

**June 20, 2021**

## **GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**This Week:** 9:30 a.m. Reading Service, 6:30 p.m. Catechism Reading Service. Scripture reading following morning service.

**Next Week:** 9:30 a.m. baptism service with Rev. Hofman,  
6:30 p.m. Catechism Reading Service.  
-All the Lord willing-

**Offerings** Today: 1<sup>st</sup> General Fund    Next week: 1<sup>st</sup> General Fund  
2<sup>nd</sup> Prison Diary Min.                      2<sup>nd</sup> Living Bread

### **We Remember in Prayer:**

- Leaders in the church, that they would lead the people of God according to His Word, for self-examination, discipline, and repentance when they have gone astray. (1 Timothy 5.17-22)
- Our widows, widowers and lonely ones, the unborn, prodigal sons and daughters, those undergoing treatments, and all those with hidden crosses.

## **MEDITATIONS**

Does anyone ask what he must do to be saved? The answer is, "Thou must decrease, and Christ must increase;" comply with this, and thou shalt be saved. In other words, repentance and self-denial must lose all credit as any ground of God's reconciliation to you. Does anyone desire to know whether he is advancing in the way of salvation? Observe whether Christ increases, while you decrease, in your own estimation. By nature we are great and Jesus is little; we are strong and Jesus is weak. We cannot allow Jesus to be the only Savior, the Alpha and Omega. The excellency of the power is ours; not His. We take carnal reasoning for our guide, instead of the simple Word and Spirit of God. But when the Word of the truth of the Gospel penetrates the darkness of our understandings, the case is reversed. What appeared so weak before, is felt to be strong, yes, irresistible. The Sun of Righteousness now arises with healing in His wings, and we learn more and more to rejoice in His light alone. Our own strength and virtue are things we can no longer bear. Those who are really led by the Spirit gradually descend into self-humiliation. ~Krummacher

*Before the day pass as the chaff. Zephaniah 2:2*

Let this calling be to us a faithful and solemn self-examination. David made a solemn examination of the state of his soul, with a sincere desire to be led in the way everlasting. The prophet Zephaniah strongly urges us to do a faithful examination of the state of our

souls, and not wait with it until tomorrow. The day of grace passes as the chaff, and tomorrow could be too late, forever too late. Would we then not examine ourselves to know upon which foundation we are standing for eternity? Did we receive knowledge of our evil, powerless, and hell-worthy heart, which is so impoverished by sin? Do we know Jesus in His preciousness, suitability, and indispensability? Is godliness our sincere and solemn choice before God, with a calling upon His Spirit? Do we love God's people? Do we love, His commandments, as well as the promises of His precious Word? Would we land safely, if this moment would be our last, or if we were called up this coming night to appear before the judgement seat of the great Judge? Oh, examine yourself closely. The day passes as the chaff!                      ~Wulfert Floor

*"And they went on the way to return unto the land of Judah."*  
Ruth1:7b.

What an important moment has now come for the kingdom of heaven when Naomi and her two daughters-in-law are upon the way to Bethlehem – important for Naomi because she may return unto the living God. There is not a better time for God's children than the time when, after many dark days, the Lord gives a returning – when, once again, they may weep because of sin and missing the Lord.

It is an important time for Ruth because she will soon stand at the border and profess what, by the grace of God, has been awakened in her heart – a longing that the God of Naomi may be her God. It is important for Orpah because she will reveal that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God. No matter how much love and respect she has for her mother-in-law, the love for her people and her gods is stronger.

When we see these three women on the way to Bethlehem, we stand in holy amazement. God's eternal plan decreed that a heathen woman would be in the lineage which brings the Savior into the world. That is why the alluring love of God came to an unconverted heart, namely, Ruth's heart, and drew her out of Moab to Bethlehem. That is why she kissed her mother-in-law and said, "No, mother, I cannot go back." What a sharp arrow it must have been for her when Naomi, whom she loved and respected, continued to admonish her to go back to her former life.

Reader, perhaps you know what it is when the Lord's dealings with you are difficult. Remember that the Lord deals with His people as a goldsmith deals with his gold. He puts it in the fire so that it may be purified. My young people, in the heart of these women was love and respect for a child of God. Do you feel such love and respect for God's Word and God's children? Do you feel a desire that you may be bound to God' truth?                      ~Rev. J. den Hoed

## NOTES

# 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*

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*All who would like to stand for the 3<sup>d</sup> song are welcome to.*

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### 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](mailto:craigtimmer@ymail.com)  
Sermon recordings: Mr. Ryan Rozeboom  
Website: [nrscf.com](http://nrscf.com)

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