April 16, 2023

This Week: 9:30 a.m. Rev. Adams - Communion

6:30 p.m. Rev. Adams - Reflection

Next Week: 9:30 a.m. Student Kleijer

6:30 p.m. Student Kleijer

Thursday: 7:30 p.m. The Siouxland Modern Media Committee plans to meet in the school Multi- Purpose Room. New members are welcome to join the committee. Please contact Jaron Vande Hoef if you are interested.

Friday: 7:00 p.m. The post high school and young married adult will have an activity evening and refreshments in the school gym. Please RSVP to Case Vogelaar (712-360-2725) or Beth Kelderman (605-987-881) by Wednesday.

Advance Notices:

- -April 30, Rev. Vogelaar hopes to be in our midst in the evening.
- -The ladies will have a baby shower for Mrs. Elisabeth Maassen on **May 3**, 7:00 p.m. at Split Rock Fire Station.

House Visitations:

April 17 7:00 p.m. Mr. & Mrs. Gus deWit April 24 1st Mr. & Mrs. Jordan deWit, 2nd Brandon van Beek -All the Lord willing-

Collections: Today: 1st General Fund Next week: 1st General Fund 2nd NAGMission 2nd Alpha Center

We Remember in Prayer:

-Our widows and lonely ones, the unborn, our married couples, prodigal sons and daughters, and all those with hidden crosses.

MEDITATIONS

"While the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them, saying, What think ye of Christ?" Matthew. 22:41, 42

It was after one of the Pharisees, a lawyer, had asked the Lord Jesus a question, tempting Him, that He answered with perfect wisdom and asked this man, what his opinion about Him, the Anointed Savior, was. A crucial question also for the necessary self-examination before the Lord's Supper.

The question is not: what do you think of Moses, of ministers and of their sermons, but what do you think of David's Lord and Son, God and man, the Mediator. What think ye of: His Person, His offices, His life, His suffering, His death on the cross, His resurrection, ascension, and intercession at the right hand of God? What think ye of His name, of His beauty, His necessity, His preciousness, His glory, His power, His suitableness? In Him is medicine for all wounds, plagues and diseases.

This question must lead us to self-searching: What do we know of Him? What do we believe of Him? What love and esteem do we have for Him?

Erskine says many say that they love Him, but:

- there is an easy love, in which the natural enmity never has been discovered and broken.
- there is a legalistic love, for they immediately turn to work. "Do this and ye shall live".
- there is a careless love, which leaves as much room for the world, the devil and their lusts as for Christ.

But here is meant the true love to Him. As Peter could say: "Lord, Thou knowest all things, Thou knowest that I love Thee." Can we truly say with Asaph in Ps. 73:25 "Whom have I in heaven but Thee? and there is none upon earth that I desire beside Thee."?

Has He become the Pearl of great price for us and did we already lose all our little pearls in order to have Him? He can only be precious to those who have learned, by the Holy Spirit's discovering work, that they have nothing to offer unto Him but sin and guilt. They who hunger and thirst after Him and His righteousness, who have learned that they cannot exist before a holy and righteous God, but who nevertheless long to be reconciled with their Maker and be restored into communion with Him. O blessed revelation when He manifests Himself as a suitable and willing Savior. He receives sinners and eats with them.

My unconverted young or older friends, in Him is all you need and you are still called to leave the paths of sin and to turn unto Him. Ask the Lord to show you why He is so necessary and that room may be made in your heart for Him.

He welcomes poor and undeserving sinners, who know something of who they are, but also to whom Christ has become necessary and precious. He will not send away them who, hungry and needy, take refuge unto Him.

True self-examination is not meant to find worthiness in ourselves, but on the contrary, to see all worthiness in Christ alone, and at the same time experience our own total unworthiness. It is not a digging

same time experience our own total unworthiness. It is not a digging in our own heart, because we will never find anything there that will make us worthy guests at the table of the Lord. The deeper we put our hand in our bosom, the more reasons we will find not to attend, and that is exactly what Satan wants. In the examination of ourselves we must consider our relationship with Christ, and we must by faith look to Him with our poverty and our needs, believing in what He wants to be for His children. A true examination of self reflects on what He has done and what He has promised. The Lord Jesus must always be the focal point. ~Rev. H. Hofman

Her (wisdom) ways are pleasantness, and all her paths are peace.

Proverbs 3:17

But what say we of her ways? Is she a sullen matron, who entertains her followers only on sighs and tears; so that to obtain the joys of the next life, we must bid eternal adieu to the contents of this life; 'we must never more expect a cheerful hour, a clear day, a bright thought to shine upon us?' This is the world's creed — a slander of the great forger of lies, to deter us from wisdom's ways. They must be ways of pleasantness, because "Thus saith the LORD." And if we feel them not to be so, we know them not. God rules children, not slaves. They work neither from compulsion, nor for hire; but from an ingenuous principle of gratitude to their Benefactor; filial delight in their Father. Pleasant therefore must be the labour — yea — the sacrifices — of love; short the path; cheerful the way, when the heart goes freely in it.

~Charles Bridges

A life of sin and a life of holiness are alike in one thing – they are active, always advancing. Every man is walking after the flesh or after the Spirit, Romans 8, verses 1, 4. Every man is making daily attainments in good or evil. The longer he lives, the better or the worse a man he is. As in a life of sin those who are now Christians, were once very diligent and untiring, now that they have turned to the Lord they ought to be mightily stirred up to take hold on God and to run with patience the race that is set before them. Nor does it in fact repress any genuine feeling of zeal to know that our justification is wholly gratuitous, or that our sanctification is by the gospel, not by the law; for of all the principles of obedience in the heart of sinful man, none is so mighty as the love of gratitude for undeserved kindness. ~Plumer

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

Netherlands Reformed Congregation

Sioux Falls, SD



Jesus saith unto them, Come and dine. And none of the disciples durst ask him, Who art thou? knowing that it was the Lord. John 21:12

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

Website: nrcsf.com