

July 22, 1962

"RAISING THE WIDOW'S SON" - PAUL SINKWITZ



"Young man, I say unto thee, Arise."

And he that was dead sat up, and began to speak.

And he delivered him to his mother.

Luke 7:14-15

THE LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

Andrew Johnson Highway

Parsonage: 1141 East First North Street
Telephone: 586-1621

THE CHURCH SCHOOL -- 9:30 A.M.

Buena Lowe, Superintendent -- Tel. 586-6991
Come and join us in the study of God's Word.
Bring your children with you. Classes for all
ages.

THE SERVICE -- 10:30 A.M.

The Reverend Wayne S. Allran - Liturgy
The Reverend C. Ross Ritchie, Jr. - Sermon

Silent Prayer

Prelude

Hymn 146 -- "Come Holy Spirit"

The Service -- Page 9

The Introit and Collect -- Pages 95 and 96

The Epistle -- I Peter 3:8-15

The Sentence -- Page 15

Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

The Holy Gospel -- Luke 5:1-11

The Apostles' Creed -- Page 17

Hymn 207 -- "Jesus, With Thy Church Abide"

The Sermon --

The Offertory -- Page 18

The Offering

The Prayer and Lord's Prayer

The Benediction

Hymn 260 -- "Jesus, Still Lead On"

Postlude

Silent Prayer

ENTER THE CHURCH TO WORSHIP -
LEAVE THE CHURCH TO SERVE.

Our deepest sympathy and love goes to Mrs. Ritchie and her family. We all mark in our hearts the passing of our Pastor with deep love and affection. May we all so pass our time while here on earth as true dedicated Christians that when our time comes, we may go home to God as victorious as did our Pastor.

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NEW MEMBERS Received into the Church last week: Mr. and Mrs. G. E. Rauberts and their children, Patricia and Bill; Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Deier and their children, Carolyn, Jacquelynn, Gwendelynn, and Douglas; Mr. and Mrs. Rudolph Kogelman and their son, John; Mr. John E. Schurig, Jr.

CONFIRMED last Sunday were Barbara Hinkle, Barbara Lowe, Donna Martin, and Perry Hustad.

THE ALTAR FLOWERS today are given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Dr. C. Ross Ritchie.

The Reverend C. Ross Ritchie, Jr., St. Andrew's Lutheran Church, Columbia, S. C. and the Reverend Wayne S. Allran, St. Timothy Lutheran Church, Tarpon Springs, Florida, son and son-in-law of our former pastor, are conducting our services today in thanksgiving to God for the life and service of their father, the Reverend C. Ross Ritchie.

ACOLYTE today -- Eddie Holt

WE WELCOME ALL WHO VISIT WITH US TODAY. Please sign the Guest Register in the rear of the Church. We invite you to come again and worship with us.

Amen, Lord Jesus, hear our cry;
Stir up Thy power, come from on high,
Defend Thy congregation;
So shall Thy Church, through endless days,
Give thanks to Thee and chant Thy praise
In joy and adoration.

Johann Michael Altenburg, 1632



The Empty Eagle's Nest

OBADIAH is the shortest book in the Old Testament. Yet it brings a living message out of a fascinating bit of history.

Abraham had two sons, Isaac and Ishmael. Isaac had two sons, Jacob and Esau. The descendants of Jacob, Esau and Ishmael were known respectively as Israelites, Edomites and Nabateans. The three groups were often bitterly antagonistic toward each other.

At the time Obadiah wrote his brief book this enmity was at its height. As a loyal Israelite, Obadiah was bitter against the Edomites. These sons of Esau had not only failed to come to the aid of the sons of Jacob when Jerusalem fell to the Babylonians, but they had actually betrayed their brothers to the enemy.

The tables will be turned, says Obadiah. The Nabatean sons of Ishmael will rise against the Edomites and crush them. The prophet tells Edom: "Though thou exalt thyself as the eagle, and though thou set thy nest among the stars, thence will I bring thee down, saith the Lord."

Obadiah wrote sometime near the year 350 B.C. The Israelites had returned from exile and had established themselves again in Jerusalem. The Edomites lived in the mountain fastnesses to the east. When Obadiah spoke of the eagle's nest he was likely thinking about a vil-

lage which occupied the spot later known as the city of Petra.

Petra has been called a "rose-red city, half as old as time." Remnants of it still lie in a lofty amphitheatre on a mountain top. The site is like a great bowl whose sides are cliffs and its edges jagged peaks. Once there were streets, dwellings, temples and tombs in the bowl—cut into rock that remains to suggest the beauty and magnificence of the ancient city. This site was the "eagle's nest" of Obadiah's book.

As Obadiah had predicted, the Nabateans pounced upon the Edomites. The sons of Esau, who had made that hateful alliance with Babylon instead of fighting beside their natural kin, were "brought down."

Non-biblical history carries the story even further. The Nabateans built the grand city of Petra on the site of the Edomite town they had destroyed. But the Nabateans were not only extraordinary builders. They were as notable in the role of desert bandits—rapacious, cruel and treacherous. So these sons of Ishmael, like their victims the Edomites, were also "brought down."

An occasional traveler journeys to Petra to see the eagle's nest and to ponder its significance. The fact that it is now empty enforces Obadiah's lesson about the demands of brotherhood and the judgments of God.