

FOUNDERS DAY

Concordia Seminary
Saint Louis, Missouri

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 8
1961



Auditorium-Chapel
801 De Mun Avenue
8:25 A. M.

In nomine Jesu

PRELUDE

THE HYMN OF PRAISE (*The Lutheran Hymnal*, No. 40)

The congregation will rise for the fourth stanza

THE ORDER OF MATINS (p. 32)

O Lord, open Thou my lips

And my mouth shall show forth Thy praise

Make haste, O God, to deliver me

Make haste to help me, O Lord

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be

World without end. Amen

Behold, the King cometh

O come, let us worship Him

The Venite

Behold, the King cometh

O come, let us worship Him

THE HYMN OF ADVENT (No. 56)

THE PSALMODY (chanted by the Choir)

The congregation will stand for the Gloria Patri

THE LECTON FOR THE DAY

But Thou, O Lord, have mercy upon us

Thanks be to Thee, O Lord

THE RESPONSORY (chanted by the Choir)

THE SERMON

THE CONSECRATION OF FRITZ AND MEZGER HALLS

The congregation will remain seated for this and the next office

Rejoice, O young man, in thy youth, and let thy heart cheer thee in the days of thy youth

And walk in the ways of thine heart, and in the sight of thine eyes

But know thou that for all these things God will bring thee into judgment

Godliness is profitable unto all things, having promise of the life that now is and of that which is to come

For therefore we both labor and suffer reproach, because we trust in the living God, who is the Savior of all men

Let no man despise thy youth, but be thou an example of the believers in word, in conversation, in charity, in spirit, in faith, in purity

Jesus says: Whosoever heareth these sayings of Mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man which built his house upon a rock

And the rain descended and the floods came and the winds blew and beat upon that house

And it fell not, for it was founded upon a rock

Every one that heareth these sayings of Mine and doeth them not shall be likened unto a foolish man which built his house upon the sand

And the rain descended and the floods came and the winds blew and beat upon that house

And it fell; and great was the fall of it

COLLECT FOR BLESSING ON RESIDENCES

COLLECT FOR BLESSED MEMORY OF TEACHERS

THE NAMING OF LUDWIG FUERBRINGER HALL

The preparation of the heart in man, and the answer of the tongue, is from the Lord

All the ways of a man are clean in his own eyes; but the Lord weigheth the spirit
Commit thy works unto the Lord, and thy thoughts shall be established

The spirit of man is the candle of the Lord, searching all the inward parts of the belly

Mercy and truth preserve the king, and his throne is upholden by mercy

The glory of young men is their strength, and the beauty of old men is the gray head

Give instruction to a wise man, and he will be yet wiser

Teach a just man, and he will increase in learning

The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom; and the knowledge of the holy is understanding

COLLECT FOR BLESSING ON THE NEW LIBRARY

COLLECT FOR BLESSING ON GODLY LEARNING

THE BENEDICTUS (pp. 38, 39)

THE KYRIE

THE LORD'S PRAYER

The Lord be with you

And with thy spirit

THE COLLECT FOR GRACE

Amen

Bless we the Lord

Thanks be to God

THE BENEDICTION

Amen

THE POSTLUDE

Soli Deo gloria

Notes to the Service

The officiant is the Rev. Edgar Krentz, Librarian. He shares with the Rev. Arthur C. Repp, Academic Dean, in the office of naming the new hall to house the seminary library. The Lection (Heb. 2:1-4) is read by the Rev. Alfred O. Fuerbringer, President of the Seminary. The preacher is the Rev. Paul Koenig, D. D., pastor of Holy Cross Lutheran Church of Saint Louis, both student and pastor of the three seminary professors honored in the new halls. The Rev. Leonhard C. Wuerffel, Dean of Students, and the Rev. Lester Zeitler, Assistant Dean of Students, share in the office of consecrating the new residence halls.

The Rev. Walter E. Buszin is organist. His prelude is *Ricercar Septimi Toni* by Alessandro Poglietti; his postlude, *Magnificat Fugue* by Pachelbel. Hymn 40 is by Thomas Olivers, sung to a Hebrew melody from the 17th Century; Hymn 56 by Godfrey Thring, sung to a tune from the Darmstadt hymnal (1698). The Chapel Choir, under the direction of the Rev. Robert Bergt, chants Psalm 132; the Responsory is Psalm 122.

FOUNDERS DAY

this year honors the three laborers, all from the second generation of seminary history, who are commemorated in the designations of new residence halls and the new structure for housing the library. The namestone of the latter is being installed in these days; the residence halls are now in limited use and will be formally dedicated later.

John H. C. Fritz, born in Ohio in 1874, was graduated from Concordia College, Fort Wayne, Ind., in 1894, from this seminary in 1897. His pastorates were at Bismarck and Pilot Knob, Mo.; Brooklyn, N. Y.; and Bethlehem in Saint Louis. He was a pioneer in the English work of Synod and in the development of its programs of evangelism, public relations, and radio. While President of the Western District he was called to the seminary as its first Dean. After 20 years at this post, in 1940 he became professor of homiletics. He was noted as a vigorous preacher, worker for Lutheran unity and doctrinal soundness, strong teacher, and utterly honest, self-sacrificing Christian. His death came in 1953.

Ludwig Fuerbringer was born in 1864 at Frankenmuth, Mich., son of founder Ottomar Fuerbringer and Agnes nee Buenger, the widow of the Rev. O. H. Walther. He was a graduate of the Fort Wayne Concordia in 1882, of the St. Louis seminary in 1885. For seven years he was his father's associate in the pastorate at Frankenmuth. After one year as sole pastor he was called to St. Louis as professor, teaching there till 1931 in exegetical fields and serving till his retirement as President in 1943. He was a careful scholar in his field of specialization and gave impetus to graduate study by many students and staff members. A second interest was hymnology and liturgics. He was managing editor of *Der Lutheraner* for over 40 years. He was active on several mission boards of Synod, for many years a member of its Committee on Constitutional Matters, and long the Corresponding Secretary for Foreign Connections. To the time of his death in 1947 he was a tireless reader and writer, and his name will thus be most appropriately associated with the seminary library.

George L. P. Mezger was born in Braunschweig, Germany, in 1857. After graduation from the St. Louis seminary in 1881, he served pastorates in Waterloo, Iowa, Okawville and Decatur, Ill. He was professor at the seminary from 1896 to 1923, instructing chiefly in catechetics, pastoral theology, and homiletics. He edited the *Homiletisches Magazin*, which was later absorbed in the present *Concordia Theological Monthly*, and prepared many of Synod's first materials in religious education. As professor he was also closely associated with the student activities of his time. From 1923 to his death in 1931 he was professor of the theological seminary supported jointly by our Synod and the German Free Churches in Berlin-Zehlendorf.