

July 9, 2023

This Week: 9:30 a.m. Reading Service
6:30 p.m. Catechism Reading Service (LD 9)

Next Week: 9:30 a.m. Reading Service
6:30 p.m. Catechism Reading Service (LD 10)

Saturday: Church cleaning starting at 10:00 a.m. Please bring rags and buckets and anything else you may want to use.

Saturday: Post high school youth group event will be held at Pahoja Lake. For more information contact Megan DeJager at (712) 578-1775 or Case Vogelaar at (712)360-2725.

Advance Notices:

-Saturday, **July 22** from 4:00-8:30 PM, Youth Afternoon at Sandy Hollow for all those entering 9th grade and older. No RSVP necessary.

-Church picnic on **July 25** at 6:30 p.m.

-All the Lord willing-

Collections: Today: 1st General Fund Next week: 1st General Fund
2nd Prison Diaries 2nd School Fund

We Remember in Prayer:

- The call sent out to Ds. Zondag to come over and help us.
- Our widows and lonely ones, the unborn, our married couples, prodigal sons and daughters, and all those with hidden crosses.

MEDITATIONS

And must it, Lord, be so?
And must Thy children bear
Such various kinds of woe,
Such soul-perplexing fear?
Are these the blessings we expect?
Is this the lot of God's elect?

Boast not, ye sons of earth,
Nor look with scornful eyes;

Above your highest mirth,
Our saddest hours we prize;
For though our cup seems filled with gall,
There's something secret sweetens all.

How harsh so'er the way,
Dear Saviour, still lead on,
Nor leave us till we say,
"Father, Thy will be done."
At most we do but taste the cup,
For Thou alone hast drunk it up.

Shall guilty man complain?
Shall sinful dust repine?
And what is all our pain?
How light compared with Thine!
Finish, dear Lord, what is begun;
Choose Thou the way, but still lead on. ~J. Hart

Time is so short, and the work which we have to do in it is so great,
that we have none of it to spare. The work which we have to do to
prepare for eternity, must be done in time, or it never can be done.
~Johnathan Edwards

Whoso loveth instruction loveth knowledge: but he that hateth
reproof is brutish.

Instruction, as the contrast teaches, chiefly implies discipline that
most needful course for acquiring spiritual knowledge. For so
contrary is it to our proud hearts, that the submission of the will is
our only road to Christian attainment. Yet the value of this
attainment abundantly covers the cost. A faithful Ministry, therefore,
is a most valuable blessing; and all instructive discipline may well
be loved as "the way of life." But that irritable pride, that hates
reproof, as if it were an affront to be told of our faults, argues not
only want of grace, but want of understanding — brutish folly 'like
the horse, which bites and kicks at the man, who performs a painful
operation upon him; though absolutely necessary for removing a
dangerous distemper. He is surely a brute, and not a rational
creature, who has swallowed poison, and will rather suffer it to take
its course, than admit the necessary relief of medicine, lest he
should be obliged to confess his folly, in exposing himself to the
need of it.' O for a teachable spirit to "sit at the feet of our Divine
Master," and learn of Him!
~Charles Bridges

The ends for which God created the world are, some general, and others special and subordinate.

1. The chief and ultimate end for which all things were created, especially angels and men, is the glory and praise of God. "The Lord hath made all things for himself." "Bless the Lord, all his works." "For of him, and through him, and to him, are all things." (Prov. 16:4. Ps. 103:22. Rom. 11:36.)

2. The manifestation, knowledge, and contemplation of the divine wisdom, power and goodness displayed in the creation of things. For, if God would be praised, it was necessary that he should create rational man, capable of knowing him; and that, knowing him, they might praise and honor him. It was, also, necessary that he should create things destitute of reason, that they might furnish matter for praise. "The heavens declare the glory of God, and the firmament sheweth his handy works." (Ps. 19:1.)

3. The government of the world. God created the world, that he might by his providence always govern, rule, and preserve it, and so continually shew forth his wonderful works, which he hath performed from the beginning of the world, and which he now performs, or will hereafter perform; but especially that he might govern the church, composed of angels and men. This end is subservient to the second. "Lift up your eyes on high and behold who hath created these things." (Is. 40:26.)

4. That he might gather to himself, from the human race, an everlasting church, which might know and praise him as the Creator.

5. That all things might contribute to the happiness, comfort and salvation of men, and especially the elect, and that they may be to them, each in its own particular sphere, as ministers and instruments through which God may be praised by them, whilst bestowing his blessings upon them. "Subdue the earth, and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowls of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth." "Thou madest him to have dominion over the works of thy hand; thou hast put all things under his feet." "Whether the world, or life, or death, or things present, or things to come, all are yours." (Gen. 1:28. Ps. 8:6. 1 Cor. 3:22.) God, therefore, created man, for himself; and all other things for man, that they might serve him, and through him might serve God. Hence, when we make creatures occupy the place which belongs to God, we thrust ourselves out of the place which God has assigned unto us.

~ Ursinus

Consistory

Elders: Mr. Rick Rozeboom, Mr. Craig Timmer Deacon: Mr. Norm DeWit

Contacts

Moderator: Rev. Slingerland

Bulletin announcements: Mr. Craig Timmer nrcsfsd@gmail.com

Sermon recordings: Mr. Ryan Rozeboom Website: nrcsf.com

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

Netherlands Reformed Congregation

Sioux Falls, SD



*Hear my prayer, O LORD, give ear to
my supplications: in thy faithfulness
answer me, and in thy righteousness.
Psalm 143:1*

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