

January 7, 2024

This Week: 9:30 a.m. Reading Service
6:30 p.m. Catechism Reading Service (LD 29)
Classes after the morning service.

Next Week: 9:30 a.m. Catechism Reading Service (LD30Q80)
6:30 p.m. Reading Service
Classes after the morning service.

Wednesday: Confession of Faith classes start

Saturday: The Mission week pancake breakfast will be at the Rock Valley NRC school from 7:30 am to 10:00 am. Proceeds go to cover the mission week activities and to the Bolivian mission.

Advance Notices:

-January 28, 2:30 p.m. service with Rev. Witvoet
-All the Lord willing-

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

We Remember in Prayer:

-Our congregation in our lack of a shepherd
-Our widows and lonely ones, prodigal sons and daughters, and all those with hidden crosses.

MEDITATIONS

A New Year's Thought and Prayer

Time, by moments, steals away,
First the hour and then the day;
Small the daily loss appears,
Yet it soon amounts to years;

Thus, another year is flown,
Now it is no more our own,
If it brought or promised good,
Than the years before the flood.

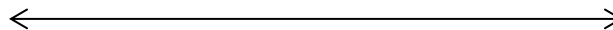
But, (may none of us forget)
It has left us much in debt;
Favors from the Lord receiv'd,
Sins that have His Spirit griev'd,

Mark'd by an unerring hand,
In His Book recorded stand;
Who can tell the vast amount,
Plac'd to each of our account?

Happy the believing soul!
Christ for you has paid the whole;
While you own the debt is large,
You may plead a full discharge:
But, poor careless sinner, say,
What can you to justice pay?
Tremble, lest when life is past,
Into prison you be cast.

Will you still increase the score?
Still be careless as before?
Oh, forbid it, gracious Lord,
Touch their spirits by Thy Word!
Now, in mercy, to them show
What a mighty debt they owe!
All their unbelief subdue;
Let them find forgiveness too.

Spar'd to see another year,
Let Thy blessing meet us here;
Come, Thy dying work revive,
Bid thy drooping garden thrive:
Sun of Righteousness, arise!
Warm our hearts, and bless our eyes;
Let our pray'r Thy bowels move,
Make this year a time of love. ~ John Newton

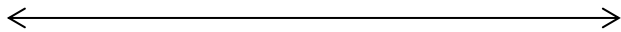


Seven Hints

Seek grace to live as in the sight of God. This is what Abraham did: he walked before God. This is what Enoch did: he walked with God.

- Think nothing you would not like God to know (Psalm 19.14).
- Do nothing you would not like God to see (Genesis 16.13).
- Say nothing you would not like God to hear (Psalm 141.3).
- Sing nothing that would not be melodious in God's ear (Psalm 105.2).
- Write nothing you would not like God to read (2 Kings 19.14).
- Go nowhere you would not like God to find you (1 Kings 19.9).
- Read no book of which you would not like God to say: "Show it to Me" (Psalm 119.37)

How could Solomon ever forget the admonition of his father David "Thou, my son, know thou the God of thy father"? (1 Chronicles 28:9.) Exquisitely beautiful is the picture of Jacob, commending his friend and his father's friend to his children for his heavenly blessing "God, before whom my fathers Abraham and Isaac did walk the God which fed me all my life long unto this day the Angel which redeemed me from all evil bless the lads." (Genesis 48:15-16.) Here is a wise friend, who knows our need; a sympathizing friend who feels our distress; a mighty friend able to cover and provide; a faithful friend, true to his word; a fast friend, who will never leave. (Hebrews 13:5.) Young people, do you know him as your father's friend? Make him your own in the hearty receiving of his Gospel. Cleave to him. He will never disappoint you. ~Bridges



If thou doest well, shalt thou not be accepted? and if thou doest not well, sin lieth at the door. And unto thee shall be his desire, and thou shalt rule over him. Genesis 4:7

God will pronounce a dreadful sentence against Cain if the man hardens his mind in wickedness and indulges himself in his crime. The warning is emphatic; God not only repels Cain's unjust complaint but shows that Cain could have no greater adversary than the sin that he inwardly cherishes.

God so binds the impious man in these concise words that he can find no refuge. It is as if he says, "Your obstinacy will not profit you, for, though you would have nothing to do with me, your sin will give you no rest but will sharply drive you on, pursue you, urge you, and never allow you to escape." Cain rages in vain but to no profit. He is guilty by his own inward conviction even though no one accuses him. The expression "sin lieth at the door" refers to the interior judgment of the conscience that convinces man of his sin and besieges him on every side.

The impious may imagine that God slumbers in heaven. They may strive to repel fear of his judgment. But sin will perpetually draw these reluctant fugitives back to the tribunal from which they flee.

The expression of Moses has peculiar energy. Sin lieth at the door, meaning the sinner is not immediately tormented with the fear of judgment. Rather, gathering around him whatever delights he can to deceive himself, he appears to walk in free space and revel in pleasant meadows. However, when he comes to the door, he meets sin, which keeps constant guard. Then conscience, which before was at liberty, is arrested, and he receives double punishment for the delay.

~John Calvin

NETHERLANDS REFORMED CONGREGATION

Sioux Falls, SD



*Offer the sacrifices of righteousness, and
put your trust in the LORD.*

Psalms 4:5

Services at 9:30 a.m. and 2:30 or 6:30 p.m.

Consistory

Elders: Mr. Derek Kattenberg, Mr. Craig Timmer
Deacons: Mr. Norm DeWit, Mr. Rick Rozeboom

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.