## March 3, 2024

- This Week:9:30 a.m. Passion Reading Service<br/>6:30 p.m. Catechism Reading Service (LD35)<br/>Classes after the morning service.
- Next Week: 9:30 a.m. Catechism Reading Service (LD36) 6:30 p.m. Passion Reading Service Classes after the morning service.
- Advance Notice: March 24 Services with Rev. Kleijer -All the Lord willing-
- Collections: Today: 1st General FundNext week: 1st General Fund2nd Emeritus Fund2nd Disaster Relief

New Periodical: Learning & Living

#### We Remember in Prayer:

- -Our widows and lonely ones, prodigal sons and daughters, and all those with hidden crosses.
- -Mrs. Kianna Thompson, who had surgery on her ankle Friday

# **MEDITATIONS**

"And him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out." John 6:37

Are you still unconverted? Oh, that you may above all take the deliverance of your soul to heart! Oh, I pray you, do realize with all your zeal in your labor for a livelihood for your body, that you will have that same body in the day of resurrection. If you only care for your body in the time of grace, that body will come to eternal pain, if you in the precious time of salvation have neglected the conversion of your soul. God demands your conversion, but since you cannot do this in your own strength, may He put the prayer in your mouth from Hosea 14:2-3a, "Take away all iniquity, and receive us graciously." It is clearly taught here that it is not in our own strength but from Him. Oh, do not cast aside all warnings from God! May you take His gracious teachings to heart!

Read and re-read Hosea 14 prayerfully, praying and begging for the Lord's own instruction. Oh, my soul would rejoice if this might be to your deliverance! What great and eternal gain you would have for your own soul! How we would rejoice together in heaven perfectly before the throne of the Lamb! Do not let Satan and unbelief deceive you, as if your sins were too great. No, dear reader, in spite of how great and filthy your sins might be, if you by grace may flee to Christ in truth, as the only Deliverer of your soul, then He Himself says in John 6:37: "And him that cometh to Me I will in no wise cast out." Hasten and flee for your life's sake, for your time is short and uncertain. His grace is a thousand times greater than we can comprehend. Yes, His bowels resound with mercy for all poor supplications. But those who think they are welcome by their own self-righteousness or that they can be helped by it, are sent away empty by Christ. Yes, these gather wrath as a treasure unto themselves, because the mediatorial work of Christ is despised by them.

~Rev. H.H. Middelkoop

#### "Made him to be sin for us." 2 Cor. 5. 21; Lu. 22. 44

When I by faith my Maker see In weakness and distress, Brought down to that sad state for me Which angels can't express;

When that great God to whom I go For help, amazed I view, By sin and sorrow sunk as low As I, and lower too;

Then, ravished with the rich belief Of such a love as this, I'm lost in wonder, melt with grief, And faint beneath the bliss.

In this alone I can confide; Here's righteousness enough. What's all the boast of nature's pride? What unsubstantial stuff!

[Rounds of dead service, forms, and ways, Which some so much esteem, Compared with this stupendous grace, What trivial trash they seem!]

Lord, help a worthless worm, so weak He can do nothing good; May all I act, or think, or speak, Be sprinkled with thy blood!~J. Hart Be deeply affected with the mischievous effects and consequences of schisms and divisions in the societies of the saints, and let nothing beneath a plain necessity divide you from communion one with another; hold it fast till you can hold it no longer without sin. At the fire of your contentions your enemies warm their hands, and say, "Aha, so would we have it." ~John Flavel

Satan will ask the Christian what was the time of his conversion; "Are you a Christian," will he say, "and do you not know when you commenced?" Now keep the plains, and content yourself with this, that you see the streams of grace, though the time of your conversion be like the head of Nilus, not to be found. God often comes early, before gross sins have deflowered the soul, and steals into the creature's bosom without much noise. In such a case Satan does but abuse you, when he sends you on his errand. You may know the sun is up, though you did not observe when it rose.

Psalm 22:1-9

My God, my God, why hast thou me forsaken? why so far Art thou from helping me, and from my words that roaring are? All day, my God, to thee I cry, yet am not heard by thee; And in the season of the night I cannot silent be.

But thou art holy, thou that dost inhabit Isr'el's praise. Our fathers hop'd in thee, they hop'd, and thou didst them release. When unto thee they sent their cry, to them deliv'rance came: Because they put their trust in thee, they were not put to shame.

But as for me, a worm I am, and as no man am priz'd: Reproach of men I am, and by the people am despis'd. All that me see laugh me to scorn; shoot out the lip do they; They nod and shake their heads at me, and, mocking, thus do say,

This man did trust in God, that he would free him by his might: Let him deliver him, sith he had in him such delight. But thou art he out of the womb that didst me safely take; When I was on my mother's breasts thou me to hope didst make.

> <u>Consistory</u> Elders: Mr. Derek Kattenberg, Mr. Craig Timmer Deacons: Mr. Norm DeWit, Mr. Rick Rozeboom <u>Contacts</u> Moderator: Rev. Slingerland, Clerk: <u>nrcsfsd@gmail.com</u>

# NETHERLANDS REFORMED CONGREGATION

### Sioux Falls, SD



O LORD our Lord, how excellent is thy name in all the earth! Psalm 8:9

Services at 9:30 a.m. and 2:30 or 6:30 p.m.