

Make a joyful noise unto the LORD, all ye lands. Serve the LORD with gladness: come before his presence with singing.

God's worship ought to be, and shall be universal. All lands shall participate in it. It must be hearty and joyful. At fit times it should be audible – with a noise. The whole heart, mind, strength and soul may well be brought into it. "God's praise is his worship."

Our powers of music should be cultivated. If we are to sing, we must learn to sing, Otherwise we will make discord, and disturb the devotions of our fellow-worshippers. The greatest preachers and scholars have given their attention to this matter. Cobbin: "Luther would have immortalized his name had he done no more than written the majestic air and harmony to which we are accustomed to sing this Psalm, and which, when the mind is in a truly worshipping frame, seems to bring heaven down to earth, and to raise earth to heaven, giving us anticipations of the pure and sublime delights of that noble and general assembly in which saints and angels shall forever celebrate the praises of God."

Church music should be solemn; for it is an awful thing to worship God. It should be simple, that the mass of the people may join in it. It should be in good taste, that we may not dishonor God with hideous sounds. Of sacred music Chrysostom says: "Nothing so lifteth up the soul, so looseth it from the chains of the body, and giveth it a contempt for all earthly things." Augustine: "How freely was I made to weep by these hymns and spiritual songs, transported by the voice of the congregation sweetly singing; – the melody of their voices filled my ear, and divine truth was poured into my heart. Then burned the flame of sacred devotion in my soul, and gushing tears flowed from my eyes, as well they might." In a letter dated March 6, 1560, Bishop Jewell says: "A change now appears among the people, which nothing promotes more than to sing Psalms. Sometimes at Paul's Cross there will be six thousand people singing together." Burnet says that "the Psalms translated into metre were much sung by all who loved the Reformation, and it was a sign, by which men's affections to that work were measured, whether they used to sing these or not." Let sacred music be cultivated and abundantly employed.

Consistory

Elders: Mr. Rick Rozeboom, Mr. Craig Timmer

Deacon: Mr. Norm DeWit

Contacts

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Consistory meets on the first Monday of the month at 10:00 a.m.

NETHERLANDS REFORMED CONGREGATION

Sioux Falls, SD



*Sing unto the LORD; for he hath done
excellent things: this is known in all the
earth.
Isaiah 12:5*

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