole wide earth rejoice.
Death is conquered, man is free,
Christ has won the victory.
Come, with high and holy gladness
Chant our Lord's triumphant lay;
Not one touch of twilight sadness
Dims His Resurrection Day.
Brightly dawns the radiant east,
Brighter far our Easter-feast.

J. NEANDER

Easter Hope

"A good many years ago," said D. L. Moody, "when I was a young man, I used to spend the summer in Chicago, and when the ministers were gone away, they used to send me to attend funerals. One day I was called suddenly to attend a funeral. There were to be a great many business men there who were not Christians. I said, 'This is my opportunity; I will give them a Christian sermon.' I tried to find one of Christ's funeral sermons, and I found that He broke up every funeral He attended. The dead couldn't stay dead where He was."

Easter especially reminds us of the power and saving grace of our Lord Jesus Christ. Through faith in His blood and His victory over death joy and peace enter our hearts. St. Paul joyfully declares: "Christ hath abolished [put away] death and hath brought life and immortality to light," 2 Tim. 1, 10.

Every one is interested in a life beyond the grave. God has planted the desire to live into every human heart. Man by nature is filled

with terror at the thought of death. Through the fear of death he becomes a slave and a coward. Death is the greatest earthly evil which can befall him. The cause of man's fear is sin and the future Judgment.

Christ has removed the cause of fear by His holy life and by His suffering and death on Calvary's cross. He is "the Lamb of God which taketh away the sin of the world," John 1, 29. As the children of God we have nothing to fear in this life, nor need we be seized with fear when death approaches. When we die, we are merely "absent from the body to be present with the Lord," 2 Cor. 5, 8. The hope of a better world beyond the threescore and ten years of earthly life changes our vale of tears to a place of joy and peace. Without this hope, life would have no purpose or meaning.

In the hurry and stress of their earthly life many neglect to come to a saving knowledge of Jesus, the Lord of life and death. The Christian Church renders mankind the greatest possible service by reminding sinners of the need of knowing the Savior, who alone can give eternal life. Let us, then, be thankful to Him and His Church for proclaiming this Gospel of life and salvation. Let us especially on Easter Day join His company of believers in church services and thus learn to exclaim joyfully with St. Peter in his beautiful words of praise and hope: "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to His abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead," 1 Pet. 1, 3.

O. C. S.

Easter Dawn

"He is not here," the angel said who watched beside
the grave,
Exultance thrilling through and through the message
that he gave.

"The Lord is risen! He is gone; this empty tomb
you see.
He'll go where He said He would go, to the hills
of Galilee."

"They are not here," the springtime calls. "Come,
search beneath the sod;
Each tiny life long buried there has pushed away
the clod
And risen to the sunlight's warmth in robes of match-
less green,
With blossoms tucked in every fold and fruitfulness
between."

"They are not here," each busy year claims in its
onward flight
To grieving hearts still groping for the promised gift
of light.
The cherished hopes, the treasured dreams, the love
of days ago,
Are wafted up to heaven's gate to bloom at Easter
dawn.

K. W. PATTMEIER

Studies in Luther's Catechism

THE NINTH AND TENTH COMMANDMENTS

"Thou shalt not covet"

In these two commandments God forbids
jealous longing or wishing for that which our
neighbor has. And these evil desires lead man
to break every commandment of God. But,
now, what does God want us to do when He
says: "Thou shalt not covet"? Paul answers
this question by saying: "Look not every man
on his own things, but every man also on the
things of others," Phil. 2, 4. As a man looks
on his own things, so he should look on his
neighbor's things; as he desires only good
things for himself, so he should desire only
good things for his neighbor; as he rejoices
when he receives a gift or an inheritance, so
he should rejoice over the gift and inheritance
his neighbor receives; as he is full of sorrow
if he loses a good thing, so he should sorrow
with the neighbor over his loss. These are
some of the holy thoughts and desires which
God wants to see in every heart. But they
come into the heart of man only if he learns
to know the love of Jesus, who lived and died
for him.

"Help and Be of Service to Him in Keeping It"

As jealous and covetous thoughts manifest
themselves very quickly, so also these holy
thoughts and desires. Luther speaks of this

in his explanation of these two commandments.
In that of the Ninth Commandment he says:
"Help and be of service to him in keeping it."
"It" refers to his inheritance or house. God
wants us to help our neighbor and to see to it
that he keeps what he has. If we see our
neighbor in danger of losing it, we should at
once help him, perhaps by giving him a loan
or good advice. Paul puts it thus: "By love
serve one another," Gal. 5, 13. This service of
love we see in the suffering Christ, who came
to minister (serve) and to give His life a ran-
som (payment) for many, Matt. 20, 28.

"Urge Them to Stay and Do Their Duty"

The Tenth Commandment speaks of the
neighbor's wife, servants, and cattle. We
should urge them to stay and do their duty
if they are about to leave our neighbor or
urge them to return if they have left him.
Thus Abraham helped Lot to recover the many
good things of his which the enemy had car-
ried away. Paul sent Philemon's slave back
to his master. What a blessed world it would
be if we all would thus serve one another in
love! But our words and thoughts so often
show that this love does not dwell in our
hearts. "Lord, enter not into judgment with
Thy servant," Ps. 143, 2.

Look unto the Crucified and Risen Lord

Yes, look unto Him who was nailed to the
cross on Good Friday. He always had only
holy thoughts and desires. He perfectly kept
also these two commandments. And remem-
ber, He was made under the Law to redeem
them that were under the Law, Gal. 4, 4, 5.
And did not His death on the cross set forth
His holy and unselfish love? And was it not
for our unholy and covetous thoughts that He
gave up His life? And, behold, He is risen!
Salvation is finished! May we all trust in Him
for the forgiveness of all our evil and covetous
thoughts! And may His unselfish love urge us
to serve one another in love unto the glory of
His name!

J. L. S.

THE BREAD OF LIFE

Bible-Study for March

*"I will speak of Thy testimonies [Word] before
kings and will not be ashamed." Ps. 119, 46*

Bible-Lesson: Mark 8, 34—38

"And when He had called the people unto Him with His disciples also, He said unto them, Whosoever will come after Me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow Me. For whosoever will save his life shall lose it; but whosoever shall lose his life for My sake and the Gospel's, the same shall save it. For what shall it profit a man if he shall gain the whole world and lose his own soul? Or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul? Whosoever therefore shall be ashamed of Me and of My words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of him also shall the Son of Man be ashamed when He cometh in the glory of His Father with the holy angels."

When Jesus had told the disciples that He must suffer many things, even be killed and raised up again for their and all men's salvation, He called the people together with His disciples. He had something of importance to say to them. Just as He, the Savior, had to suffer many things, so also the believers, all those who accept Him as their Savior and follow Him in true faith, must suffer many things on account of their faith. "Whosoever will come after Me," He said to them, "let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow Me." The true believer, the Christian, must deny himself; he must no longer do what his own sinful flesh desires, but what Jesus wants him to do. And every one who thus denies himself and leads a truly Christian life must suffer many things on that account, must "bear a cross," as Jesus says. The unbelieving world will hate him, just as it hates Jesus; it will ridicule him because he confesses Jesus as his Savior from sin, goes to church, prays, reads the Bible, and does not take part in the sinful pleasures of the world.

Many people do not like to give up anything for Jesus and do not want to suffer shame with Him. They do not want to bear Jesus' cross. They want to enjoy life in this world to the fullest extent, just as their sinful heart desires. Such people save their life; that means, they enjoy their life here on earth and escape the suffering and shame which Christians must endure. Yes, they save their life here on earth, but in the end they will lose the life which Jesus has prepared for His believers in heaven and will have to suffer everlasting shame and punishment.

But blessed is the man who is willing to suffer shame with Jesus in this life; for his faith in Jesus will assure him of eternal life

with Jesus in heaven. He will save his soul. And the salvation of the soul is of far greater value than anything this world has to offer, yes, of greater value than the whole world itself.

If we are ashamed to confess Jesus in this wicked and sinful world, if we deny Him, do not believe in Him, He will also be ashamed of us when He comes in the glory of His Father with the holy angels to judge the world and will condemn us with the world.

During the season of Lent we learn again that Jesus was willing to endure suffering, shame, and death that we might be saved and have eternal life. Let us trust in this Savior and not be ashamed to confess our faith in Him; and let us gladly take up the cross which He gives us to bear and follow Him all the days of our life.

E. EN.

IN THE MORNING MAIL

New York Mission. — Deserving of mention in this summary review are some facts in the life of God's children and in the life of our church-body. Wm. Hagermann has been orphaned. The pastor has found a home and employment for him in the Wartburg Home for the Aged. He was operated upon for rupture and tumor, but is back at his work, happy and content. Gratitude to his heavenly Father should have a prominent place in his heart. — Mrs. J. Nesgood, who has lived in our country since infancy, by the services of the pastor has acquired American citizenship. Citizenship in the Church of Christ is more important. — Conrad Ulmer, in the absence of the pastor, has functioned as lay reader. He has mastered the intricacies of the English language, so difficult a problem for many deaf, satisfactorily and renders the divine thoughts in an intelligible language of signs and gestures. — E. Berg, H. C. Borgstrand, and J. Nesgood, the trustees of our congregation, are on their toes. — Wm. Becker and U. Rehm, recent additions to our membership, are faithful in the use of the means of grace. We are sure that there will be a corresponding growth in their Christian life. Where there is light, there is life. — The pastor was called upon to officiate at the funerals of Mrs. J. Breden, of Mrs. Emma Darling, mother of Mrs. Ida Darling Klopsch, and of Geo. Kinsey of Hollis, a skilled artist. In each instance there was a sizable audience of deaf and hearing. On one occasion in a private talk, there was an expression of joy over the Lutheran Hour. Tell your friends to tune in on Station WINS at one o'clock, E. S. T. — Mrs. C. F. Schneider is bearing the loss of her husband in Christian submission, humbly saying, "Thy will be done." God's will is always a good and gracious will. — Oscar Rehling is a mission-minded member of our church. He has called attention to Newark, N. J., as a possible field for our

work. In December the pastor preached at the annual mission-festival of St. Matthew's. Three deaf were present at this service for the hearing. They resolved to have a service for the deaf on the third Sunday of the following month. In spite of an all-day rain this evening service was attended by 9 deaf from various parts of New Jersey. One asked for another service on the third Sunday evening of February, and the motion was passed. Clarence Schaumberg printed the cards, and Oscar took care of the distribution. — Our Sunday-schools at the Fanwood and Lexington schools are composed of oralists and manualists. We get along with printed literature and written lessons, and a review is had with all in the language commonly used in conversation.

A. BOLL

Fort Wayne, Ind. — On Sunday, January 10, was laid to rest till the glad resurrection day dawns the body of one of our oldest Lutheran deaf in the Synod, John Lotz. He was born in Germany, October 15, 1861, and reached the ripe old age of seventy-five years, 2 months, and 24 days. He entered the Lutheran Institute for the Deaf in Detroit, Mich., in 1875. This was the only school he ever attended. The English language, which he understood quite well, he acquired outside of the schoolroom. In the Lutheran school he learned what he prized most of all, the Word of God, the Gospel of Christ. He left this school after being confirmed and promising fidelity to the Savior and the Lutheran Church, which led him to the Savior and taught him the whole counsel of God unto salvation in strict harmony with the Scriptures. One could say much about our departed friend and member of our Fort Wayne St. John's Congregation of Deaf; but no better memory wreath can we place on his grave than to state that he remained faithful to his Savior and His Word to his end, January 8. He loved the Lord, who bought him, and His Word, which he read faithfully at home, to the preaching of which he listened with due attention in the church services, which was his guide and rule in all things, and to which he bowed in childlike obedience. His earnest desire to learn more and more of the Scriptures and to find out what is happening in the kingdom of God here on earth, made him also a diligent reader of the DEAF LUTHERAN and the official periodical of the Missouri Synod in the German language, *Der Lutheraner*, which he understood better than he did the English. A fine characteristic of his living faith was the love and veneration in which he held his old teachers who first taught him the Word of God. All his life he retained proper respect for his pastors and gladly "heard" them. That such a life in God should be blessed goes without saying. He had some very difficult times in his long life, but on the whole the Lord dealt kindly with him. He never lacked his daily bread. God gave him a helpmeet, with whom he lived together over fifty years and who survives him. Their union was blessed with a number of children, all of whom he brought up in the way they should go. In his declining years he and his wife made their home with a daughter. From this home he was taken to the hospital the day before he died. He had been sick only a few days. He died of weakness and old age; but his soul lives in

heaven with all the saints that have passed away before him.

What a blessing to the deaf world would our Mission to the Deaf be if our Lutheran deaf would follow this deceased brother in his faith, his holy living, his love of the Word of God and an earnest desire to learn it ever better; in not wasting precious time on such books and magazines as often are the death of the spiritual life, but in reading and rereading, as he did, the Bible and the official Lutheran church periodicals; in honoring the men who in school and church teach them the Word of God and in giving devout obedience at all times to the Word.

W. G.

Seattle Mission. — Though nothing has been heard from the Queen City for rather a long time, that does not mean we are no longer here. The Church of Our Redeemer has gone through some rather trying months, but thanks to God, whose promises never fail, better days have come back. Our church is slowly, but surely going ahead. The attendance is good, though it could be better. Most of our members are working now, some for the first time in years.

On Sunday, January 10, Mrs. Emily Eaton, our blind-deaf member, and Mrs. Pauline Gustin, Aunt Pauline, as she is fondly called by all, celebrated the twentieth anniversary of their confirmation. During all these years both have been faithful to their Savior and His Church. They have contributed according to their means and have rendered wonderful services as signers in our services. May the gracious Lord keep them with us for many more years to come!

W. A. W.

Mission for Blind and Deaf. — During the past week we conducted three regular meetings with the deaf, three confessional and Holy Communion services, baptized three adults, and confirmed four in addition to making a number of sick- and missionary calls. Upon our return to Chicago we found our desk stacked with mail from the blind and several unfinished manuscripts for our periodicals for the deaf and the blind.

It is a blessing to be busy in the service of our Lord Jesus Christ. We have very few dull moments.

Our *Lutheran Herald for the Blind*, Moon type, is now in its tenth year. Many of the first readers have passed on into the glories of heaven, but new readers have taken their places on our mailing-list. In the past ten days we have again received seventeen new requests for subscriptions.

Among many others a young girl writing for her uncle recently sent us this message: "My uncle likes and enjoys the *Lutheran Herald for the Blind* in Moon type because it brings him the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ. May God bless you!"

O. C. S.

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