

September 17, 2023

This Week: 9:30 a.m. Reading Service
6:30 p.m. Catechism Reading Service (LD16Q43)

Next Week: 9:30 a.m. Reading Service
6:30 p.m. Catechism Reading Service (LD16Q44)

Saturday: The post high school/young married adults youth group.
For more information, please contact Case Vogelaar (712-360-2725) or Megan De Jager (712-578-1775).

Advance Notice:

-**November 1**, we hope to have a Reformation Day evening service with Rev. Slingerland
-All the Lord willing-

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

We Remember in Prayer:

-The mission board, who hopes to meet this Tuesday, praying for wisdom in the decisions that need to be made, and that the work on the mission field may be blessed to the honor of God's Name.
-Our widows and lonely ones, the unborn, our married couples, prodigal sons and daughters, and all those with hidden crosses.

MEDITATIONS

If you look into scripture, where do God's promises fall more thickly than upon those that are weak in grace? Christ begins his preaching with the promises, Matt. 5; and I pray, who are those persons whom the promises are especially made unto, but such as are weak in grace? "Blessed are the poor in spirit. Blessed are they that hunger and thirst after righteousness. Blessed are they that mourn." He does not say, Blessed are those that are strong in grace; or Blessed are those that rejoice in God; or those that have full assurance of their everlasting estate and condition: no, but as if His great work and business were to comfort, uphold and strengthen the weak, these He begins with, and many gracious, rich and blessed promises He makes to them. Yea, the promises are so made to them, as attended to, will give a full answer unto all their fears: as, for example, the Lord promises, Matt. 12, "That he will not break the bruised reed," etc.

Will the weak Christian say, Oh but I am exceeding weak, and very feeble: then our Saviour says, "he will not break the bruised reed." And what more weak and feeble than a bruised reed? An whole reed is not very strong at the best, but bruised it is weak indeed. Will the weak Christian say, Oh, but my weakness is mingled with many sins; so the fire in the smoking flax is mingled with smoke, yet says Christ, "I will not quench the smoking flax." Will the weak Christian say, Oh but though God do not quench me, yet I shall be quenched; Nay, says Christ, "but I will bring forth judgment unto victory"; it lies on my hand to do it and I will do it. Will the weak Christian say, Oh, but I have much opposition in my way; how can judgment come to victory? Then Christ says, He will bring it forth, that is thrust it forth with violence, as if Christ would say, I will force this victory through all the opposition that it meets with. So that the Lord not only gives several promises to those that are weak in grace, but also pledges Himself to bring to pass their fulfilment.

~William Bridge

THOUGHTS OF SAMUEL RUTHERFORD

We should have tender hearts toward weak ones, considering:

1. That Christ cannot disinherit a son for weakness.
2. Love is not broken with a straw or a little infirmity.
3. All the vessels of Christ's house are not of one size.
4. Some men's infirmities are as transparent crystal, easily seen through; others have infirmities under their garments.
5. We shall see many in heaven whom we judged to be cast-aways while they lived with us on earth.
6. Many go to heaven with you, and you hear not the sound of their feet in their journey.

~Banner of Truth

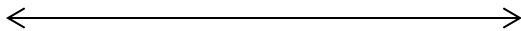
"The Sabbath is not only a blessing and privilege for those who keep it. In an increasingly and despairing and restless world, its observance is a sign and witness of the hope God's people have."

"Oh, what a blessing is Sunday, interposed between the waves of worldly business like the divine path of the Israelites through Jordan! There is nothing in which I would advise you to be more strictly conscientious than in keeping the Sabbath Day holy."

~William Wilberforce

Remember not the sins of my youth, nor my transgressions: According to thy mercy remember thou me for thy goodness' sake, O LORD. Look upon mine affliction and my pain; And forgive all my sins. Psalm 25:7, 18

Afflictions often possess remarkable power to remind us of our sins. When Joseph's brethren were in the greatest straits then they cried, "We are verily guilty concerning our brother." When the son of the widow of Zarephath died she said to Elijah, "Art thou come unto me to call my sin to remembrance?" Dickson: "Sore troubles will waken up the conscience of sin afresh, and call to mind forgiven and buried sin." Nothing can meet these terrible memories of wickedness but a new application of the blood of Jesus and a sweet sense of God's mercy in Christ. A religious experience that has all joys and no pangs in it is good for nothing. We should rather seek to reprove ourselves for our old sins, yea, for all our sins, than to forget them. Anything is good for us, if it humbles us and leads us to the mercy-seat. In these respects nothing has a happier effect than a solemn review of our past deficiencies. Henry: "Our youthful faults and follies should be matter of our repentance and humiliation long after, because time does not wear out the guilt of sin. Old people should mourn for the sinful mirth, and be in pain for the sinful pleasures of their youth." Blessed is the old man who has grace penitently to weep at the sins of his early days. ~ Plumer



Blessed be God for the ordinance of prayer. It is some relief when in distress we can pour out our trouble into the bosom of a wife or faithful friend; how much more when we leave our complaint before our gracious, wise, and faithful God. I have told you of that holy man who, having lost his dear and only son, got him to his closet and there poured out his soul freely to the Lord. When he came down to his friends, who were waiting below to comfort him, fearing how he would bear the stroke, he came with a cheerful countenance, telling them he would be content to bury a son, if it were possible, every day, provided he might enjoy such comfort as his soul had found in that hour of communion with God. Go thy way, Christian, to thy God; get thee to thy knees in the cloudy and dark day. Judge thyself worthy of hell as well as of this trouble. Justify God in His smartest strokes. Beg Him in this distress to put under "the everlasting arms." ~John Flavel

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



*Let Israel rejoice in him that made him:
let the children of Zion be joyful in their
King.*

Psalm 149:2

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