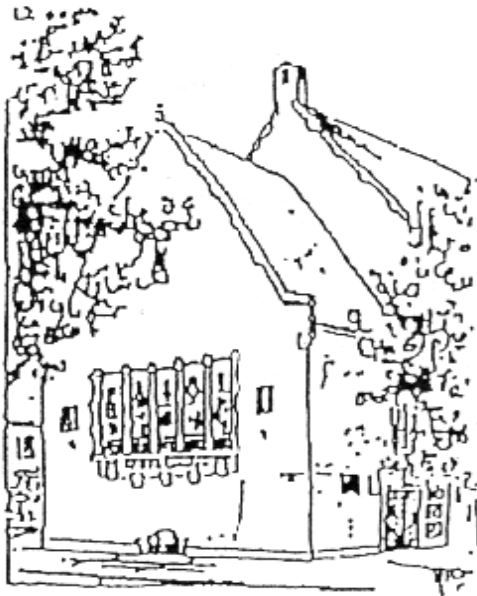


The Scots International Church Rotterdam



**Schiedamsevest 121,
Rotterdam
Services every Sunday at 10.30 am**

7th December 2014

THE GATHERING

Call to Worship

Creator God, who speaks to us the words of hope,
We gather to hear your voice.

Incarnate Christ, who shows to us the way of hope,
We gather to celebrate your story.

Quickening Spirit, who nurtures in us the life of hope,
We gather to know your inbreathing.

Trinity of hope meet with us here,
through word and song, bread and wine,
And draw us deeper into your eternal dance of life.

Introit: "While we are waiting, come" (Choir)

Welcome and Prayer

Praise: Christ is coming!
(CH4, 475 – to the tune 'Regent Square')

Children's Message

Praise: Jesus bids us shine



THE WORD

Prayer of Confession

Reading: **Isaiah 40: 1 – 11**

Reflection: **"What shall we proclaim?"**

Reading: **Mark 1: 1 - 8**

Praise: On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry (538)

Reflection: **"Are we preparers of the way?"**

THE THANKSGIVING

Offering and Dedication, including Lord's Prayer

Sacrament of Holy Communion:

Praise: Here, O my Lord, I see thee (230, v1,2,6)

Invitation and Narrative

Prayer of Thanksgiving, join in saying the words:

**HOLY, HOLY, HOLY LORD,
GOD OF POWER AND MIGHT,
HEAVEN AND EARTH ARE FULL OF YOUR GLORY.
HOSANNA IN THE HIGHEST.
BLESSED IS HE WHO COMES
IN THE NAME OF THE LORD.
HOSANNA IN THE HIGHEST.**

Sharing of Bread and Wine followed by sharing the Peace

Prayers for Others

THE SENDING

Anthem: "Creator of the Stars of Night" (Choir)

Announcements

Praise: Shout for joy! (CH4, 676)

Closing Responses:

Lord Jesus Christ, you have called us to share in God's story of hope.

**and so we offer ourselves to its telling,
breathe your life through ours,
that the story may continue on
in us, and through us,
until the world is remade.**

Benediction and 3-fold Amen

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Thought for the week

“He came down that we may have love ...
He came down that we may have peace ...
He came down that we may have joy ...
Hallelujah for evermore”.

From a hymn from Cameroon (CH4, no.359)

WHAT'S ON

Tuesday 9th December

19:30 Elders' Refresher Course

Wednesday 10th December

10:30 Mamre

Thursday 11th December

11:30 Voedsel Bank (Lower Hall)

Sunday 14th December

10:30 Family & Worship Service
12:30 Sunday School Christmas Party
17:00 Christmas Tea
18:00 Carol singing in the Cool
19:30 Carol Service

Sunday 21st December

10:30 Worship Service

The Service today

Minister: Rev. Derek Lawson

Elder: Peace Acquaaah

Children's Message: Rev. Jennifer Pridmore

Organist: Jan Hendrik vd Kamp

Choirleader: Andrea Hayter

Bible reading: Cindel Fleming

Welcome: Wilma Paton, Emmanuel Asare Awuku

Crèche: Chante Fleming, Fayola Cairo

Counting: Evelyn Koomson & Ediri Sobotie
Door: James Essel
Beamer: Eugene Ng
Recording: Brendan van der Velden
Hospitality: Family Teisman
Flowers: Catherine Anja

Birthdays

Would you like your birthday to be mentioned? Then let us know when that day is (in advance).

New-born baby boy

Benjamin van der Meer son of Frans & Wenli van der Meer and brother of Louise on 28th November at 10:30.

English lessons

English lessons have temporarily stopped. Lessons will begin again on Thursday 8th January.

Interim Moderator

Our Interim Moderator during the vacancy is Rev. James (Jimmy) Brown minister of the English-speaking Christian Congregation (ECC) Bochum, Germany. He can be reached at: j.brown56@gmx.de

Speak out or write it down

Feel free to make remarks or suggestions about anything that happens at SICR. Please speak to an elder, put a written note in the suggestion box, or send an email.

Prayer Requests and Pastoral Care

Prayer requests can be put in the prayer box on Sundays (*please write clearly and you may add a telephone number or name for clarification*). Prayers can also be sent via the Prayer Co-ordinator Wilma Paton at pray.sicr@gmail.com.

For pastoral care or a visit by an Elder or a Minister, contact your Elder or the Church Office.

Looking ahead..

Today our third locum, Rev. Derek Lawson will preach his seventh sermon. He and his wife Moira are with us for a total of 8 weeks till/incl. Sunday 14th December. Then we welcome Rev. Jennifer Pridmore who will preach till the end of January. In the meantime Rev. Derek can be reached on 06 5716 2778 or derek.lawson@sfr.fr

SICR Weekly Update

Would you like to receive an update on activities, sermons, hymns etc. @ SICR every Thursday or Friday in your E-mail box? Then send a mail to: editor-herald@live.com and you will also receive The Herald-by-Email.

Christmas Season

The Christmas Season is upon us, since this Sunday is already the Second Sunday in Advent. A flyer and poster of our services during the Christmas Season is available at the entrance of the church. Make sure to take some and invite family & friends.

On 14 Dec, there will be the following:

- 10:30** Family & Worship Service
- 12:30** Sunday School Christmas Party
(parents should speak to a Sunday School teacher if they want their children to attend)
- 17:00** Christmas Tea
(those attending please remember to bring food and drinks for sharing – talk to Mavis what you are planning to bring)
- 18:00** Carol singing in the Cool
- 19:30** Carol Service

Elders' Refresher Course

Rev. Derek Lawson has given us the first session of two evenings of Elder's Refresher Course, which turned out to be an inspiring look at the Elders' position in the church as well as their role. All Elders are urged to attend.

Tuesday 9th December at 19:30.

A Place at the Table

The Mission offering today Sunday 7th December will be dedicated to the Presbytery Mission project 'A Place at the Table' which supports the National Evangelical Synod of Syria and Lebanon (NESSL) who provide food and hygiene packs to hundreds of displaced families in Syria and the surrounding countries.

Becoming a member of the SICR

Have you been attending church with us and want to become a member? Speak to the minister, sign up with Ato Bob or send a mail to the church office. On Sunday 21st December we plan to induct new members into the SICR.

Lyrics not in Mission Praise

Jesus bids us shine

Jesus bids us shine with a pure, clear light,
Like a little candle, burning in the night.
In this world of darkness, so let us shine,
You in your small corner and I in mine.

*Add to words for 'This little light of mine' the following in Dutch:
(for the beamer)*

Jezus zegt, dat Hij hier van ons verwacht.
Dat wij zijn als kaarsjes brandend in de nacht.
En Hij wenst, dat ieder tot zijn ere schijnt.
Jij in jouw klein hoekje en ik in 't mijn.

CH4 475 Christ is coming!

Christ is coming! let creation
from her groans and travail cease;
let the glorious proclamation
hope restore, and faith increase:
Christ is coming! Christ is coming!
Come now, blessed Prince of Peace.

Earth can now but tell the story
of your bitter cross and pain;
she shall yet behold your glory,
Lord, when you return to reign:
Christ is coming! Christ is coming!

Let each heart repeat the strain.

Long your exiles have been pining,
far from you, and rest, and home;
but, in heavenly glory shining;
soon their loving Lord shall come:
Christ is coming! Christ is coming!
Haste the joyous jubilee!

With that blessed hope before us,
harps are played and songs be sung;
let the mighty advent chorus
onward roll from tongue to tongue:
Christ is coming! Christ is coming!
Come, Lord Jesus, quickly come!

CH4 676 Shout for joy!

Shout for joy! The Lord has let us feast;
heaven's own fare has fed the last and least;
Christ's own peace is shared again on earth;
God the Spirit fills us with new worth.

No more doubting, no more senseless dread;
God's good self has graced our wine and bread;
all the wonder heaven has kept in store
now is ours to keep for evermore.

Celebrate with saints who dine on high;
Witnesses that love can never die.
'Hallelujah!' – thus their voices ring:
nothing less in gratitude we bring.

Praise the Maker, praise the Maker's Son,
praise the Spirit – three yet ever one;
praise the God whose food and friends avow
heaven starts here! The kingdom beckons now!