

February 28, 2021

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

This Week: 9:30 a.m. Passion Reading Service
2:30 p.m. Catechism Reading Service.
Classes after the morning service.

Next Week: 9:30 a.m. Passion Reading Service
2:30 p.m. Catechism Reading Service.
Classes after the morning service.

Tuesday: A nursing home committee presentation at the Rock Valley school at 7:00 p.m. No choir practice.

Wednesday: Bible Study groups meet at 7:00 at Living Bread

Thursday, March 11, Elim Committee has a marriage topic
“Habits for a Healthier Marriage” 7:30 p.m. at the RV school

Friday, March 12, monthly singalong will be held at Hudson Community Center at 7:00 p.m.

-All the Lord willing-

Offerings Today: 1st General Fund Next week: 1st General Fund
2nd Alpha Center 2nd School Fund

We Remember in Prayer:

- Mrs. Jennie Johnson, whose surgery was successful. We pray for continued healing and strength as she recovers at home.
- Our widows, widowers and lonely ones, the unborn, prodigal sons and daughters, those undergoing treatments, and all those with hidden crosses.

MEDITATIONS

*Come, Holy Spirit, come;
Let Thy bright beams arise;
Dispel the darkness from our minds,
And open all our eyes.*

*Convince us of our sin,
Then lead to Jesus' blood;
And to our wondering view reveal
The secret love of God*

And when the ship was caught, and could not bear up into the wind, we let her drive. –Acts 27:15

Paul was on a ship in the midst of a storm. The captain gave the ship up to the waves and the wind for the crew could not handle the ship any longer. Maybe the ship would break against the rocks. It was a very difficult experience for the people on that ship. This terrible storm lasted more than fourteen days. There were fourteen days with death in front of them. But Paul encouraged them that they would all safely arrive on land but that all their belongings would be lost.

Their belongings were in fact lost, for to lighten the ship, cargo was thrown overboard. After that, all their instruments and tackle were thrown overboard. They had to lose everything. The crew surrendered themselves to God's will. When some of the crew wanted to escape in a lifeboat, Paul told them that they could not be saved if they disobeyed. Next the lifeboat was cut off. They had nothing left, but in this way they all arrived safely on shore.

In spiritual life, matters are no different. The church of God will be saved but all our possessions must remain behind. And it bothers us. We object to free grace because we want to be saved and yet maintain ourselves. We think we can arrive at the eternal shore with our full suitcases. We want to be something and we want to offer God something.

In reality, however, even the last means of saving ourselves has to be cut off. What a struggle this is! We are willing to admit that we sin and that we are guilty, but we still think we have done good things. We would like to take our conversion with us, or our experiences, or our prayers. But to be saved we have to lose everything. Nothing from our earthly side can save us. Even our most holy actions are stained with sin. The Lord has a people of whom He does not expect anything but to whom He is willing to give everything. Everything we need is provided at the eternal shore.

Faith understands this. Faith takes hold of God's Word and it lets go of everything related to self. The life of faith can be likened to a ship. We let her drive. We learn to float upon the Word of God, and His grace. In this way Christ becomes so very precious. ~Frans Bakker

Netherlands Reformed Congregation

Sioux Falls, SD



*Exalt the LORD our God, and
worship at his holy hill; for the
LORD our God is holy.
Psalm 99:9*

All who would like to stand for the 3rd song are welcome to.

Consistory

Elders: Mr. Rick Rozeboom, Mr. Craig Timmer
Mr. Norm DeWit, Treasurer, Mr. Derek Kattenberg, Clerk

Contacts

Moderator: Rev. Hofman
Bulletin announcements: Mr. Craig Timmer craigtimmer@ymail.com
Sermon recordings: Mr. Ryan Rozeboom
Website: nrscf.com

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