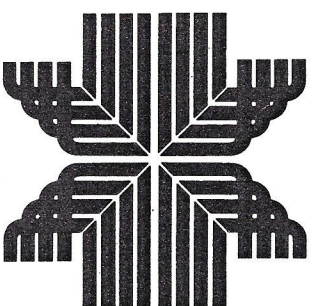


*New Sermons
on
Gospel Texts*

AUGSBURG SERMONS 2

Gospels Series B



AUGSBURG Publishing House • Minneapolis

Contents

Introduction	13
FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT Mark 13:33-37 Guarding the House of God	Walter C. Sundberg Jr. 17
SECOND SUNDAY IN ADVENT Mark 1:1-8 A Revolution of Tears	R. Peder Kittelson 20
THIRD SUNDAY IN ADVENT John 1:6-8, 19-28 The Cost of Greatness	Herbert E. Hohnstein 25
FOURTH SUNDAY IN ADVENT Luke 1:26-38 A Song of Faith	David L. Anderson 29
THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD—Christmas Day John 1:1-14 God's Touchdown	Paul K. Peterson 33
FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS Luke 2:25-40 Behold, Your Salvation!	A. Craig Settlage 38
SECOND SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS John 1:1-18 The Birth of a New Family	Robert D. Kysar 42
THE EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD Matthew 2:1-12 A Light Greater Than You Think	Joseph W. Ellwanger 46
THE BAPTISM OF OUR LORD—First Sunday after the Epiphany Mark 1:4-11 A New Name for Humanity	Eldon L. Olson 50
SECOND SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY John 1:43-51 In the Midst of the Ordinary	Franklin D. Fry 54

APR 24 81

A.R. WENTZ LIBRARY
LUTHERAN THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY
GETTYSBURG PENNSYLVANIA

AUGSBURG SERMONS 2—GOSPELS—SERIES B

Copyright © 1984 Augsburg Publishing House

All rights reserved. Except for brief quotations in critical articles or reviews, no part of this book may be reproduced in any manner without prior written permission from the publisher. Write to: Permissions, Augsburg Publishing House, 426 S. Fifth St., Box 1209, Minneapolis MN 55440.

Scripture quotations unless otherwise noted are from the Revised Standard Version of the Bible, copyright 1946, 1952, and 1971 by the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of Churches.

Scripture quotations marked TEV are from the Good News Bible: Today's English Version, © American Bible Society, 1966, 1971, 1976.

Scripture quotations marked NEB are from the New English Bible, © 1961, 1970 by the Delegates of the Oxford University Press and the Syndics of the Cambridge University Press.

Scripture quotations marked Phillips are from the New Testament in Modern English by J. B. Phillips, © 1958 by J. B. Phillips.

The quotation from Psalm 41 in the sermon for Maundy Thursday is from the translation in *Standard Book of Common Prayer* copyright 1977 by Charles Mortimer Guilbert as custodian.

LCCC 84-72019 ISBN 0-8066-2095-1

Manufactured in the U.S.A.

APH 10-0534

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

THIRD SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY
Mark 1:14-20
This Disturbing Truth—the Gospel William A. Poovey 58

FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY
Mark 1:21-28
The Lord Fights a Battle of Words Richard Rehfeldt 63

FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY
Mark 1:29-39
Christ Reaches out to Touch Someone James G. Cobb 67

SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY
Mark 1:40-45
Say Nothing to Anyone Norbert E. Hattendorf 70

SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY
Mark 2:1-12
New Life Steven H. Delzer 73

EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY
Mark 2:18-22
What's New? Norman V. Braatz 76

THE TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD—Last Sunday after the Epiphany
Mark 9:2-9
This Is My Beloved Son; Listen to Him John S. Damm 80

FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT
Mark 1:12-15
That the Wicked Foe May Have No Power over Us Norbert E. Kabelitz 84

SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT
Mark 8:31-38
That We Might Live Arndt L. Halvorson 89

THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT
John 2:13-22
The Wrath of Love Paul M. Wergler 93

FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT
John 3:14-21
The Light of the World . . . on a Tree Albert L. Neibachner Jr. 98

FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT
John 12:20-33
I Only Asked for a Single Eldon Weisheit 101

SUNDAY OF THE PASSION—Palm Sunday
Mark 15:1-39
Never a King Like This! Walter E. Pilgrim 106

MAUNDY THURSDAY
Mark 14:12-26
Teason at the Table Philip H. Pfatteicher 111

GOOD FRIDAY
John 19:17-30
Our Redeemer through Suffering Richard R. Caemmerer St. 115

THE RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD—Easter Day
Mark 16:1-8
Christ's Resurrection and Our Deepest Needs Larry L. Lehman 119

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER
John 20:19-31
The Resurrection Difference Leslie G. Svendsen 125

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER
Luke 24:36-49
The Resurrection Today William E. Hordern 129

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
John 10:11-18
Shepherds We Want to Trust Frederick A. Niedner Jr. 133

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
John 15:1-8
The Vital Vine Barbara Lunstad-Vogt 137

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
John 15:9-17
You've Got a Friend Carl T. Uehling 141

THE ASCENSION OF OUR LORD
Luke 24:44-53
Blessed Assurance Jon T. Diefenthaler 145

SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
John 17:1b-19
The Name, the World, the Truth

Michael Fogness 149

THE DAY OF PENTECOST
John 7:37-39a
Playing Your Part in God's Mission

William H. Lazareth 152

THE HOLY TRINITY—First Sunday after Pentecost
John 3:1-17
We Are Members of a Strange Family

Alfred M. Buls 158

SECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
Mark 2:23-28
That's the Thing I Don't Like about Jesus!

Karen G. Bockelman 162

THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
Mark 3:20-35
A Family Picture

John C. Manz 166

FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
Mark 4:26-34
Lord of the Big Surprise

Vernon R. Schreiber 170

FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
Mark 4:35-41
To a Sleeping God

Richard A. Lischer 173

SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
Mark 5:24b-34
Go In Peace and Be Healed

Richard A. Jensen 177

SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
Mark 6:1-6
Jesus—Offensive?

Morris J. Niedenthal 181

EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
Mark 6:7-13
Our Turn for the Better

George W. Hoyer 185

NINTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
Mark 6:30-34
Which Shepherd?

Charles J. Taft 189

TENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
John 6:1-15
Christ's Sufficiency and Ours

William E. Leshner 192

ELEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
John 6:24-35
The Deepest Hunger Satisfied

F. Dean Lueking 197

TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
John 6:41-51
Good News and Bad News

Paul E. Forem 202

THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
John 6:51-58
A Foretaste of the Feast to Come

Ronald J. Lavin 204

FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
John 6:60-69
Take No Offense!

Harry N. Huxhold 207

FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23
Go Wash Your Hands

Wayne T. Tellekson 212

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
Mark 7:31-37
**Bleeding Hearts, Do-Gooders,
and Kingdom People**

Jerry L. Schmalenberger 216

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
Mark 8:27-35
On the Side of God

Paul G. Bretscher 221

EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
Mark 9:30-37
Afraid to Ask

Norma J. Everist 225

NINETEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
Mark 9:38-50
The Dignity of Human Beings

Albert Pero Jr. 230

TWENTIETH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
Mark 10:2-16
Till Death Do Us Part?

Herbert W. Chilstrom 236

TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST Mark 10:17-27 [28-30] How to Be an Exceptional Christian	George F. Lobien	241
TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST Mark 10:35-45 To Live Is to Die	David B. Kaplan	244
TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST Mark 10:46-52 To See and Follow	Bryce W. Shoemaker	248
TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST Mark 12:28-34 [35-37] Stewards of Love	Jack F. Hustad	252
TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST Mark 12:41-44 Giving Up Our Last Penny	Richard J. Gotsch	256
TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST Mark 13:1-13 Excuse Me for Interrupting	Barry E. Bence	260
TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST Mark 13:24-31 Pessimistic or Optimistic?	William R. Bragstad	264
CHRIST THE KING—Last Sunday after Pentecost John 18:33-37 The King of Truth	James R. Bjorge	267

Introduction

The first volume in the original *Augsburg Sermons* was published in 1973 to help pastors become familiar with the new Lectionary and Calendar prepared by the Inter-Lutheran Commission on Worship (ILCW). Ten volumes in all comprised the first *Augsburg Sermons* series—three volumes on the Gospels, three volumes on the Epistles, three volumes on the Old Testament Lessons, and one volume on texts for the Lesser Festivals. The widespread acceptance of the volumes is an indication both of the quality of the sermons and of the favorable reception of the Lectionary and Calendar.

One outstanding feature of the Lectionary is its use of a Gospel of the Year. Each year, one of the synoptic Gospels is featured, providing continuity to the reading and telling of the gospel story throughout the entire church year. This approach makes the uniqueness of each gospel stand out in all its clarity and richness. It also enables pastors to study the Gospel of the Year with greater thoroughness and to share their insights with their congregations in preaching.

Augsburg Sermons 2 builds on the momentum of the original series. This volume provides a fresh look at the Gospel of Mark, the basis for Series B. And it is offered with the confidence that the message of Mark will speak as clearly and powerfully to Christians in the 1980s as it has to all previous generations.