

# The Deaf Lutheran

A MISSIONARY MONTHLY

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## Praise

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the  
King of creation!

O my soul, praise Him, for He is thy  
Health and Salvation!

Join the full throng;  
Wake, harp and psalter and song;  
Sound forth in glad adoration.

Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things  
so wondrously reigneth,  
Who, as on wings of an eagle, uplifteth,  
sustaineth.

Hast thou not seen  
How thy desires all have been  
Granted in what He ordaineth?

Praise to the Lord, who doth visibly  
bless and defend thee;  
Who from the heavens the streams  
of His mercy doth send thee.

Ponder anew  
What the Almighty can do,  
If with His love He befriend thee.

Praise to the Lord! O let all that is  
in me adore Him!  
All that hath life and breath, come now  
with praises before Him!  
He is thy Light;  
Soul, keep it always in sight,  
Gladly forever adore Him!

## Thanksgiving Day and Your Prayer-Life.

When, on November 27, Thanksgiving Day shall appear, we should go to church to praise the Lord for His past blessings. Yet many will not go to church to thank God but will stay at home or go away to overfill their stomachs and to forget God. The Bible says, "Whose god is their belly and whose glory is in their shame, who mind earthly things," Phil. 3:19.

True Christians, however, should observe Thanksgiving Day by going to church and



thanking God for all spiritual and earthly blessings. Especially should we praise the Lord that almost another year has passed in which we could learn more about Christ, how to believe in Jesus, and how to serve Him faithfully in church, at home, and everywhere.

Thanksgiving Day also is a reminder about prayer-life. We should really praise the Lord every day. God daily blesses us with the things needful for the body and the soul. God has until now kept us alive and has given us our food, clothing, and other earthly things. If a friend gives you food, clothing, or money, you will thank such a friend. Because God proves to be your best Friend, who provides you with food, clothing, and other things, you ought daily to thank God in your prayers.

Especially ought you daily to praise the Lord for Christ's Gospel. You can receive preaching about Christ in the church; you can read the Bible at home; you ought daily to think much about it how Christ died on the cross to remove your sin and punishment and to win for you forgiveness of sin and eternal life. Do you believe that the "blood of Jesus Christ, His Son, cleanseth us from all sin"? 1 John 1:7. If so, you ought daily to thank God for Christ's glorious Gospel.

May you, dear friend, go to church regularly to praise God, and may you say, "In the congregations will I bless the Lord," Ps. 26:12. May you praise God daily and say, "Evening and morning and at noon will I pray," Ps. 55:17. May you praise God wherever you are, as Paul teaches, "I will that men pray everywhere," 1 Tim. 2:8. Do you, my friend, honestly try to be so faithful in prayer and so thankful in your praises to God? T. F.

## Studies in Luther's Catechism

### THE FIRST ARTICLE

#### "All Grace, No Merit"

"God has made me, still preserves me, guards and protects me." Thus we have learned to confess in the First Article. Now, what prompts, or makes, God to do all this? Did we perhaps merit or earn it? Are we worthy of it? What does our Catechism say?

#### "Fatherly Goodness and Mercy"

God does all this, is good and merciful, because He is our dear Father. A father naturally is good to his child, and a mother naturally shows mercy to her son or daughter; and so our heavenly Father. David writes Ps. 103:13: "Like as a father pitieth his children, so the

Lord pitieth them that fear Him." Therefore God also says by His prophet in Is. 49:15: "Can a woman forget her sucking child, that she should not have compassion [pity] on the son of her womb? Yea, they may forget; yet will I not forget thee." As the sun cannot but shine and send forth his warm rays, so our heavenly Father cannot but pour out upon man His goodness and mercy.

#### "Divine Goodness and Mercy"

Yes, His goodness and mercy is greater than that of a father or a mother. Therefore we are taught to say: "*Divine* [such as only God possesses] goodness and mercy." Only God can show such great goodness and mercy. Of it we read in Ps. 103:11: "As the heaven is high above the earth, so great is His mercy toward them that fear Him." All He does for us is "out of fatherly, divine goodness and mercy."

#### "Without Any Merit or Worthiness in Me"

Many people think they are deserving and worthy of all these things, or at least of some. If you have studied the Ten Commandments and know them, then you will not think thus; but you will say with Paul: "I know that in me [that is, in my flesh] dwelleth no good thing," Rom. 7:18, and with the prophet Isaiah: "We are all as an unclean thing, and all our righteousnesses are as filthy rags," Is. 64:6. Therefore in our Catechism we furthermore confess: "Without any merit [earning] or worthiness in me." A laborer is worthy of his hire (wages), but what have we earned before God? A beggar usually is worthy of help, but what is it that you and I are worthy of before Him? Oh, we have earned nothing, we are worthy of nothing; for we daily sin much and indeed deserve nothing but punishment.

#### "Purely out of Fatherly, Divine Goodness and Mercy"

But did we not perhaps deserve, and are we not worthy of at least, a little of God's goodness and mercy? No, no! Mark the words "purely" and "any." "All this *purely* out of fatherly and divine goodness and mercy, without *any* merit or worthiness in me." It is pure goodness, pure mercy. When Jacob returned from Laban with his many good things, he confessed: "I am *not worthy of the least* of all

the mercies and of all the truth which Thou hast showed unto Thy servant," Gen. 32:10. All we have from God is "purely out of His fatherly, divine goodness and mercy."

### Sinners Also Saved by This Goodness and Mercy

And this is true also of our salvation. Paul writes: "By grace are ye saved, through faith; and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, not of works, lest any man should boast," Eph. 2: 8, 9.

Wonderful goodness and mercy indeed! Blessed are all who trust in this good and merciful Lord and Savior. J. L. S.

## THE BREAD OF LIFE

### Bible-Study for November

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

Bible-Lesson: Mark 12:1-12

"And He began to speak unto them by parables. A certain man planted a vineyard and set an hedge about it and digged a place for the wine-fat and built a tower and let it out to husbandmen and went into a far country. And at the season he sent to the husbandmen a servant that he might receive from the husbandmen of the fruit of the vineyard. And they caught him and beat him and sent him away empty. And again he sent unto them another servant, and at him they cast stones and wounded him in the head and sent him away shamefully handled. And again he sent another, and him they killed; and many others, beating some and killing some. Having yet therefore one son, his well-beloved, he sent him also last unto them, saying, They will reverence my son. But those husbandmen said among themselves, This is the heir; come, let us kill him, and the inheritance shall be ours. And they took him and killed him and cast him out of the vineyard. What shall therefore the lord of the vineyard do? He will come and destroy the husbandmen and will give the vineyard unto others. And have ye not read this Scripture: The stone which the builders rejected is become the head of the corner; this was the Lord's doing, and it is marvelous in our eyes? And they sought to lay hold on Him, but feared the people; for they knew that He had spoken the parable against them. And they left Him and went their way."

Jesus now began to teach the people by parables, and in this chapter Mark relates the parable of the Vineyard. A certain wealthy man planted a vineyard. When the vines were planted, he built a hedge, or fence, around

them for protection. Then he prepared a place for the wine-press, and built a tower, to serve both as a storehouse and a place for the watchmen. The vineyard which he planted was complete; it lacked nothing. And he rented it to certain husbandmen (farmers or gardeners) and went away to a far country.

At harvest-time the owner sent his servant to the husbandmen to collect his share of the harvest. The husbandmen, however, instead of delivering to the servant the owner's share of the harvest, caught him, beat him, and sent him away empty. The owner sent another servant; him they also mistreated and sent away. He sent a third servant, and him they killed. Then he sent many other servants, but all were either mistreated or killed. As a last resort the owner sent his only son, saying, "They will reverence [respect and honor] my son." But when the owner's son entered the vineyard, the husbandmen said, "This is the heir; come, let us kill him, and the inheritance [the vineyard] shall be ours." So they killed the owner's son, the heir to the vineyard, and cast him out of the vineyard.

And now Jesus asked His hearers, What shall therefore the lord of the vineyard do? The answer was self-evident: He will come and destroy the husbandmen and will give the vineyard to others.

The meaning of the parable is clear, and the Jews also knew that Jesus had spoken this parable against them. The vineyard is God's kingdom, which God established among the Jews. He sent His servants, the prophets, to them; but instead of receiving them as God's servants, they despised and mistreated them and even killed some of them. Then God sent His only Son to them; but instead of receiving Him and honoring Him as the Son of God, they determined to kill Him also. God's judgment was sure to follow. The vineyard would be taken from the Jews and given to others. Thus God will punish all who despise His Word and will not serve Him. He is the Corner-stone upon which God has built His Church. In Him, and in Him alone, there is salvation. Receive Him as your Savior, put your faith and trust in Him alone, and serve Him in willing obedience, lest the salvation which He has prepared for you be taken away from you. E. EN.

## IN THE EDITOR'S MAIL

*St. Louis Mission.*—On Sunday, Aug. 21, Rev. N. P. Uhlig was installed as pastor of Holy Cross Lutheran Church for the Deaf, St. Louis, and missionary of this field. Rev. A. E. Ferber of Kansas City, Mo., preached the sermon and installed him, assisted by Rev. A. Nitz, pastor of St. Stephen's Lutheran Church, St. Louis, at which church the deaf have been holding their services, not having a chapel of their own. After the service, which was attended by about 150 deaf, a social gathering was held in the parish house. The pastor and his family will never forget the warm welcome which the deaf gave them.

Mr. Walter Uhlig, who left St. Louis Sept. 7 to take up his work among the deaf in the Spokane mission and who, with Mr. Floyd Possehl, had served the Saint Louis deaf after the demise of Pastor Hirschke, received as a gift of appreciation, a book, *Liturgy and Agenda*, from the St. Louis deaf before he left for the West.

On Sept. 17, in the morning hours of their 55th wedding anniversary, Mrs. Otilie Schubkegel, the wife of Rev. C. Schubkegel, departed this life as the result of a stroke which she had suffered the day before. She had been sitting before her radio—for two years she had been an invalid, confined to the chair—and listening to the Shut-in Hour of Station KFUD. A fine tribute to her and Rev. Schubkegel, acknowledging their faithful service to the Church and their loyalty to each other through good and evil days for fifty-five years and wishing them the blessing of God for their declining years, had just been read by Rev. H. F. Gerecke, St. Louis city missionary. Then she read the meditation in the devotional booklet for the next day, Sept. 17, her wedding day, "The Way Home." She read and said, "We are on the way home." And a short time later the stroke came which took her home. She was laid to rest from Zion Lutheran Church on Sept. 20, Rev. L. Sieck preaching on "The Mansions of Jesus," Pastor Uhlig interpreting sermon and service. Pastor Schubkegel is hit hard by this dispensation of God, but he is satisfied that the Lord has done all things well and will take care of him also. Our sympathies go to him and the family. Holy Cross Church for the Deaf donated a memorial wreath of \$5.00 for the Board of Support Fund in loving memory of Mrs. Schubkegel.

A class of 34 students is studying the sign language at Concordia Seminary this year. There is a fine interest in the enterprise, and many a deaf soul will get the benefit of receiving God's Word from some of these fine young men in later years. There is no reason why many should not pick up the knowledge of the sign language.

N. P. UHLIG

*Kansas City Mission.*—We congratulate these newly-weds in our midst: Mr. and Mrs. Walter Meyer of Topeka; Mr. and Mrs. Delbert Wright of De Soto, Kans.; Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Joles of Kansas City. The writer was pleased to officiate at these marriages. We also congratulate Mr. and Mrs. Richard Coll.

Large audiences worshiped their Savior in our services every Sunday during the entire summer. Among

our worshipers we were pleased to see more than twelve boys and girls from our Kansas and Missouri schools for the deaf each Sunday.

Calvin A. Nininger and Charles A. Tulloch of Kansas City, close friends of our Lutheran Church, won scholarships at the Fulton, Mo., school and are now attending Gallaudet College in Washington.

Midweek Bible classes continued in Kansas City throughout the summer. Sometimes on Wednesday evenings as many as twenty Bible students were present.

Our Church also enjoyed the Christian fellowship with our speaking fellow-Christians, in the Lutheran Soft-ball League of Greater Kansas City. Our Pilgrim team played excellently.

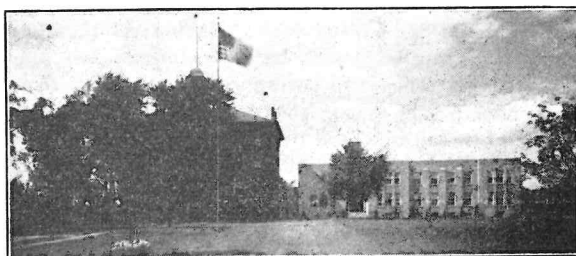
Interest in our Gospel-preaching continues among our speaking congregations. In the last few weeks it was our privilege to address six mission-festival congregations.

A. E. FERBER

*Mission for Blind and Deaf.*—A Kentucky reader of our DEAF LUTHERAN recently wrote to us as follows: "Thank you very much for the copies of the DEAF LUTHERAN. I look forward to receiving them and enjoy the paper greatly. It is helpful and instructive."

We receive letters from the blind in various countries and distant places. Among others a blind man in Melbourne, Australia, recently sent us the name of a blind friend who wishes to read our papers. He adds: "I am still receiving my copy of the *Lutheran Herald* regularly, and I am very glad that you so kindly send it to me. You have many very interesting articles, poems, and hymns. They are more than interesting, being most helpful and instructive. It would not be easy for me to tell you which I like best. Christians are always glad to read such articles as you print in the *Lutheran Herald*. God bless your work for the deaf-blind! With Christian love and constant prayers, Your afflicted friend, T. R."

O. C. S.



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