



Proclaiming the Praises of Christ in Prague



June 2024

10 years of international service



We thank God for
the Kaster family!

10 Years and Counting!

It all began with a simple request for Dale to teach Hebrew for two years in Kenya. When that did not work out, it morphed into Dale training local men to serve as pastors in their village churches. We also restarted the congregation in Tamale, northern Ghana. After four years of serving there, Dale was called to serve as pastor at St. Michael the Archangel in Prague, the Czech Republic. During our time here, we have seen Martin Damašek ordained as a deacon and later as a pastor. Our congregation has been blessed with three adult baptisms, as well as many adult confirmations into the Lutheran faith. Dale has also been privileged to serve as chaplain for the Eurasia region, a position that seeks to encourage our collaborators in Christ. And now, we have come to celebrate 10 years on the mission field. It has been a true blessing to us. We have made many friends and celebrated many people brought to the faith. Where do we go from here? Only the Lord knows, but it is our intention to remain here in Prague, serving a congregation filled with

God's love.

During our time on the field, we have been blessed, as well as challenged, by happenings in the family. We have celebrated two marriages of our three children. And we have received with joy two granddaughters and one grandson. Dale was blessed to perform both marriages and all three baptisms. Both of our mothers have been called to be with Jesus in glory. As you all know, Dale was diagnosed with multiple myeloma, a form of blood cancer. We returned to the States for 14 months for treatment, during which time he still actively worked with the church. After achieving remission, we returned to the work in Prague. Thanks be to God he is still in remission. And most recently, our oldest grandchild was confirmed into the Lutheran faith, which we were happy to witness. It has been a full 10 years. But God has seen us through it all and richly blessed us. Perhaps, there is another 10 years in us!



The Feast of Pentecost

The celebration of Pentecost is always of great consequence to the Church. On that day, we celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit who creates and sustains the Church, gathering it from all nations of the world. But there is something wonderfully beautiful about celebrating Pentecost in an international setting. Our congregation is made up of people from 14 different nations and five continents, with 15 different languages. As is our custom for confessing the creed on that day, we use the Apostles' Creed in each of those languages, with each person confessing it in their heart language. It creates a beautiful cacophony that must sound a lot like that first Pentecost day. We thank the Holy Spirit

for calling people out of the darkness of sin and into the light of Christ Jesus. It is always our hope to gain newer people from different countries so that we can add them to our confession each year.





Congregational Outing to Konopiště

One of the great things about living in the Czech Republic is that there are so many things nearby to see, including countless castles. Recently, our congregation had an outing for the day to the castle in Konopiště, which is a short trip southeast of Prague. This castle was the favorite residence of Archduke Franz Ferdinand, whose assassination in Sarajevo kickstarted World War I. It is a beautiful castle filled with many artifacts, including countless animal trophies that he personally shot from over all the world. Our tour guide said it was ironic, if not fitting, that he himself died by a bullet. ;-) We had a great time of fellowship.



Two Weeks of Baptisms

The Prophet Isaiah wrote, "You heavens above, rain down my righteousness; let the clouds shower it down." (Isa. 45:8a NIV) God's rain of righteousness has been seen in our church the last two weeks. On 23 July, we welcomed Benjamin, son of Patrick and Veronika, into the body of Christ. On the following Sunday, 30 June, we were doubly blessed to baptize both Jana and her son, Filip. Even more people into the body of Christ! Baptisms are wonderful moments where we see the birth of a Christian. It is where God literally rains down His righteousness upon us. We pray God to richly bless these new brothers and sister that the faith that has begun in them would be brought to completion on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.

We bid a sad farewell to the Mock family. For the past year, we have been blessed to have Cody, Aurélie, and their two daughters in our congregation. Cody serves as an IT specialist for the Lutheran Academy in Riga, Latvia, as well as the Eurasia region. Up to this point, their visas had not come in, so they waited and lived here in Prague. With their visas finally approved, they are off to Riga to do the work for which they came. It is sad to see them go. They are such dear friends. But we look forward to seeing them at regional gatherings. God bless them in their new home.



God bless you and keep you, Rev. Dale and Suzanne Kaster



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