

# Table of Contents

Foreword .....	v
Biography and Introduction to Volume I.....	vii
Table of Contents .....	xiii
<b>Advent.....</b>	<b>1</b>
Behold, Your King Is Coming to You—Mt 21:1-11 .....	2
They Shall See God—Mt 5:7-9 .....	7
Behold, I Stand at the Door and Knock—Rev 3:20-22.....	10
Mankind Is at God's Side—Rev 3:21-22 .....	13
Woman Out of Man and Man Out of Woman—1 Cor 11:12.....	16
<b>Christmas .....</b>	<b>19</b>
You Shall Find the Babe Wrapped in Swaddling Clothes—Lk 2:11-14....	20
Four Ways to Celebrate Christmas—Mt 1:18-2:18.....	22
Being Part of the Story—Mt 1:18-25 .....	28
The Word Was Made Flesh—Jn 1:9-14.....	32
Home for Christmas—Jn 6:33-35, 41-42 .....	36
The One in Whom We May More Clearly See God—Jn 1:1-18 .....	41
<b>Epiphany .....</b>	<b>45</b>
Celebrating Christmas—Mt 2:1-10 .....	46
The Baptism of Jesus—Mt 3:13-17.....	51
The Purification of Mary and the Presentation of Jesus—Lk 2:22-40 .....	55
Salt and Light—Mt 5:13-20 .....	58
The Gospel—God's Power—Rom 1:14-20.....	63
God's Perfection Is Seen in Mercy—Lk 6:32-38 .....	67
They Saw His Glory—Mt 17:1-9.....	71
His Crucifixion Is Still the Glory of God—Mk 9:2-8 .....	76
The Feast of the Deity of Jesus Christ—Lk 9:28-36.....	82
<b>Lent.....</b>	<b>87</b>
Farewell to the Alleluias—Mt 6:16-18 .....	88
Whoever Loses His Life for My Sake Will Save It—Mt 16:24-25 .....	92
The Great Contradiction—Lk 9:51-62.....	96
The Man Born Blind—Jn 9:35-41 .....	101
Behold! The Lamb of God—Jn 1:29-34 .....	106
The Glorification of the Son of Man—Jn 3:14-21 .....	111
Hail, King of the Jews!—Mk 15:16-32.....	116

The Three Witnesses—Jn 19:31-37 .....	120
And That He Was Buried—1 Cor 15:3 .....	124
In Christ—Mt 27:50-54 .....	128
<b>Easter .....</b>	<b>135</b>
The Greatest Comeback Ever—Mt 27:50-53.....	136
If Christ Is Not Raised, Your Faith Is in Vain—1 Cor 15:14.....	141
Faith vs. the World—2 Cor 5:16-21 .....	147
Our Father Who Art in Heaven—Mt 6:5-15 .....	150
Wherever We Preach Jesus, Jesus Is Preaching—Mk 16:19-20.....	153
<b>Pentecost .....</b>	<b>157</b>
Who Proceedeth from the Father and the Son—Jn 15:26 .....	158
Blessed Be the Holy Trinity—Mt 28:18.....	162
Blessed Be the Holy Trinity—Jn 16:12-15.....	167
On Being Born Again—Jn 3:1-8 .....	172
Nicodemus, the Holy Trinity, and Faith—Jn 3:1-16 .....	176
The Stilling of the Storm—Mk 4:35-41 .....	182
The Daughter of Jairus/Woman with the Flow of Blood—Mk 5:21-43..	186
Baptism and the Victory in Christ—Col 2:9-16 .....	191
The Parable of the Good Samaritan—Lk 10:25-37 .....	196
Mary and Martha—Lk 10:38-42 .....	201
The Parable of the Rich Fool—Lk 12:13-21 .....	205
The Bread of Heaven—Ex 16:2-7a, 13-15 .....	209
I Am the Bread of Life—Jn 6:47-65 .....	211
Etiquette for the Kingdom of God—Lk 14:1, 7-14 .....	215
The Healing of the Deaf Mute—Mk 7:31-37.....	220
Whoever Loses His Life for My Sake...—Mk 8:27-35 .....	225
For the Sake of the Gospel—Mk 8:27-37; Gal 5:13 .....	230
Parable of the Lost Sheep and Lost Coin—Lk 15:1-10.....	235
Whoever Receives One of These Little Children...—Mk 9:30-37 .....	240
The Parable of the Two Sons—Mt 21:28-32.....	245
Marriage, Divorce, and Children—Mk 10:2-16.....	250
Marriage, Divorce, and Children II—Mk 10:2-16 .....	254
Christ on Offenses—Lk 17:1-10 .....	257
The Healing of the Ten Lepers—Lk 17:11-19 .....	262
Blind Bartimaeus—Mk 10:46-52 .....	267
The Abomination of Desolation—Mk 13:1-14 .....	271
<b>Minor Festivals .....</b>	<b>277</b>
Saint Thomas and the Incarnation—Jn 20:24-31 .....	278
The Slaughter of Today's Holy Innocents—Lk 1:39-56; Mt 2:16-18... ..	282

Thou Art Peter—Mt 16:13-19 .....	287
And They Preached Everywhere—Mk 16:9-20.....	289
Her Husband Joseph, a Just Man—Mt 1:19.....	293
No Other God than Mary's Son—Lk 1:26-38; Lk 11:27-28.....	296
Mary's Son Is the Second Adam...—Lk 1:26-35; 1 Cor 15:45.....	300
And the Word Was Made Flesh—Jn 1:14; Lk 1:26-38 .....	304
Preachers Are Not Born; They Are Made by God's Testing—Mk 14:51	308
Two Pieces of the Church's Foundation—Jn 14:8-11.....	311
One Who Stood Alone—Mt 14:2.....	315
Christ's Church in Every Time and Place—1 Tim 6:12-16.....	319
St. Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist—Mt 9:9-13 .....	323
Slaves of a Gospel Written in Blood—Mt 9:9-13 .....	327
The Church Is Built Upon the Rock—Eph 2:17-20.....	330
Majestic, Yet Touchable—Ex 25:17-22.....	333
Our Champion, the Valiant One—Rev 12:7 .....	337
A Mist That Appears for a Little Time and Then Vanishes—Gal 1:9 ....	341
Obscure, But Not to God—Mt 10:3-4; Lk 6:21.....	344
Raising Up Heroes—Mal 4:5.....	347
What Does It Mean to Be Lutheran?—James 2:1-13; 2 Tim 1:11-14..	352
Behold, I Send My Messenger Before Your Face—Mt 11:8-15.....	357
A Day of Thankfulness, Vigilance, and Repentance—Mt 11:12-15 .....	362
A Time of Celebration and Remorse—Mt 8:23-27 .....	367
The Kingdom of Heaven Suffers Violence—Mt 11:12-15.....	371
Some Things Don't Change—Mt 5:1-12 .....	374

## Special Occasions.....379

A Welcome to New Seminarians—Jn 16:20-24.....	380
Holding the Faith of Jesus Christ, Our Lord of Glory—James 2:1-13...	383
He Does Not Willingly Bring Grief—Lam 3:22-32; 2 Sam 12:15-24 .	386
Seminaries—Preserving the Church Among Us—Mt 28:19-20 .....	390
I Am Not Ashamed of the Gospel of Jesus Christ—Rom 1:16.....	395
The Ordination of Frank Ciampa—Mk 3:20-35 .....	400
The Installation of a Campus Pastor—Jn 10:1-16 .....	405
Be Like John the Baptist—Mt 3:1-12 .....	410
On Being a Theologian—Job 14:14 .....	414
Twenty-fifth Anniversary of Ruth Otten...—Mt 4:1-11 .....	419
An English Thanksgiving.....	423
The Holy Family .....	427
In Memoriam—Henry Paul Hamann—Dan 12:2-3; Mt 13:43 .....	431
Then the Days of Weeping and Mourning for Moses Were Ended— Commemoration Sermon for Dr. Robert Preus—Dt 34:8 .....	433