October 22, 2017

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **-Today:** We hope to a have a morning reading service and an evening catechism service (#31).
- **-Next Week:** We hope to have a morning catechism service and Rev. Vergunst at 2:30 p.m.

Advance Notices:

October 31, Rev. Adams at 7:00 p.m

November 19, Student de Leeuw at 2:30 p.m.

November 22, Rev. Adams 7:00 p.m Thanksgiving Day

November 26, Student de Leeuw 9:30 a.m and 2:30 p.m.

-All the Lord willing-

Offerings Today: 1st General Fund Next week: 1st General Fund 2nd Theological School 2nd School Settlement

New **Treasured Meditations** are in the rack. Please take some for neighbors, friends, or family.

We Remember in Prayer:

- -Mrs. Marlene Zomer who commemorates her 76th birthday today
- -Those who have been unable to gather with us for some time, thinking especially of Mr. Roberts, and Mr. & Mrs. Hoogendoorn.
- -Our widow and widower, our elderly, prodigal sons and daughters, any others who are unable to gather with us today, are under doctor's care, and all those who have hidden crosses.

MEDITATIONS

Letter to Bernard Gilpin from James Bourne

April 26th, 1838 – I have been greatly cast down lately, and find it hard work to get out of my trouble, and no sooner out but in again. Yet I must declare all God's ways are perfect: and I am made to believe they are all wisdom, faithfulness, and kindness, and that He has no design but my good, to teach me further to hang upon Him, and less to myself. The enemy is suffered to come in a flood of despair, and if the Lord did not lift up a standard here, I should utterly sink. I am able to cry, and watch, and perceive, if I get no

comfort, the Lord relieves me by causing a measure of my despair to abate. This creates thankfulness and a token that He will not give me up into the hand of the enemy altogether.

In these places are great discoveries made of my overlooked sin, unacknowledged, unrepented of, and unpurged sins, and many more things that I find a measure of unwillingness to believe are sins, but in God's light that I am not able to deny. These close quarters are terrible places, and my very soul cries to the Lord that I may not be found contending here, but to fall flat in the dust of repentance and humiliation, that there may be nothing left for a death-bed labour. I am not entirely without some hope, but very far from the consolation I long for. It grieves my heart to lie under the displeasure of God; for the favours I have received at His hands are more in number than the hairs of my head. I am continually reflecting upon what I have written as well as what I am still continuing to write. I then look within, and am ashamed, vea, often confounded; and something says, "What manner of person ought I to be?" But alas, how short of what I ought to be! But I cannot help calling to mind what I lately found most sweet in a very peculiar trial: "I am all sufficient: walk before Me, and be thou upright." This greatly comforted me, and I now desire to see my sufficiency in Him as I did then.

Be still, my heart!

Be still, my heart! these anxious cares To thee are burdens, thorns, and snares, They cast dishonor on thy Lord, And contradict His gracious word.

Brought safely by His hand thus far, Why wilt thou now give place to fear? How canst thou want if He provide, Or lose thy way with such a guide?

When first before His mercy-seat Thou didst to Him thy all commit, He gave thee warrant from that hour, To trust His wisdom, love, and power.

Did ever trouble yet befall, And He refuse to hear thy call? And has He not His promise passed, That thou shalt overcome at last? Though rough and thorny be the road, It leads thee home, apace, to God; Then count thy present trials small, For heaven will make amends for all. ~John Newton

Netherlands Reformed Congregation

Sioux Falls, SD



The eyes of the LORD are upon the righteous, and his ears are open unto their cry.

Psalms 34:15

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