

**THE PAGEANT OF
PROTESTANTISM, CELEBRATING
THE QUADRICENTENNIAL OF
THE REFORMATION**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649195336

The pageant of Protestantism, celebrating the quadricentennial of the reformation by Harriet Earhart Monroe

Except for use in any review, the reproduction or utilisation of this work in whole or in part in any form by any electronic, mechanical or other means, now known or hereafter invented, including xerography, photocopying and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system, is forbidden without the permission of the publisher, Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd, PO Box 1576 Collingwood, Victoria 3066 Australia.

All rights reserved.

Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.
Cover @ 2017

This book is sold subject to the condition that it shall not, by way of trade or otherwise, be lent, re-sold, hired out, or otherwise circulated without the publisher's prior consent in any form or binding or cover other than that in which it is published and without a similar condition including this condition being imposed on the subsequent purchaser.

www.triestepublishing.com

HARRIET EARHART MONROE

**THE PAGEANT OF
PROTESTANTISM, CELEBRATING
THE QUADRICENTENNIAL OF
THE REFORMATION**

The Pageant of Protestantism

Celebrating the
Quadricentennial
of the Reformation

By Harriet Earhart Monroe

With Costume Plates
and Descriptions
by Jessie Gillespie

THE LUTHERAN PUBLICATION SOCIETY
PHILADELPHIA, 1917

ANDOVER-HARVARD
THEOLOGICAL LIBRARY
APR 10 1918
HARVARD
DIVINITY SCHOOL

H 4 5, 298

COPYRIGHT, 1917, BY
THE LUTHERAN PUBLICATION SOCIETY

The Pageant of Protestantism

By Harriet Earhart Monroe

THE PAGEANT

This pageant is designed to show the leading characters and events in the great Protestant Reformation of the sixteenth century. While the pageant, as given in these pages, is largely for Lutheran churches, as Luther was the first reformer to break away entirely from Rome, yet it can be used by any Christian denomination. Each Christian branch since Reformation days has emphasized a different phase of truth, and has done a worthy part to bring sinners to Christ, and, therefore, can take part in this pageant which stands for

THE OPEN BIBLE

Therefore, each person taking part should carry a Bible, and at certain signals each person should hold aloft the open Bible.

LUTHERANISM

"Lutheranism stands for that effort which was made in the sixteenth century to maintain and continue the true historical development of the Christian life, as opposed to

the false and unhistorical development with which it has been confused and intermingled in the Church."—*Henry E. Jacobs.*

Luther, Melanchthon, and their co-laborers, formulated the advanced thought of the generation in which they lived, developing the same and adapting it to the needs of the times. They desired to return to simplicity of worship and doctrine as set forth by the word of God.

Characters to Be Set Forth Leading the March

(Luther and the faculty at Wittenberg University, with the flags of the German states in the lead. Luther wears the black gown of Wittenberg University. The same for Melanchthon and at least ten others bearing historic names of the Reformation period.

Most cities have several Lutheran churches. In that case German-speaking churches and Sunday schools should lead in the order in which they were organized. When it comes to the other Lutheran churches, they should fall into the procession in the order in which they were organized. A good display of Sunday school and Bible Class banners will add a picturesque touch.

Each nationality should have scarfs of paper or paper muslin of the colors of its flags. Thus: United States, red, white and blue scarfs with banners showing church and Sunday school affiliation; German scarfs of red, white and black, etc. Paper peasant caps would add to the effect. When a town has no foreign-born church people, the foreigners should be represented by scarfs and flags.

One banner should have upon it the words, "The just shall live by faith"; another, "Here I stand; I cannot do otherwise. God help me"; "It is necessary I should do right, it is not necessary that I should live"; "In that day shall there be one Lord."

CITY COMMITTEES

City committees should consist of the pastors and superintendents of all Sunday schools, with the teachers as sub-committees. Each float should be given to a different Sunday school; or, if only one church undertakes the pageant, each class should prepare and superintend a float.

This pageant can be rendered on an outdoor stage, or even in a church as tableaux, although it is chiefly designed for a church and Sunday school street procession.*

A large number of banners, flags and transparencies will add to the beauty of the procession.

Each Sunday school should be preceded by a banner bearing the open Bible, and another banner representing the cross and led by its own orchestra, when possible.

THE GREAT PROCESSION

Led by bands and music—a band before every Sunday school, if possible. Small towns will not need to use all the floats. The following missions, supported by other American Lutheran General Bodies, could have floats, thus:

The Hauge Norwegian Evangelical Lutheran Synod—China.

Norwegian Evangelical Lutheran Synod of America—Schreuder Mission, Africa.

United Norwegian Lutheran Church in America—China and Madagascar.

Swedish Augustana Synod—China.

Joint Synod of Ohio works in connection with the Hermansburg Society of Germany, in India, South Africa and Persia.

* When this pageant is exhibited on a stage, a good speaker should tell the story between one scene and the next of the Church and the period represented.

German Missouri Synod has missions in Brazil and Argentine Republic.

Synod of Wisconsin, Minnesota and Michigan, extensive missions among the Indians of our own country.

General Council has missions in India, Porto Rico, Burma, Japan.

United Synod South, in Saga, Japan.

General Synod alone has about 58 American Lutheran missionaries in India and Africa, and 852 native helpers.

FLOATS

(Let a procession leader choose only such floats as he can render well.) These floats are all vivants, *i.e.*, admit of moving about, which will improve rather than detract from the interest.

1. Luther about fifteen years of age, with about ten other boys in choir robes—Luther as solo singer. Ursula Cotta giving bread from a basket to all the boy singers. (The cassock, or black robe, can be made of black calico or cambric.) Luther was a student at Eisenach from 1497-1501.

2. Luther in black university gown nailing theses or propositions on door of Castle Church. Students in student gowns standing around arguing, some pleased, some angry. (See D'Aubigny's History of Reformation.)

3. Burning the Pope's Bull.

Luther, students and citizens. The electric fires used in theatres show this with good effect.

4. Luther before the Diet of Worms.*

Emperor (with guard), Cardinal, Archbishop (with Swiss guard), Elector Frederick (with guard), Luther with

*What event in Luther's life divides modern history? The stand taken by him at his trial for heresy, in 1521, at Worms. In January, the same year, the pope placed Luther under the ban of the Church. Charles V was unwilling to execute that ban until he, in person, should

open Bible. These soldiers can be represented by United States soldiers in infantry, artillery and cavalry uniforms.

5. Translating the Old Testament.

Luther and the professors with one Jewish rabbi, in university black gowns, with books, manuscripts and inkstands before them. Very busy scene. Old Testament, A.D. 1534.

6. Luther's First Christmas Tree.

A family in the quaint costumes of Luther's time, Luther and two children with musical instruments. A trimmed Christmas tree in the back, all singing, instruments playing.

Luther says: "One night as I walked I thought how can I represent to little John the stars that shone the night that Christ was born in Bethlehem, and I decided upon the bright lights upon a dark tree. Then we decided to put on the tree the simple gifts which we were able to afford, to represent to our children the great gift of the Son of God to man."

7. The Lutheran Swedish-speaking Division.*

Gustavus Adolphus (1594-1632 A.D.) with wife and little daughter Christina, Oxenstiern, courtiers and soldiers.

give Luther a hearing and a chance to recant. For this purpose Charles assembled the princes of the empire in a diet at Worms, to which Luther was summoned to answer the charge of heresy.—*Conrad*, p. 30. The Papacy hoped that either he would fail to appear, or, if present, that he would renounce his faith and teaching. Luther refused to recant; his noble courage was expressed in his famous words: "Here I stand; I cannot do otherwise. God help me."—*Fisher*, p. 110.

*HISTORICAL LUTHERANISM

What hero-king may be regarded as the successful defender of the Reformation? Gustavus Adolphus, the great king of Sweden.

The name of the martyr hero, Gustavus Adolphus, should be dearer to Protestants, and most of all to Lutherans, than the name of Washington to Americans, for the price he paid for religious liberty was his own blood. But for him our Protestantism might have been borne down and swept away from the world in a torrent of blood and fire.—*Krauth*, p. 136.