

The History of Conservative Laestadianism

Living Christianity became the name Laestadianism in Swedish Lapland in the 1840's when the vicar of Karesuando, Lars Levi Laestadius, experienced spiritual rebirth during his discussions with a Christian Lappish woman. After this turning point, Laestadius' sermons became moving and inspirational. In his sermons, various sins were condemned and penitent sinners with awakened consciences heard sweet consolation in "the bloody footsteps of the thorn-crowned Saviour".

This revival spread rapidly into Finland due to Laestadius' use of Finnish language when preaching to Finns. Laestadius trained laymen as teachers of Christian doctrine to his extensive congregation.

Those teachers who had experienced spiritual rebirth also became preachers. Laestadius' closest assistant was Juhani Raattamaa and together with Laestadius he began the practice of declaring the forgiveness of sins explicitly "in the name and blood of Jesus". The essential element in this declaration is the lifegiving effect of the Holy Spirit present in the sermon of a believing preacher of the Word, not the words of the declaration in and of themselves.



Welcome to our services!

We warmly welcome everyone to come to our services held at our Helsinki meeting place in Veräjämäki. Large families and people of all ages gather there in Christian fellowship to listen to the Word of God. Especially many young people come to the services to hear the Word and afterwards go visiting each other in homes.

Services at the Helsinki Association of Peace facility: (Myrskyläntie 22, Oulunkylä)

- Sundays at 4 p.m. and 6 p.m.
- Wednesdays at 7 p.m.
- Saturdays at 6 p.m.

During the services, you can also listen to sermons which are translated into English.

You can also listen to the services over the telephone by calling 0600 392 974 (price 0,05 €/min + local network fee) or via the internet.

Helsingin Rauhaniyhdistys
Myrskyläntie 22, 00650 Helsinki
Tel. (09) 728 2162
www.helsinginrauhanyhdistys.fi
www.srk.fi

International sister organizations

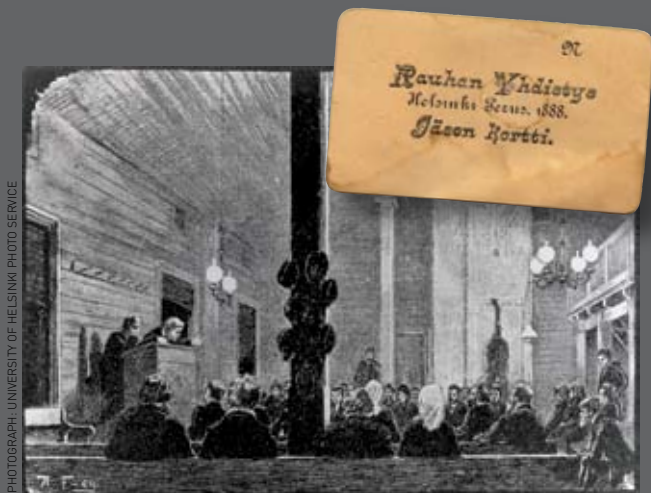
Our sister organizations are located in Sweden (Sveriges Fridsföreningars Central), North America (Laestadian Lutheran Church), Russia, and Estonia (Eesti Luterlik Rahuühendus). Mission Services are regularly held in the cities of London and Oslo, as well as in Germany.

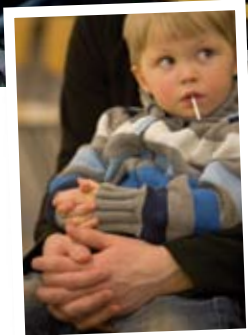


"I am the good shepherd." (Joh 10:11)

THE ASSEMBLY OF PEACE OF CONSERVATIVE LAESTADIAN LUTHERANS IN HELSINKI

HELSINGIN RAUHANYHDISTYS





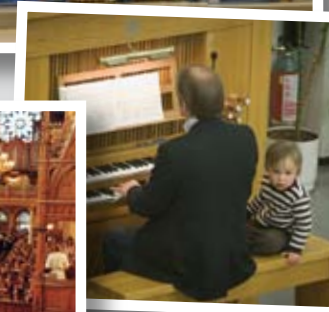
The Laestadian Revivalist Movement in the Metropolitan Area

The Helsinki Assembly of Peace (est. in 1888) represents Conservative Laestadian Lutheran Christianity in Helsinki. Its members belong to the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Finland. The parent organisation of our Assembly of Peace is the Suomen Rauhanyhdistysten Keskusyhdistys (known as the SRK) in Oulu, which does mission work both in Finland and abroad. At our Helsinki meeting place, we hold services, to which all are warmly welcome.

Services are meetings in which we sing, pray, read the Holy Bible and listen to sermons. The Word is preached by both lay preachers and ordained clergy. We celebrate Holy Communion in the local churches of Helsinki.

Services are the heart of the meeting place activities and services are also held in believing homes. In addition to services, our Assembly of Peace organizes children and youth work, discussion evenings for adults, as well as activities for senior citizens.

We also organise social deaconal work to serve families and senior citizens. We raise the necessary funds for these activities by holding bazaars and from the proceeds of the sale of food and drink during coffee breaks between in services. Another important means of fundraising is by taking up a collection between sermons. Our Assembly of Peace has about 1000 members. The Helsinki Assembly of Peace organises the SRK summer serviced in 2012.



*"The kingdom of God is at hand.
Repent and believe in the gospel."*

(Mark 1:15)

Jesus preached in this way at the beginning of His public ministry. This declaration describes fittingly the message that the Helsinki Assembly of Peace wishes to bring forth to the people of the metropolitan area.

It is our sincere hope that as many people as possible would receive the peace of God into their hearts. This happens when a person accepts the good news of the forgiveness of sins brought by the reconciling death of Jesus.

According to our faith, Jesus has commissioned every living Christian to preach the forgiveness of sins. We hold as true the words of the apostle Paul: "So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God." (Romans 10:17)