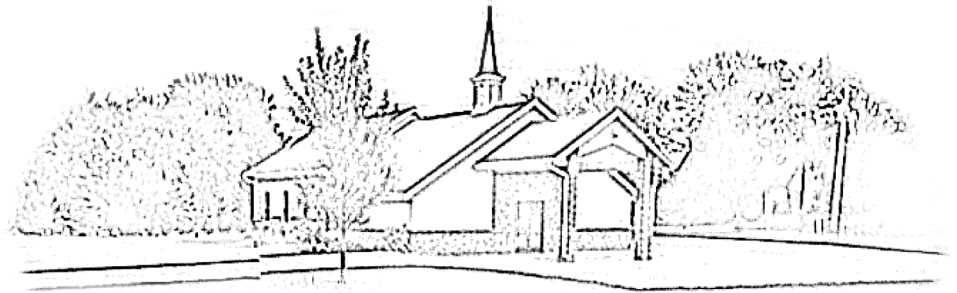


Netherlands Reformed Congregation

Lord's Day, March 22, 2020



*We have thought of thy loving kindness,
O God, in the midst of thy temple.*

Psalm 48:9

W10890 Dead End Road
Waupun, Wisconsin

Church Website:
www.nrcwaupun.org

Service Times

Sunday Morning – 9:30 am

Sunday Evening – 6:00 pm

Sunday Services Live streamed

*It is a joy to welcome you all,
and especially any guests who join us from elsewhere today.
May the Lord bless us all with His nearness in grace.*

“And the ransomed of the Lord shall return and come to Zion with songs and everlasting joy upon their heads; they shall obtain joy and gladness; and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.” -Isaiah 35:10

This Word of God speaks of the ransomed, who are the same persons from the previous text, but then they are called the redeemed. Much is written in the Bible about redemption and ransoms. To redeem means to release from blame or debt, or to free from the bonds of sin. To ransom means to deliver from sin or its penalty, also to free from captivity or punishment by paying a price. This has exactly happened, because Christ has paid the ransom for the church. The ransom was the highest imaginable. It could not be paid with temporal goods, but only by the passive and active obedience of the Mediator Jesus Christ.

Of these ransomed is said that they will return to Zion. Historically some think it is pointing to the return of Israel after the seventy years in exile in Babel, as the margin suggests. Others believe it is a promise for the State of Israel as it was formed in 1948. We connect it more to the spiritual deliverance by Christ, whereby it became possible for sinners to return into communion with God. Would there not be great joy in the heart and in the church when this may be seen? We wish we heard more about it.

Then sorrow and sighing will flee away, because when the presence of the Lord is felt, then there is only room for rejoicing in the Lord. In this time we are confronted with pain, sorrow, and disappointment, but a better future is waiting, as the Lord has promised that it is only an oppression of ten days. Eternal joy is waiting for God's child. Do you have moments that you are home sick for the Lord?

Rev. A. den Boer

Tithes:

March 22: General Fund

March 29: General and Benevolence Funds

From Your Consistory...

- The bulletin will be digital until further notice and normally sent to you on Saturday.

- All weekly meetings, including the Men Member's Meetings, are cancelled or delayed due to the restrictions for gathering imposed by our government.

- Last week we rejoiced in some measure that the Lord's hand shut down all sports and theaters on His day. But now we experience that His hand also closed the public worship services. We experience something of a Babylonian captivity in which Israel wasn't able to gather in the temple. Though we are thankful that we can continue the sermons online, we ought to weep. Nothing is more delightful and profitable than the weekly gatherings in God's house, under His Word and Spirit, joining with each other, in sacred worship of prayer and praise. (Heb. 10:25) May we, however, experience that God can make our homes also into little sanctuaries, as we read in Ezek. 11:16 *“Therefore say, Thus saith the LORD God, Although I have cast them far off among the heathen, and although I have scattered them among the countries, yet will I be to them as a little sanctuary in the countries where they shall come.”*

Our Sunday services will be led online only. Our pastor will preach within the church building with a few family members, one or two of the consistory members and an organist to conduct the services.

- The consistory has decided that extraordinary times call for extraordinary measures and therefore we decided besides audio to provide video live-streaming during the weeks (or months) when we are not allowed to assemble in church. We hope that webcasting will greatly benefit our families with younger children to participate in the services. There are therefore two ways to listen to the services.

(1) Use our own website at www.nrcwaupun.org or Mixlr app to listen as normal.

(2) Use www.sermonaudio.com and you can either use audio or webcast.

(3) The steps:

- Go to sermonaudio.com
- On the left hand side, click on the icon 'My Church'.
- Type in our code ID: 44269.
- It will bring you to our homepage. The video should be at the top (showing 'LIVE' in red) for you to click on. We will have it 'on air' 5-10 minutes before the service starts so it will not show up if you try earlier than that.
- Please have patience, if due to our slow internet, it may occasionally buffer.

The service will be conducted at the same times and in the same manner as normal. In other words, we will also pause to sing with the organ leading us.

If there is an outline provided, you can find it on our website under the tab 'Listen Live' and also print them from there.

- The offerings can be sent via a check to James Ruissen so that we can continue to meet the operating expenses of the congregation. James' address is W11301 Amity Rd, Brandon, WI 53919. Extra collections

will be announced in the bulletin and make sure to mark your checks clearly if your gift is intended for the general fund or a special collection.

- Wednesday evenings will be set aside for the continuation of the Bunyan topics, but also may be used for a prayer service time in which I (pastor) will lead you with a short meditation and prayer. These I intend to do from my study as audio only. March 25 will be a Bunyan topic evening.

- Holy War Topic #9—In order to follow these studies, it remains a necessity to read ahead of time these assigned pages. The topic provides a rough summary of the story line and then seeks to make various extensions of what is written. May the Lord God add His blessing. In the unabridged book, start at page 147- 173. In the abridged book, start at page 221 - 268.

Prayer Requests and Notices...

Especially those who are confined at home need our attention. Let's make frequent phone calls to them. Let's remember those who are already compromised in their health and are more vulnerable. Remember those who needed to bury their loved ones this week in limited gatherings of family and friends. Remember our leaders, healthcare workers and all who are exposed to higher risk in line of duty.

Rosa and Mike Laganowski are expecting their baby any day now. The family has been hit hard with many bouts of serious sickness, even forcing them to seek specialized care. So far God has blessed the means again.

Juniper, who has a very compromised immunity due to her former illness, did get the flu, but is doing alright. Oh, let's together seek God's grace to preserve her life as well as all others so deeply affected.

Mary VandeBerg's corrective surgery on her shoulder is postponed to a later date due to the corona virus. Please remember her in prayer as she experiences much pain in her shoulder and resulting limitations.

Bob and Jean Velier are still in Aruba and are experiencing challenges to return. Pray that the re-scheduled flights for Monday will enable a safe return to WI.

Remember Logan Ruissen and his chronic kidney disease that he may remain healthy with all the sickness going around.

***** ALL THE LORD WILLING *****

- Below is a letter from one of the Christian organizations COAH supports in Romania. Their situation highlights the gravity of countries that are poorer and less prepared to deal with the deep trial God is bringing upon our world. *"At this moment in Romania we have almost 300 people infected by the COVID-19, 35,000 people are in quarantine. Till now there are no deaths but, it was the same in Italy when the COVID-19 epidemic began one month ago. And now there are more than 3,000 deaths and 30,000 infected people with COVID-19. I am not in panic because I know and believe we are all in our Almighty God's hand. There are a lot of rules and requests from the government. Because all of this, I, as the director of our institution which has contact with about 1,000 people per month, had to make a decision to close the CE house for 2 weeks and maybe the next months as well. But we are still helping every emergency call from the elderly, poor, and ill people. Our coworkers are also afraid of COVID-19 not because they might get it, but because they can give it further to the elderly people who we take care of or those in their family. They also are afraid of the financial uncertainty. I assured them that they will get 100% of their salary even if we cannot work 100%. They were thankful for it. But on the other hand the prices are increasing. The last couple of weeks the basic food increased 200 to 300% on the regular grocery items like flour, potatoes, oil, butter, etc. Not everywhere, but the panic is among us. Step by step the economy is stop or slow down. The people will be jobless. So we pray to see the end from this situation. Pray for our political leaders to make good decisions. Pray for our doctors and nurses who take care of the sick people. Pray for such people leaders who encourage us in this situation. Pray the whole situation in the whole of Europe and the whole world to calm down, slow down, and to turn back to our Lord."*

• Email Corrections

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