

May 24, 2020

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Services continue to be "listen live" through our website as well as meeting together at the city's 50% occupancy ordinance and according to the guidelines on the website(member's page).

Today: 9:30 a.m. Audio Service
6:30 p.m. Catechism Reading Service
2:00 p.m. Adult Class on Zoom

Next Week: 9:30 a.m Pentecost Reading Service
6:30 p.m. Reading Service
-All the Lord willing-

Offerings: Please send offerings to Mr. Norm deWit. The May offerings would be for the General Fund, School Fund, Living Bread, and Hudson Taylor. Pentecost collection is for the North American General Mission

We Remember in Prayer:

-Mrs. Alma de Wit, who had hip replacement surgery this past week and hoped to be discharged Saturday. We give thanksgiving for all going well.
-Our widows and widowers and lonely ones, the unborn, prodigal sons and daughters, and all those with hidden crosses

MEDITATION

Rest for the Weary

"Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest." Matthew 11:28

In the past month we have remembered the sufferings, death and the resurrection of the Lord Jesus. This past week we remembered that the blessed Mediator ascended into heaven and sat down at the right hand of his Father. There He will remain as the only Intercessor for poor sinners until He comes on the clouds of heaven. What an eternal wonder of free grace when we may learn spiritually of these matters. By the law is the knowledge of sin but the only rest to be found is in Christ Jesus who is the Foundation and Fountain of all good.

1st "Come unto Me"! Christ is inviting and encouraging a poor and needy sinner to come to Him for all things relating to their

peace, comfort, happiness and salvation. This is not a physical coming, a coming under the external call, an observing the sacraments, because this may happen and a sinner still be dead. These words tie in with John 6:37, "All that the Father giveth Me shall come to Me; and him that cometh to Me I will in no wise cast out." Here is the drawing love of the Father and the applying work of the Holy Spirit in the heart of a sinner. This melts a sinner and he learns his great need of a Savior and Deliverer. The Spirit teaches them "I have laid help upon One that is mighty" and Christ is a Mighty Deliverer for poor and needy sinners.

2nd "All ye that labour and are heavy laden"! Not those laboring in the service of Satan, because they are spiritually dead. Not those who justify themselves by the law or their good intentions. Christ is speaking here of those who groan under the burden of guilt, those who have remorse over sin and are taught that God is a righteous God. The Great Shepherd is saying to those who have poverty of spirit and are in soul trouble to come unto Him Who paid to redeem them. Those who labor and are heavy laden are called to come with a "fear not" as: "fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed: for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee: yea I will help thee" or "A bruised reed shall He not break, and the smoking flax shall He not quench."

3rd "And I will give you rest"! By nature man is a rest seeker, not a God seeker. Christ encourages a people to come to Him, to lay down their burdens at His feet and to look to Him with an eye of faith. Behold My hands and My feet, look to My blood and sacrifice shed for poor and needy ones. Christ gives rest through the application of pardoning grace, by a full atonement for sin by His Own sacrifice and, finally, an eternal rest to glorify and praise Him.

Friends, are not our poor hearts often restless, filled with doubts and fears? The only solution is to flee to Him who paid all for such sinners. What a privilege to lose our own righteousness, strength, wisdom and to rest upon the Person, blood and righteousness of the eternal Lamb of God Who is pure and spotless!

How must one come to Christ? Come as a sinner, weary, polluted, filthy and defiled. Come venturing your soul upon Him Who knows the hearts and secrets within. He is a willing Savior for a lost sinner. Augustine wrote, "Lord, Thou madest us for Thyself, and we can find no rest till we rest in Thee." Samuel Rutherford wrote, "There are many heads resting on Christ's bosom, but there is also room for yours there." May the gracious working of the Spirit apply these matters to the hearts of poor and needy sinners.

~Rev. Bazen

Notes

Netherlands Reformed Congregation

Sioux Falls, SD



*And thou shalt love the LORD thy
God with all thine heart, and with all
thy soul, and with all thy might.
Deuteronomy 6:5*

Consistory

Mr. Craig Timmer, President Mr. Norm DeWit, Treasurer

Contacts

Bulletin announcements: Mr. Craig Timmer craigtimmer@ymail.com or (231) 942-1389

Sermon recordings: Mr. Ryan Rozeboom

Church Times: 9:30 a.m. and 2:30 or 6:30 p.m.