

July 23, 2017

## GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

**-Today:** Student Witvoet hopes to be in our midst for both services. He will speak a preparatory message this morning.

**-Next Week:** Rev. Hofman hopes to be in our midst at 9:30 a.m. for Lord's Supper and 2:30 p.m. for reflection

**-This week:**

**Wednesday,** study groups will meet at 7:30.

**Thursday,** Rev. Hofman is in Sioux Center at 7:00 p.m.

**Advance Notice: August 20** Student de Leeuw at 2:30 p.m.

-All the Lord willing-

**Offerings** Today: 1<sup>st</sup> General Fund    Next week: 1<sup>st</sup> General Fund  
2<sup>nd</sup> Theological Fund    2<sup>nd</sup> Church Book Supply

Those who made **confession of faith** last week can come downstairs after the service to receive their **books**.

**We Remember in Prayer:**

-Those who have been unable to gather with us for some time, our widow and widower, our elderly, and the unborn, prodigal sons and daughters, any others who are unable to gather with us today, are under doctor's care, and all those who have hidden crosses.

## MEDITATIONS

*"In that day shall the Branch of the Lord be beautiful and glorious."  
Isaiah 4:2*

Where in heaven or on earth can there be found such a lovely Object as the Son of God? "What is thy beloved more than another beloved?" ask the companions of the Bride. But she answers, "My beloved is white and ruddy, the chiefest among ten thousand." If, then, you have never seen any beauty in Jesus, you have never seen Jesus; He has never revealed Himself to you; you never had a glimpse of His lovely face, nor a sense of His presence, nor a word from His lips, nor a touch from His hand. But if you have seen Him by the eye of faith, and He has revealed Himself to you even in a small measure, you have seen a beauty in Him beyond all other

beauties, for it is a holy beauty, a divine beauty, the beauty of His heavenly grace, the beauty of His uncreated and eternal glory, such as no earthly countenance can wear, nor man or woman, no, not Adam, in all his unfallen innocency, nor his fair partner Eve, with all her virtue, grace, and dignity, ever could shew, for it is the beauty of the glorious Son of God, which He forever wears as the Son of the Father in truth and love.

And as He is "beautiful", so is He "glorious". Oh, what a glory does faith see sometimes in His eternal Deity, in His divine Sonship, in what He is in Himself as the brightness of the Father's glory and express image of His Person, and in what He is made unto us wisdom and righteousness, sanctification and redemption! How glorious does He shew Himself to be in His atoning blood and dying love. Even as sweating great drops of blood in Gethsemane's gloomy garden, and as hanging in torture and agony upon Calvary's cross, faith can see a beauty in the glorious Redeemer, even in the lowest depths of ignominy and shame. Was there not a glory in His meek obedience, in His suffering patience, in His submission to His Father's holy will, in His uncomplaining resignation to the heaviest strokes of vindictive justice, in bearing our sins in His own body on the tree, and thus putting away sin by the sacrifice of Himself? But more especially does faith see Him glorious as rising from the dead and going up on high, and sitting down at the right hand of the Father, crowned with glory and honour, and all things put under His feet.

J. C. Philpot

### THE HOLY GHOST

Ho! Ye whose anxious seeking minds,  
To new pursuits new vigor binds,  
This question, sure, concerns you most;  
"Have ye receiv'd the Holy Ghost?"

He comes, and with a powerful ray,  
He drives the love of sin away;  
Those He wounds deepest love Him most;  
"Have ye receiv'd the Holy Ghost?"

Where'er He comes, He comes to dwell,  
And Christians like His presence well;  
He fits them for the heavenly host;  
"Have ye receiv'd the Holy Ghost?"

With love of sin, and cursed pride,  
The Holy Ghost will not abide;    -->

He scorns the Pharisee's vain boast;  
"Have ye receiv'd the Holy Ghost?"

Dear Lord, before Thy throne I bow;  
Decide this question for me now;  
Let me this heav'nly quest receive,  
And never more Thy Spirit grieve.

*Notes*

# Netherlands Reformed Congregation

Sioux Falls, SD



*Let us search and try our ways, and  
turn again to the LORD.  
Lamentations 3:40*

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