

“Within these walls let no-one be a stranger”

February 12th 2017

CHOOSE LIFE

**I call heaven and earth to record this...
I have set before you life and death,
blessing and cursing: choose life.
-Deut. 30:19**

Preparation: *Silent prayer beside the pulpit, 10.00 – 10.20 am*
Prelude: Cornet voluntary, William Walond

Call to Worship and Approach to God

Happy are those whose way is blameless,
who walk in the law of the LORD.
Happy are those who keep his decrees,
who seek him with their whole heart,
I will praise you with an upright heart,
when I learn your righteous ordinances.

Psalm 119:1-2,7

❖ **Hymn 193:** *God is love: his the care*

- ❖ **Prayer of approach** (ending with the Lord's Prayer)
(*please say this in whichever language or version you prefer.*)

Our Father, which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy Name. Thy Kingdom come. Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the Kingdom, the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

The Word of God

- ❖ **Children's address**
- ❖ **Lesson:** Matthew 5:21-37 (New Testament, p.4).
- ❖ **Hymn 528:** *Make me a channel of your peace*
- ❖ **Lesson:** Deuteronomy 30:15-20 (Old Testament, p.193)
- ❖ **Music in worship:** *If thou but suffer God to guide thee, J.S. Bach*
- ❖ **Hymn 79:** *Teach me, O Lord, the perfect way*
- ❖ **Sermon:** *the political gets personal, followed by pause for reflection*

Response to God's Word

- ❖ **Hymn 566:** *When I receive the peace of Christ*
- ❖ **Prayers of Intercession**
- ❖ **Offering** *Cantique, Flor Peeters*
- ❖ **Dedication: Hymn 811 followed by:**
O God you treat us as beloved children
by pouring out your blessings upon us.
**Use us and our offerings, we pray,
to affirm life, and the worth and dignity of all.
To the glory of your name. Amen.**
- ❖ **Hymn 125:** *Lord of all being, throned afar*

Sending out with blessing (*followed by sung Amen*)



Postlude: Lord, to thee I make confession, F.W. Marpurg

*Please remain in place until the minister has left the Church.
Please turn off your mobile phones.*

Our service today is conducted by our minister, Rev Dr Lance Stone. The reader today is Sarah Wang. Prayers of Intercession are led by Margaret Anne Richards. Consistory members on duty are Mattia Falcone & Judi Haynes-Smart.

A very warm WELCOME to all!
Please join us for refreshments afterwards.

Notices

- **Visitors** are invited to sign the Visitors' Book after the service.
- There is a **crèche** for children under four years old, please ask at the door.
- **Prayer:** Someone is available after the service in the chancel (behind the Communion table) for **anyone wishing to be prayed with**.
- **Sunday School** is held at the Church Hall, 282A Nieuwezijds Voorburgwal (see map on back of this service sheet). Parents are asked to collect their children after the end of the service.
- **Midweek Fellowship this week: Wednesday, 7.30 pm:** continuing our studies in Matthew's Gospel at 9-II Jan Willem Brouwersstraat.
- **LENT** is fast approaching and there two suggestions for sharing in this important season.
 - 1) There will be daily a Bible reading, reflection and prayer on the church website. Perhaps commit to doing this?
 - 2) Participate in a techno-fast! One day per week (you choose which), turn off your phone and computer and abstain from texting, checking emails and the internet. Further suggestion: give a donation to the Mulanje Mission Hospital for each day you succeed and sign up on the notice board to say you are doing this.
- Churches in Amsterdam are joining forces to **support refugees**. Football matches are being organized! The first match will be on 25 March. Level of fitness, age, sex are irrelevant. If you fancy joining in – striker, goalie or maybe even ref!- just let Michael Blazey or Gillian Walker know, at: gillian.walker.ams@icloud.com; michael.blazey@online.nl
- Anyone interested in a 4 week 'Exploring the Faith' course, looking at the story the Bible tells and how we fit into it? For anyone considering baptism, confirmation, church membership. Speak to Lance.
- **Cooking at De Kloof!** Our church is committed to cooking lunch at this homeless shelter every second Monday of the month. Interested? Please contact Tom Flanagan: deklloof@ercadam.nl
- Receive news about our **services, concerts and church life** by signing up to our weekly e-newsletter on the homepage of www.ercadam.nl.

Bible Readings for the Coming Weeks

These follow the Revised Common Lectionary, a programme of readings followed by churches all over the world. We normally use two of these passages in our services, sometimes quoting the Psalm in our Call to Worship. The passage or passages we will focus upon is in **bold** type.

You might like to read these passages in advance of Sunday.

Feb 19th : Ezekiel 17:22-24; Psalm 119:33-40; **Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23**;

Feb 26th : Isaiah 49:8-16a; Psalm 131; **Matthew 6:24-34**; 1 Corinthians 4:1-5.

Church Contacts (See profiles of our elders in the church entrance)

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Don't forget to connect with the church online for all the latest news and information:



www.ercadam.nl



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Our Congregation

Founded in 1607 to serve the English speaking population of Amsterdam, we welcome worshippers from all over the world. Within the Reformed Tradition, we are part of the Church of Scotland (Presbyterian) and the Protestant Church of the Netherlands.

Our congregation relies on support through the gifts of time, talent and finance. We aim to be financially self-supporting and generous in outreach and mission.

Bank Accounts

English Reformed Church NL44 ABNA 0547 6235 50 Maintenance
Fund: Friends of the English Reformed Church: NL99 ABNA 0624
1800 69

Request for Information: I would like information about:

- Church Membership Baptisms Concerts Sunday School or Crèche
 Weddings 20s30s Group Church Magazine Mulanje Mission

Hospital (www.mmh.mw) Volunteering

I would like the Minister to contact me:

Please note my change of address:

Name:

.....
Address & Postcode

Telephone.....

Email.....



**English Reformed
Church Amsterdam**

A congregation of the Church of Scotland and
the Protestant Church of The Netherlands (PKN)

