October 20, 2024

This Week: 9:30 a.m. Reading Service

6:30 p.m. Catechism Reading Service (LD3)

Classes after the morning service.*

*Assignments on the Members Page on the website

Next Week: 9:30 a.m. Catechism Reading Service (LD4)

6:30 p.m. Reading Service

Classes after the morning service.

Advance Notices:

October 30 7:00 p.m. Rev. Slingerland (Reformation Day Eve)

November 3 2:30 p.m. service with Rev Adams

November 27 7:00 p.m. Rev. Maljaars (Thanksgiving Eve)

December 1 2:30 p.m. service with Rev. Maljaars **December 15** services with Rev. Slingerland

-All the Lord willing-

New Periodicals: Banner of Truth and Israel Mission

Collections: Today: 1st General Fund Next week: 1st General Fund

2nd Emeritus Fund 2nd NAGMission

We Remember in Prayer:

- -Our widows and lonely ones, our families, prodigal sons and daughters, and those with hidden crosses.
- -All those suffering because of war, persecution, and natural disasters.

MEDITATIONS

Shall I not visit for these things? saith the LORD; shall not my soul be avenged on such a nation as this? Jeremiah 5:29.

THREE times, the Lord God repeats, by his prophet, this alarming question. Their ingratitude and obstinacy were so notorious, their sins so enormous and aggravated, the sentence denounced against them, however severe, was so undeniably just, that partial as they were to themselves, God is pleased to appeal to their own consciences, and to make them judges in their own cause; inviting, or rather challenging, them, to offer any plea why his forbearance and patience, which they had so long despised, should

be still afforded them. But the form of the question will not permit us to continue the application to Israel or Judah. The words are not on this nation particularly, but "On such a nation as this."

The Lord, the Governor of the earth, has provided, in the history of one nation, a lesson of instruction and warning to every nation under the sun, and the nearer the state and spirit of any people resemble the state and character of Judah when Jeremiah prophesied among them, the more reason they have to tremble under the apprehension of the same or similar judgments.

God brought Israel out of Egypt with an outstretched arm, divided the Red Sea before them, led them in the wilderness by a cloud and pillar of fire, fed them with manna, and gave them water from the rock. He planted them in a good land, and though they often sinned and were often punished, they were distinguished by many tokens of his presence and the effects of his goodness above any other nation.

We likewise are a highly favored people and have long enjoyed privileges which excite the admiration and envy of surrounding nations: and we are a sinful, ungrateful people; so that, when we compare the blessings and mercies we have received from the Lord with our conduct towards him, it is to be feared we are no less concerned with the question in my text than Israel of old.

~Jewels from John Newton

We are still alive, while thousands of others have been dead a longer or shorter period of time. We are still living under the preaching of the Gospel; faithfully the Lord still warns us for those burning flames of perdition, and admonishes us to choose the best portion for our pour souls. The Lord is holy and righteous, and will in no wise clear the guilty; but He is so merciful that the psalmist in the one-hundred-thirty-sixth psalm, out of the fulness of his heart, was compelled to proclaim twenty-six times that the mercies of the Lord are forever. And because He is so merciful, Paul says: "He spared not His own Son." He has sent Him into the world for His own enemies, so that whosoever believeth in Him shall not perish, but have everlasting life. In the Son of His love the high God can deal with the poor sinner, notwithstanding that a poor man is less than dust in the balance, or a drop in the bucket.

~Wulfert Floor

The best and sweetest flowers of Paradise God gives to his people when they are upon their knees. Prayer is the gate of heaven, a key to let us in to Paradise. ~Thomas Brooks

The approved method of serving God is by Jesus Christ. He is the way, the truth, and the life; no man cometh unto the Father but by him. Kissing was an act of worship among idolaters. So God says, Cease to kiss the calves and the images of Baal and other false gods, and kiss my Son; serve idols no longer; serve the Son of God. We must honour the Son, even as we honour the Father. We must call Christ Lord. We must worship the Lamb. To kiss was also to profess loyalty and allegiance. So to kiss the Son is the same as to submit to him, to accept him in all his offices, to yield our wills to his, and obey his laws, however made known to us. To kiss is also to express affection. We must Christ, or terribly perish. If Christ is not precious to us, it is because we are unbelievers. To kiss is also to declare reconciliation and to say that we are at peace. Jesus Christ is our peace. With him, and, through him, with his Father we are at one. Kiss the Son, lest he be angry, and ye perish from the way.

The conclusion of the whole matter is that all those who rely on the Son of God, and accept him as their Saviour, and none others, are truly happy. Blessed are all they that put their trust in him. Or, Oh the blessedness, etc. We may not trust in men, ourselves or others. In particular men may never put confidence in their own works, in their own merits, in their own strength, but must take Christ Jesus as their wisdom, righteousness, sanctification and redemption, their Prophet, Priest and King, their all and in all. Life, death, judgment and eternity will prove all such men blessed. God pronounces them so.

None, who hear the Gospel, can give any solid reason for perishing. One question the wicked can never answer, Why will ye die? Their sin is that after their hardness and impenitent hearts they treasure up unto themselves wrath against the day of wrath. Everything is against them. O reader, be wise; turn and live. My heart wishes you the possession of those principles which would support you in all the changes of life, and make your dying pillow comfortable. Are you unwilling to be happy? Or can you be happy too soon? Many persons are now looking upon you, who once were

as you now are. And I doubt not, they are praying that you may be as they now are. Try to pray for yourself; our God is assuredly in the midst of us. His gracious ear is attentive to every supplicant. Seek him while he is to be found. Jesus is the author of that faith, by which alone you can come rightly to him. If you ask it of him, he will give it you; if you seek it, in the means of his appointment, you shall assuredly find. If you refuse this there remaineth no other sacrifice for sin. If you are not saved by faith in his blood, you are lost forever. O 'kiss the Son lest he be angry, and you perish from the way, if his wrath be kindled, yea, but a little. Blessed are all they that put their trust in him.' W S Plumer

NETHERLANDS REFORMED CONGREGATION

Sioux Falls, SD



I will give thee thanks in the great congregation: I will praise thee among much people. Psalm 35:18

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