

April 19, 2020

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Services continue to be "listen live" only through our website:

nrclf.com

Today: 9:30 a.m. Service*

6:00 p.m. Rev. Vergunst (Combined with Waupun)

Next Week: 9:30 a.m. Service*

6:00 p.m. Rev. Vergunst (Combined with Waupun)

**Our morning service will be either an audio or reading sermon. In the evenings we will continue to follow our moderator in his catechism sermons.*

Adult classes continue at 2:00 on Sunday afternoons

-All the Lord willing-

Offerings: Please send offerings to Mr. Norm deWit. The April offerings would be for the General Fund, School Fund, Living Bread, and Church Book Supply.

We Remember in Prayer:

-All those affected by the coronavirus: those who are ill, unemployed, suffering financial hardship, and suffering in various ways, the health care workers, our elderly and vulnerable.

-Our congregation in our continued separation physically, that we may be bound together in prayer.

-Our widows and widowers and lonely ones.

-All those with hidden crosses

MEDITATIONS

Prayer for a Blessing

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| 1. Bestow, dear Lord, upon our youth
The gift of saving grace;
And let the seed of sacred truth
Fall in a fruitful place. | 4. True, you are young, but there's a stone
Within the youngest breast,
Or half the crimes which you have done
Would rob you of your rest. |
| 2. Grace is a plant, where'er it grows,
Of pure and heav'nly root;
But fairest in the youngest shows,
And yields the sweetest fruit. | 5. For you the public pray'r is made,
Oh! join the public pray'r!
For you the secret tear is shed,
O shed yourselves a tear! |
| 3. Ye careless ones, O hear betimes
The voice of sov'reign love!
Your youth is stain'd with many crimes,
But mercy reigns above. | 6. We pray that you may early prove
The Spirit's pow'r to teach;
You cannot be too young to love
That Jesus whom we preach. |

~John Newton

And the angel answered and said unto the women, Fear not ye: for I know that ye seek Jesus, which was crucified. He is not here: for He is risen, as He said. Matth. 28:5, 6

The women had come to the sepulcher with their spices to show their love to Him Who had become their most precious Teacher and Leader. They seek the Living among the dead, although He had told them that He would rise from the grave. The heavenly messenger had to report the good news that the God Who had so often delivered Israel in the past, had now brought another mighty deliverance by raising His Son from the dead as He had fully satisfied His justice.

No, there was no reason for the women to fear. The keepers of the grave may well fear, and also all who do not have any desire to serve Him Who was buried, but is now the alive, and reigns forever. We may well fear with Easter, if we still belong to the enemies of Christ. However, those who know that missing, that earnest seeking of Him Whom they cannot miss, should not fear.

He is not here, in that dark sepulcher, in that place where He had been, like Jonah in the belly of the fish, for three day and nights. Who was delivered for our offences and was raised for our justification (Rom. 4:25). Their debts are paid, their sin is atoned, punishment is carried, and those fearful women are now righteous before God. What a glorious message for those who hunger and thirst for His righteousness.

Easter means: There is therefore now no condemnation for them which are in Christ Jesus. It is true, the women needed a personal visit from the risen Savior in order to confirm the message of the angel to them. Are we longing for such a visit? If we truly seek Him, and not just His gifts, but long for His nearness and personal speaking to our soul, He will come. At His time, when everything seems to be impossible. He will drive away the night and a blessed new day will arrive.

O, poor sinner who still lives without Him and does not see His beauty, young or old, ask the Lord to glorify Him, the victorious King, in your hearts and to bring you as a lost sinner to His feet. Blessed are those who would like to join these seeking women. They will not be disappointed, but at God's time will also find Him Who is altogether lovely. With the women they may fall at His feet, embrace and worship Him.

~Rev. Vogelaar

*Until I went into the sanctuary of God; then understood I their end
(Psalm 73:17).*

O, my unconverted and hardened fellow-traveler to eternity, may you learn to consider what is needful to obtain eternal peace. The time is getting short. We are fast approaching the end. The coming of the Lord is at hand. The world is getting worn out with age. Everything points to the end. We are living in a doomed world. The signs of the coming of the Lord are all around us. We might say: it is five minutes before twelve o'clock! And as far as our lives are concerned, maybe it is—even two minutes or one minute before twelve o'clock. Therefore, make haste for your life's sake. Seek the Lord while He may be found; call upon Him while He is near! Seek a place of shelter and rest in the caves of the rock—in the righteousness of Christ. In His wounds there are manifold comforts for a soul that mourns his sins and yearns for God. Kiss the Son, lest He be angry, and ye perish from the way, when His wrath is kindled but a little (Ps. 2:12).

While it is yet the last hour, an unconverted person can still be converted to God. It is still being told us that God has no desire in the death of the wicked but that he be converted and live.

And people of God, while you are begging, you are on your way to receive the inheritance that God has prepared for you from before the foundation of the world. ~Rev. Lamain

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.