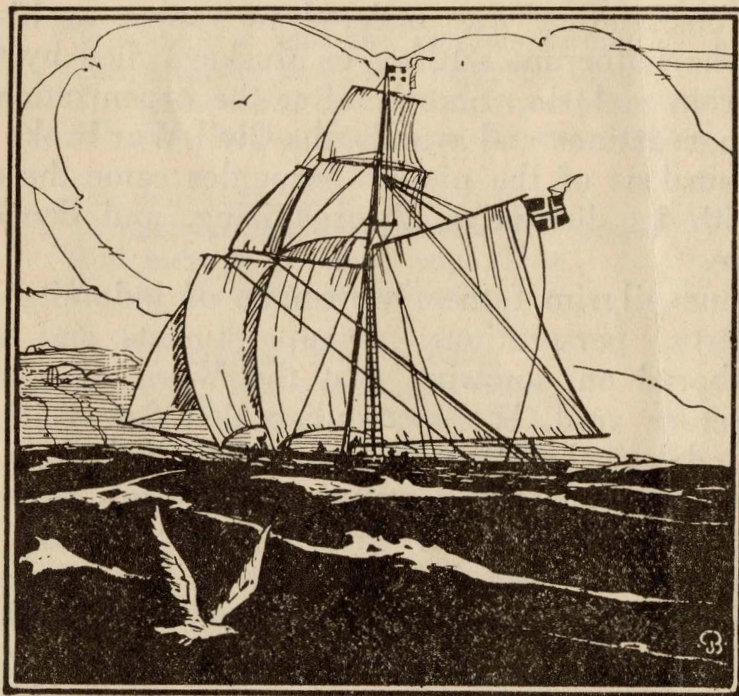


P562

Order of Service
for
Commemoration Sunday

July 5, 1925

Centennial of the Arrival
of the
First Norwegian Immigrants in America



"RESTAURATIONEN"

1825

1925

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Our Pilgrim Fathers

"Bless the Lord, O my soul: and all that is within me, bless His holy name. Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all His benefits." The Lord has been our dwelling place, the Lord has been merciful to us and blessed us far beyond anything we have deserved. This is the thought that comes spontaneously to the reflective and devout mind, looking back upon the past one hundred years of Norse-American history. We have been blessed materially and spiritually, therefore it is eminently proper that with meakness and humility we acknowledge our sins and shortcomings and with hearts full of gratitude come into His holy temple and bow down before our Lord and Maker.

Lutheranism in America began with martyrdom. The first Lutheran colonists on the St. John's River in Florida (1565), several hundred in number, were cruelly murdered, because they were Lutherans. The first pastor with the ill-fated Munk expedition to the Hudson Bay, 1619, preached his last sermon, a funeral sermon, from his own deathbed. The Lutherans of New Amsterdam (New York), 1623, were persecuted, fined, and imprisoned; their first pastor on landing was ordered to return to his native land. The Lutherans settling in Muskego died by the hundreds from malaria. Shortly after the organization of our first congregations and synods, the Civil War broke out and to the burdens of the pioneer struggles came the curse of war, with its disruptive, disorganizing, and demoralizing influence.

But our pilgrim fathers were men of indomitable faith. In poverty, persecutions, disappointments and betrayals they labored on, knowing that the Word of God would never return void, but accomplish that for which it was sent. God has abundantly blessed their endeavors. Christian schools, charitable institutions, missions at home and abroad, and thousands of church spires pointing heavenward, are an evidence that they labored not in vain. What a wonderful heritage we have received! The richest portion of America, the unadulterated Gospel and the pure Sacraments have been entrusted to us! Do we know the day of our visitation? May our confession be: "I must work the works of Him that sent me, while it is day: the night cometh when no man can work" (John 9:4).

AN ORDER OF SERVICE

which may be used as a Centenary Commemoration service
in our churches on Sunday, July the Fifth, 1925.

Invocation

HYMN No. 1:1-6 (*Lutheran Hymnary*)

Thee, God, we praise, Thy name we bless,
Thee, Lord, of all we do confess;
The whole creation worships Thee,
The Father of eternity.

To Thee aloud all angels cry,
The heavens and all the powers on high,
The cherubs and the seraphs join,
And thus they hymn Thy praise divine:

O holy, holy, holy Lord,
Thou God of hosts, by all adored;
Earth and the heavens are full of Thee,
Thy light, Thy power, Thy majesty.

The apostles join the glorious throng,
The prophets swell the immortal song,
The white-robed hosts of martyrs bright
All serve and praise Thee day and night.

The holy Church in every place
Throughout the world exalts Thy praise
And ever doth acknowledge Thee,
Father of boundless majesty.

O God eternal, mighty King,
We unto Thee our praises bring;
And to Thy true and only Son,
And Holy Spirit, Three in One.

The Confession of Sins

O most merciful God, who hast given Thine only-begotten Son to die for us, have mercy upon us, and for His sake grant us remission of all our sins: and by Thy Holy Spirit increase in us true knowledge of Thee, and of Thy will, and true obedience to Thy word, to the end that by Thy grace we may come to everlasting life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

The Absolution

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, hath had mercy upon us, and hath given His only Son to die for us, and for His sake forgiveth us all our sins. To them that believe on His name, He giveth power to become the sons of God, and hath promised them His Holy Spirit. He that believeth, and is baptized, shall be saved. Grant this, Lord, unto us all.

Gloria in Excelsis

All glory be to God on high,
Who hath our race befriended;
To us no harm shall now come nigh,
The strife at last is ended;
God showeth His good will toward men,
And peace shall dwell on earth again;
O thank Him for His goodness!

The Collect

Almighty, everlasting God, we render hearty thanks to Thee that Thou has been our dwellingplace from generation to generation. We thank Thee that Thou hast been with our fathers in days gone by and that Thou hast led us to this land so richly favored of Thee.

We pray Thee: Abide with us continually with Thy mercy and loving-kindness! Bless our beloved land, O God! Bless this mighty nation, our President and all who are in authority. Grant peace and prosperity, and may we rejoice in the shadow of Thy wings! Grant that in the abundance of things material we may not forget the things of the spirit!

Bless, O Lord, the land of our fathers! Bless its people, Church and Government! Help us by Thy Holy Spirit so to live in accordance with Thy will and in obedience to Thy Word, that we may show forth Thy praise in a godly life and at last attain our heavenly homeland, through Jesus Christ, Thy Son, our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with Thee and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end. Amen.

The Lesson. Isaiah 63:7-9

“I will mention the loving-kindnesses of the Lord, and the praises of the Lord, according to all that the Lord hath bestowed on us, and the great goodness toward the house of Israel which He hath bestowed on them according to His mercies, and according to the multitude of His loving-kindnesses. For he said, Surely they are My people, children that will not lie: so He was their Saviour. In all their affliction He was afflicted, and the angel of His presence saved them: in His love and in His pity He redeemed them; and He bare them, and carried them all the days of old.”

The Gospel. Luke 1:67-75

THE CONFESSION OF FAITH

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord; Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, Born of the Virgin Mary; Suffered under Pontius Pilate, Was crucified, dead, and buried; He descended into hell; The third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, And sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; From thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost; The Holy Christian Church, the Communion of Saints; The Forgiveness of sins; The Resurrection of the body; And the Life everlasting.

Hymn No. 5

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!
O my soul, praise Him, for He is thy health and salvation!
All ye who hear,
Now to His temple draw near,
Join me in glad adoration.

Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things so wondrously reigneth,
Shelters thee under His wings yea, so gently sustaineth;
Hast thou not seen
How thy desires e'er have been
Granted in what He ordaineth?

Praise to the Lord, who doth prosper thy work and defend thee;
Surely His goodness and mercy here daily attend thee;

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

Praise thou the Lord, who with marvelous wisdom hath made thee!
Decked thee with health, and with loving hand guided and stayed
thee;

How oft in grief
Hath not He brought thee relief,
Spreading His wings for to shade 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!

Let the Amen
Sound from His people again;
Gladly for aye we adore Him.

The Sermon

(*Sermon texts suggested: Deuteronomy 8: 1-20. Deuteronomy 11: 10-21. Jeremiah 32: 38-41. Psalms 8: 24. 33: 11-22. 36: 6-13. Luke 6: 47-49. 11: 33-36. 1 Timothy 2: 1-8.*)

THE GENERAL PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER

THE OFFERING

Hymn No. 519

God bless our native land!
Firm may she ever stand,
Through storm and night;
When the wild tempests rave,
Ruler of wind and wave,
Do Thou our country save
By Thy great might.

For her our prayer shall rise
To God above the skies;
On Him we wait:
Thou who art ever nigh,
Guarding with watchful eye,
To Thee aloud we cry,
God save the state!

THE BENEDICTION

THE DOXOLOGY

A Few Historical Data

Several hundred Lutheran colonists settled on the St. John's River in Florida in 1565, but were, with a few exceptions, cruelly murdered, because they were Lutherans.

The first Lutheran pastor in America was Rasmus Jensen Aarhus, with the ill-fated Jens Munk expedition to the Hudson Bay in 1619, the year before the landing of the Pilgrim Fathers. All except three died from exposure during the severe winter of 1620, Pastor Jensen preaching his last sermon, a funeral sermon, from his own deathbed.

The Lutherans at New Amsterdam (1623) were persecuted and fined; their first pastor, Johan Ernest Gutwasser, arriving in 1657, was ordered by the Government to return to Holland, but for two years he remained concealed in the home of a Norwegian.

Swedish Lutherans settled on the Delaware in 1638. The first pastor was Reorus Torkillus, 1639. Rev. John Campanius translated Luther's Catechism into an Indian dialect, and dedicated the first Lutheran church near Philadelphia in 1648.

Rev. Heinrich Melchior Muhlenberg came to Philadelphia in 1742, and was the organizer of the first Lutheran synod in 1748.

Norwegian immigration began when the "Restaurationen" sailed from Stavanger July the Fourth, 1825, and landed in New York on the 9th of October the same year. Kleng Peerson was the leader in the emigration movement. He died in Bosque County, Texas, in 1865, and is buried at the Norse church cemetery.

Elling Eielsen, a lay preacher, came in 1839, and commenced to preach among the pioneers in Illinois and Wisconsin, and was ordained October 3, 1843.

Rev. C. L. Clausen was ordained the 18th of October, 1843, and by his efforts the first Norwegian church was built in Muskego, 1844-45.

Rev. J. C. W. Dietrichson was the first ordained pastor from Norway. He preached his first sermon the 1st of September, 1844, and on the 10th of October the East Koshkonong church was organized by him. The West Koshkonong church, dedicated the 19th of December, 1844, was the first Norwegian Lutheran church dedicated.

The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, the first synod in America, was organized on Jefferson Prairie, April 13-14, 1846. In 1876, the Constitution was revised, and the name changed to Hauge's Norwegian Evangelical Lutheran Synod of America.

The Synod for the Norwegian Evangelical Church of America was organized in 1853 at the Luther Valley church, Rock Prairie, Wisconsin.

The Scandinavian Augustana Synod was organized in 1860. It was divided in 1870 into two bodies—The Swedish Augustana and The Norwegian Augustana.

In 1870 the Norwegian-Danish Conference was organized.

The 13th of June, 1890, The United Norwegian Lutheran Church of America was organized, a union of The Augustana Synod, The Conference, and The Anti-Missourian Brotherhood.

The Lutheran Free Church was organized in 1897. The Church of Lutheran Brethren was organized in 1900.

The 9th of June, 1917, The Norwegian Lutheran Church of America was organized in St. Paul, Minnesota, being a union of Hauge Synod, the Norwegian Synod, and the United Church.

Statistics of 1924

Synods	Pastors	Churches	Communicants
Norwegian Lutheran Church..	1,215	2,745	286,977
Lutheran Free Church.....	117	391	30,750
Three other Synods	65	109	7,433
Totals.....	1,397	3,245	325,160
Lutherans in America	10,255	15,228	2,503,642
Total Property Valuation			\$225,140,677
Total Expenditure per Year			43,743,616
Estimated Lutheran Population in America (souls).....			14,700,000
In the World			81,000,000

*Publications by the Centennial Committee of
the Norwegian Lutheran Church of America:*

A HISTORY OF THE NORWEGIANS IN AMERICA
1825-1925, by Professor O. M. Norlie.

A CENTENNIAL CANTATA
Text by Rev. B. J. Rothnem; music by Professor F.
Melius Christiansen, Mus. D.

A SOUVENIR CENTENNIAL PROGRAM,
including the Order of Service, an Historical Sketch,
Historical Data, etc.

*This latter publication will be distributed free of
charge to the congregations on proper requisition.*

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