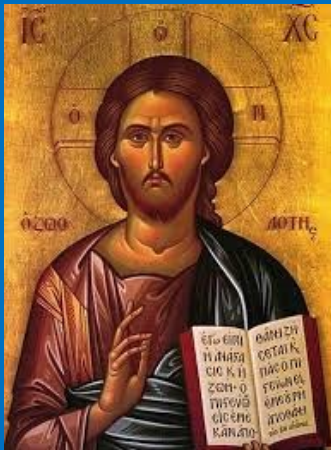




Proclaiming the Praises of Christ in Prague



May
2020



Rise, shine, you people!
Christ has entered
Our human story,
God in Him is centered.
He comes to us,
by death and sin surrounded,
With grace unbounded.

See how He sends
the powers of evil reeling;
He brings us freedom,
light and life and healing.
All men and women,
who by guilt are driven,
Now are forgiven.

Come, celebrate,
your banners high unfurling,
Your songs and prayers
against the darkness hurling.
To all the world
go out and tell the story
Of Jesus' glory.

“Rise, Shine, You People”
Lutheran Service Book #825



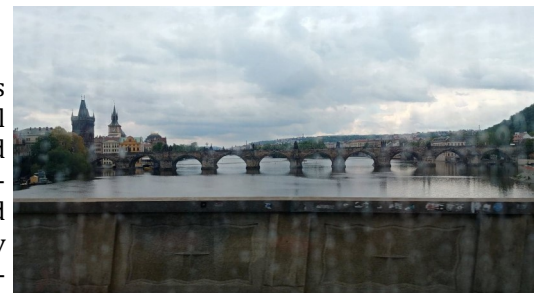
The LCMS Czech Republic Team

No, This Is Not A Stickup

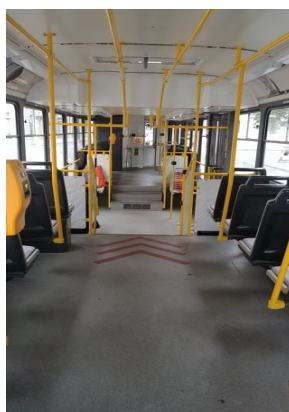
The coronavirus kept us all at a distance—not only from others, but also from our own team members here in the Czech Republic. Therefore, it was a cause of great rejoicing for us all to be in one service together on 10 May, even with those hot masks on! We thank God that we all have remained virus-free and that we have survived the current situation and are beginning to get things going again as we begin re-engaging with people to whom we share the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

An Unusual Quiet

Prague at this time of year is usually filled with international tourists, especially in the old city with its famous sites: Prague Castle, Charles Bridge, Old Town Square, etc. And usually during this time, we have tourists come to our congregation for worship—often times LCMS members who find out to their surprise there is an LCMS congregation here in the city. This has hurt this important part of the Prague economy and, by extension, many people who make their living from that economy. Even now, as the restrictions are being eased, the only visitors seen around the city are Czech citizens because the borders are not open.



An Unusually Quite Charles' Bridge



An Empty Tram

The other day we had to take a Number 2 tram to visit some members. The number 2 is always full. Usually, it is standing room only. But we were literally the only passengers on the tram.

As you can imagine, this has hampered our outreach to the city. We are hoping, now that things are freeing us up, we will find new ways to invite people to know Jesus and the peace He has come to bring.

Please, pray for us. Ask God to help us see new opportunities. And ask God to give us the Holy Spirit, that our words may be filled with grace and power so that many might come to the faith, to the praise and glory of God.



We thank the Lord for all of the people and ministries that support us. This month, we especially give thanks for:

Faith Lutheran Church
York, NE

Christ the Redeemer Lutheran
Tulsa, OK

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran
Casey, IA

Our address in Prague:
Rev. Dale and Suzanne Kaster
Bubenečská 365/41
160 00 Praha 6
Czech Republic

The church address in Prague:
St. Michael's Lutheran Church
V Jirchářích 14/152
110 00 Praha 1
Czech Republic

Pray for our ministry team here
in the Czech Republic

Pray for our visa renewal that it
might go smoothly

Our catechumen preparing for
Holy Baptism

There are many opportunities to serve as short-term or GEO missionaries. Check out the current list and download an application at www.lcms.org/service. Click on "Service Opportunities."

Our email address is
Dale.Kaster@lcms.org

or

Suzanne.Kaster@lcmsintl.org

Working with Martin

One of the reasons I came to this work in the Czech Republic was to work with Martin Damašek. I am to train him for the pastoral office; right after arrival, he was ordained a deacon in the Evangelical Church of the Augsburg Confession (ECAV). Our work has gone more slowly than I expected. Martin is a busy guy. He teaches English in school, serves on city council, and is working on a Ph.D., all on top of what we are doing.

However, it has been a true joy and pleasure to work with him. Martin has assisted with catechesis with a member who is Czech and whose English is not up to the task. (Although, her English is better than our Czech!) He preaches about every 6 weeks. He helps in pastoral care of members. And he is an invaluable source of language help, cultural help, ministry help, and just a wonderful friend. He is a blessing to the ECAV as well as to us. Please, keep him in your prayers.



Martin at our first post-quarantine lunch

A Family Update

Our family has fared well during this pandemic. Dale's mother and aunt are both in good health. Our older son's (Joshua) wife, Sarah, is pregnant with their second child and due in October. Their daughter, Rachel, is oh, so cute and getting big. Our daughter, Gretchen, is also pregnant with her and her husband's (Thomas) second child and is due 9 June. Their son, Isaiah, is doing great. And our younger son (Jonathan) put on sergeant stripes in the US Air Force. We are hoping to arrange a home visit later this year to meet the two new grandchildren. We are waiting to see how this pandemic will work itself out.

Visits in Silesia

Now that the Hoffmanns, who lived in Olomouc, have returned to the States, our trips east to minister to our two lay missionaries will take us to the town of Havířov. There we can meet with Ben and Chelsea who are doing great work among the youth of that area. The trip will be a little longer, as it is farther, but we are looking forward to seeing some areas we have never been to as well as supporting these two servants of Christ. Our first trip will be 7-9 June.

Facebook

If you want to be more closely connected to our work, you can follow us on our missionary page that lets you know what we are doing ([click here](#)), and you can follow the church's life on its group ([click here](#)). Thank you for reading and for praying for us. We pray God to bless your witness to Him there.

Kristův pokoj s vami! (The peace of Christ be with you!)

Rev. Dale and Suzanne Kaster—

Your Missionaries in Prague, the Czech Republic

To support the LCMS through the work of the Kasteters, you may send a tax-deductible gift to:

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod **OR**
P.O. Box 66861
St. Louis, MO 63166-6861

Mission Central
40718 Hwy E16
Mapleton, IA 51034

Make checks payable to The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod or LCMS. Include "Kaster – Czech Republic," in the memo line. Gifts can also be given securely online through the LCMS website at www.lcms.org/kaster.