

WORSHIP GUIDE

A Survey of Church History, Part 50: Hendrik De Cock

RARE INDEED are the times when genuine reformation graces the church of our Lord Jesus Christ, but when those providential hours, in accordance with God’s timetable, do arrive, they come in the most remarkable and unexpected ways.

Even in the Old Testament, the Lord impressed upon His people the nature of His work. He taught the prophet Elijah, even in times of great despair, that His presence was not in the thunderous spectacle of Carmel – no, God was not in the earthquake, the fire, nor the tempest. Instead, His Spirit worked quietly and subtly in the hearts of those 7,000 who had remained faithful, unyielding to Baal. To the prophet Zechariah, who showed great concern over the construction of the temple after the captives’ return, the Lord established a fundamental truth: “Not by might, nor by power, but by my Spirit, saith the Lord of Hosts” (Zech. 4:6).

The great Reformation of the 16th Century, which, though it ultimately shook the very foundations of Europe, commenced with the humble act of a solitary monk nailing 95 theses to a chapel door in the forests of Saxony, Germany. Similarly, the Reformation of 1834 in the Reformed Churches of the Netherlands had its inception in the unassuming and dimly lit Consistory chamber of a countryside church of no renown, where five men gathered to sign a lone sheet of protest against the situation afflicting their minister.

It is in the annals of that 1834 reformation that many Reformed Churches across the globe trace their origins and heritage. The man hailed as the patriarch of the Secession of 1834 is none other than Hendrik De Cock, the pastor of the modest congregation in Ulrum. It was under his watch that the elders and deacons dared to protest against the actions of the churches. It is here that God chose to commence His divine work. In this manner, it becomes eternally clear, as it always must be clear, that the care of the church is solely God’s work. All glory belongs to Him, and Him alone.

Remarkably, reformers are a peculiar breed. At first glance, they appear ill-suited for the roles into which they are thrust. If we were to evaluate their capabilities by human standards, they would be considered the least likely candidates for the tasks they undertake.

But when we examine this phenomenon from the perspective of these reformers, we uncover a fascinating truth. They carry within them an unassuming innocence, blissfully unaware that they have been called to the roles they now occupy. The notion of being a reformer never crossed their minds; they harbored no intentions of becoming reformers. In fact, if someone had suggested such a thing, they would have dismissed it as preposterous. Luther, in his humility, spoke of being carried along by a tidal wave of events beyond his control. De Cock, similarly, never contemplated himself as a reformer within the church. To think of themselves as such would have immediately disqualified them for the work at hand. Such is the irony of God’s providential ways.

Sermon Notes

Guest Minister, Rev. Rodney Vermeulen

Redemption Begins with Return

Ruth 1

God providentially guides things to make clear that redemption begins with return.

We’ll consider the gospel in:

I. Naomi’s return

II. Ruth’s return

III. The place and time of their return



The Lord’s Day Evening

Sunday, November 19, 2023, 4:00 p.m.



Guest Minister, Rev. Rodney Vermeulen, *Presiding*
Ruling Elder Mr. LeRoy Osborn, *Assisting*

The Silent Preparation

The Announcements

The Greeting and Call to Worship

Psalm 136:26

* **The Hymn of Praise**

Psalm 150:1-6 - *O Praise the LORD!*

Psalm 150B

* **The Prooftext and Catechism**

Proverbs 23:22; Westminster Shorter Catechism #63

see Family Worship Guide

* **The Psalm of Doxology**

Psalm 100:1-5 - *Make a Joyful Noise*

Psalm 100D

* **The Pastoral Prayer**

The Old Testament Reading

2 Kings 12:1-16

The New Testament Reading

2 Corinthians 8:10-15

* **The Prayer of Thanksgiving**

* **The Worship of God with Our Offerings**

* **The Psalm of Adoration**

Psalm 89:15-18 - *Behold How Blessed the People Are*

Psalm 89C

The Prayer of Illumination

The Preaching of God’s Word

Guest Minister, Rev. Rodney Vermeulen

Redemption Begins with Return

Ruth 1

* **The Prayer of Application**

* **The Psalm of Response**

O Thou Who the Shepherd of Israel Art

see bulletin

* **The Benediction**

* **The Extroit**

see bulletin

* — *Please stand as you are able. Following Scriptural principle for public prayer (Neh. 9:2-4, 2 Chron. 20:5-13; Mark 11:25), we follow in the footsteps of the early church and our Presbyterian heritage in standing for most of the public prayers.*

O Thou Who the Shepherd of Israel Art

1. O Thou Who the Shepherd of Is - ra - el art,
 2. In Ephraim's, Ma - na-sseh's, and Ben - ja - min's sight,
 3. From E - gypt's dark bor - der a vine Thou didst take;
 4. The axe hews it down; it is burned in the fire;
 5. No more shall we wan - der, de - light - ing in shame;

Give ear to our pray'r and Thy fa - vor im - part;
 O come Thou and save us; a - wake in Thy might.
 De - stroy - ing the hea - then didst room for it make.
 They per - ish, re - buked in Thy ter - ri - ble ire.
 Re - vive us, O Lord, we will call on Thy Name.

Thou lead - er of Jo - seph, Thou guide of his way,
 O God, give us fa - vor, re - store to Thy grace;
 Where plant - ed it grew at Thy sov - 'reign com - mand,
 O lay then Thy hand on the Man of Thy might,
 O LORD God of Hosts, us re - store to Thy grace,

'Mid cher - u - bim dwell - ing, Thy glo - ry dis - play.
 And then we shall live in the light of Thy face.
 With roots deep - ly set and boughs fill - ing the land.
 The Son of Man made to stand strong in Thy sight.
 And then we shall live in the light of Thy face.

CCLI License #473612
 Psalm 80:1-3, 8-9, 16-19
 Associate Reformed Presbyterian Psalter, 1931

JOANNA (ST. DENIO). 11S.
 Traditional Welsh hymn melody
 From *The Trinity Hymnal* (Rev.) 1990

Extroit: Psalm 117

(v.1) 1. Praise give the LORD, you nations all; All peo - ples, praise now bring.
 (v.2) 2. His lov - ing - kind - ness doth abound; His love tow'rd us is sure.

Ex - tol the LORD, you peoples all, Ex - tol Him — praise and sing!
 The LORD's great faith - ful - ness endures For - ev - er — praise the LORD!

CCLI # 473612
 Psalm 117:1-2
 From *The Seedbed Psalter*

AZMON C.M.
 Carl G. Gläser, 1784-1829
 From *The Trinity Hymnal* (Rev.) 1990

Church Officers

Session:

Armor.Session@gmail.com
 Gary Goeddertz, ruling elder
 Jonathan Bergmann, ruling elder
 LeRoy Osborn, ruling elder, clerk
 Jonathan Hunt, teaching elder, moderator
 Aaron Masters, elder nominee

Diaconate:

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 Rick Hunt
 Caleb Henning, clerk
 Rick Weber, moderator
 Jonathan Rogers, diaconal treasurer

FAMILY WORSHIP GUIDE

Week of November 19, 2023

THE FAMILY WORSHIP GUIDE is meant to be a resource for the families of Armor. This reading schedule is designed to take your family through the Bible in chronological order in 2023, so feel free to adjust this schedule to best fit your family. See Jonathan Rogers, one of our deacons, for further details. This schedule assumes that you have the Book of Psalms for Worship and includes this week's bulletin hymns and Psalms which we'll be singing the following week. If you miss a day, just pick up where you left off and catch up another day.

Weekly Memorization:

Proverbs 23:22

Hearken unto thy father that begat thee, and despise not thy mother when she is old.

Westminster Shorter Catechism #63

Q. Which is the fifth commandment?

A. The fifth commandment is, Honour thy father and thy mother: that thy days may be long upon the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee.

Family Worship:

Monday:

Sing: Praise to the Lord The Almighty (11/19 AM bulletin)

Read: Jam 3:13-5:20; Acts 15:1-16:15

Prayer Request: Mission of the Month: Camp Hickory Hill

Tuesday:

Sing: O Thou Who the Shepherd of Israel Art (11/19 PM bulletin)

Read: Acts 16:16-40; Gal 1:1-4:7

Prayer Request: Those who are sick

Wednesday:

Sing: Psalm 37C - Steps a Man Takes

Read: Gal 4:8-6:18; Acts 17

Prayer Request: Those in authority

Thursday:

Sing: Psalm 73A - Yes, God is Good to Israel

Read: 1 Th 1-5

Prayer Request: Armor Bible Church, OPC

Friday:

Sing: Psalm 1A - That Man Is Blessed

Read: 2 Th 1-3; Acts 18:1-19:22

Prayer Request: Lost friends, coworkers, neighbors, and family

Saturday:

Sing: Psalm 149B - O Praise the LORD, O Sing Aloud

Read: Acts 19:23-41; 1 Co 1:1-4:13

Prayer Request: For the Lord to prepare our hearts for the Lord's Day