July 5, 2020

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today: 9:30 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. services.

Next Week: 9:30 and 2:30 p.m. with Rev. Hofman

-All the Lord willing-

Offerings Today: 1st General Fund Next week: 1st General Fund 2nd School Fund 2nd Living Bread

*Collection plates will be on the foyer table at exit. Please stay in your bench a few moments after the service so everyone has time to leave their gifts and remain distanced.

We Remember in Prayer:

-Our elderly, widows and widowers and lonely ones, the unborn, prodigal sons and daughters, and all those with hidden crosses -Our nation in the ongoing unrest, the president and other leaders, our law enforcement and military forces.

MEDITATIONS

"The dead are raised up."

The "dead" are those who by nature are dead in sin. These dead are raised up when life from God visits their souls. They are raised up to faith in Jesus, raised up to hope in his name, raised up to a sense of his dying love to their souls, raised up from doubt and fear, raised up from the depths of despondency, to look unto him and be saved. What a mercy it is that the Lord of life and glory still puts forth the same power in the hearts of his people, that he once put forth in their bodies, and that he raises them up from their state of death and deadness! Do we not often feel so dead, as though we had not a particle of the grace of God? So dead, that it seems scarcely possible to have a sensation of spiritual life again? So dead, that we almost fear whether the power of God was ever felt in our hearts? Now, the Lord raises up life and feeling in our souls, by putting forth the same power that called Lazarus out of the tomb. And every lifting up of the heart towards him, every panting desire to know him, and the power of his resurrection, every breathing of tender affection, every sigh, every groan, yea, every feeling, however short, however transient, Godward, is a proof that the Lord of life and glory is still putting forth his power in the hearts of His people.

~J.C. Philpot

Worship

Dear Shepherd of Thy people, here Thy presence now display; As Thou hast given a place for prayer, So give us hearts to pray.

Show us some token of Thy love,
Our fainting hope to raise;
And pour Thy blessing from above,
That we may render praise.
~John Newton

"In Thy light shall we see light." Psalm 36:9

No lips can tell the love of Christ to the heart till Jesus Himself shall speak within. Descriptions all fall flat and tame unless the Holy Ghost fills them with life and power; till our Immanuel reveals Himself within, the soul sees Him not. If you would see the sun, would you gather together the common means of illumination, and seek in that way to behold the orb of day? No, the wise man knoweth that the sun must reveal itself, and only by its own blaze can that mighty lamp be seen. It is so with Christ. "Blessed art thou, Simon Bar-jona:" said He to Peter, "for flesh and blood hath not revealed it unto thee."

Purify flesh and blood by any educational process you may select, elevate mental faculties to the highest degree of intellectual power, yet none of these can reveal Christ. The Spirit of God must come with power, and overshadow the man with His wings, and then in that mystic holy of holies the Lord Jesus must display Himself to the sanctified eye, as He doth not unto the blind sons of men. Christ must be His own mirror. The great mass of this bleary-eyed world can see nothing of the ineffable glories of Immanuel. He stands before them without form or comeliness, a root out of a dry ground, rejected by the vain and despised by the proud.

Only where the Spirit has touched the eye with eye-salve, quickened the heart with divine life, and educated the soul to a heavenly taste, only there is He understood. "Unto you therefore which believe He is precious;" to you He is the chief cornerstone, the Rock of your salvation, your all in all; but to others He is "a stone of stumbling and a rock of offence." Happy are those to whom our Lord manifests Himself, for His promise to such is that He will make His abode with them. Oh Jesus, our Lord, our heart is open, come in, and go out no more for ever. Show Thyself to us now! Favour us with a glimpse of Thine all-conquering charms.

~C. H. Spurgeon

Netherlands Reformed Congregation

Sioux Falls, SD



Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving, and make a joyful noise unto him with psalms.

Psalm 95:2

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