

March 4, 2018

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

-Today: We hope to have a morning catechism (#46) reading service and an evening passion reading service. Classes following the morning service.

-Next Week: We hope to have a morning passion reading service and an evening catechism reading service. Classes following the morning service. -All the Lord willing-

Offerings Today: 1st General Fund Next week: 1st General Fund
 2nd School Fund 2nd Living Bread

Visitation for Mr. Jake van Beek is Monday March 5, from 5-7 pm at the Porter Funeral Home. The funeral is Tuesday at 10:30.

Thank You Note:

We would like to express our heartfelt gratitude to all the church members who contributed to the gift of money sent to us. We thank the Lord for upholding and strengthening us as a family thus far. May He be our Leader, Guide, and Teacher in the days ahead. -the family of Harvey Driesen, Sr.

We Remember in Prayer:

-Mr. and Mrs. Harlan Van Beek in the loss of his father and Mrs. Heidi Kock in the loss of her grandfather, Mr. Jake Van Beek, who passed away Monday at the age of 86.

-Those who have been unable to gather with us for some time, thinking especially of Mr. G. Hoogendoorn, Mr. Decker, and Mr. & Mrs. Roberts.

-Our widows and widowers, our elderly, 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

"Christ heals with more ease than any other. Christ makes the devil go out with a word (Mark 9:25). Nay, he can cure with a look: Christ's look melted Peter into repentance; it was a healing look. If Christ doth but cast a look upon the soul he can recover it. Therefore David prays to have a look from God, 'Look Thou upon me, and be merciful unto me' (Psalm 119:132)." ~T. Watson

"And Pilate saith unto them, Behold the man!" (John 19:5b)

The soldiers had scourged Jesus. They had put a crown of thorns on His head and put a purple robe around His shoulders. Then they mocked Him and said, "Hail, King of the Jews!" After this, Pilate declared that he found no fault in Him. At last, the Roman governor presented Jesus to the people with the words, "*Behold the man!*"

Without realizing what he did, Pilate brought a powerful preaching. For in this Man we can indeed see what we have become. We lost our original holiness and righteousness, and are now clothed in old, filthy robes. In Paradise we were kings, but we lost our royal glory and beauty and have become slaves of Satan and sin. The earth now brings forth thorns and thistles because of our sins. Our sceptre has been taken away. Now we are mock-kings, even if we imagine that we are quite important. The reed of our own wisdom, self-righteousness and good works will pierce our hands. This is our picture, young and old. Ask the Lord to show you this, so that you may know who you really are.

Pilate said, "*Behold the man!*" What a wonder of grace and substitution! Pilate meant it in a mocking sense, but the Lord Jesus owns the words that were spoken. It is as if He says, "Yes, indeed, I am that Man; I am the second Adam who stands in the place of sinners, wearing their curse and shame. " And because of this, unholy, guilty sinners will be clothed with the robe of righteousness, will wear a victor's crown, and will one day reign with the exalted King in glory.

My dear friends, these are the things we need to know. We need to learn by grace:

1) That we are a mock-king and have lost everything in our fall in Adam.

2) Who Christ is, that precious Surety, that suitable and willing Redeemer in His work as Mediator. Our form for the administration of the Lord's Supper speaks about this. Addressing God's children, as it were, Christ declares His "heartly love and faithfulness towards you; that, whereas you should otherwise have suffered eternal death, I have given My body to the death of the cross and shed my blood for you."

How precious does this blessed Substitute and Redeemer become for those who have learned to know what they lost, but who may find all they need in Him. ~Rev. C. Vogelaar

NOTES

Netherlands Reformed Congregation

Sioux Falls, SD



*Who is this King of glory? The
LORD of hosts, he is the King of
glory. Selah. Psalm 24:10*

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