

Toetrede

Liturgie van die Lig

Aansteek van die kerse

Lied 188:2,3

O God, so ryk en goed,
gee ons solank ons lewe
altyd 'n blye hart;
as dit u wil is: vrede.

Laat u genade ons
beveilig teen gevaar,
in donker ure ons
van struikeling bewaar.

Lof, eer sing ons voor God,
die bron van alle lewe –
die Vader, Seun en Gees,
almagtig en verhewe.

Drie-enig God, ons roem
u krag en majesteit.

O Heer, ons wil U noem:
ons God in ewigheid!

Woorddiens

Tema: “Jy is soos...? lets oor deugde”

Skriflesing: Matteus 13:31-33 en 44-52

“Be patient toward all that is unsolved in your heart and try to love the questions themselves, like locked rooms and like books that are now written in a very foreign tongue. Do not now seek the answers, which cannot be given you because you would not be able to live them. And the point is, to live everything. Live the questions now. Perhaps you will then gradually, without noticing it, live along some distant day into the answer.”

– Rainer Maria Rilke

Broodjies vir die pad

NUUSBERIG AS LYKDIG (BY DIE DOOD VAN SUNA VENTER)

Op bladsy een sit jy:
oorbelle groot en oop
soos jou deernis en jou omgee ...
vir die ontheemde kinders van oorloë.

Tóé was jy nog lewend,
maar nou dood
jou storie se einde,

hierdie land het jou hart
geknak, gebreek.

Jy't gesien wat nie gesien moes word,
verwoord wat verswyg moes word
hierdie land is gewelddadig,
behalwe op radio en TV,
só het hy gesê, en só wou hy dit hê.

Soos:

Mandy Rossouw,
Bantu Stephen Biko,
Nat Nakasa,
Ingrid Jonker
sterwe jy té jonk, té vroeg
in hierdie land wat die lewe haat
en die leuen oneindig lief het.

Verder, dieper die koerant in,
verby die faksie-politiek,
die sepies,
die kerklike seksklagtes,
die crossword, kripties, profeties:
22.across: violent encounter (5)
28.down: bird of prey (5)
en Hagar
sit die digter:

op bladsy nege,
sy praat oor mans;
mans en mag en die dood,
mans en geld en mag,
onsigbare mans,
mans en vroue en suits
en weerloosheid.

En op bladsy een sit jy:
stukkend soos Sirië,
en weerloos teen mag,
só bly spook jou gesig by my.

Clinton V du Plessis

Die Burger, Vrydag 30 Junie 2017



“Courage is the most important of all the virtues because without courage, you can't practice any other virtue consistently.”
– Maya Angelou

“Gratitude is not only the greatest of virtues, but the parent of all others.”
– Marcus Tullius Cicero

“I don't think I could love you so much if you had nothing to complain of and nothing to regret. I don't like people who have never fallen or stumbled. Their virtue is lifeless and of little value. Life hasn't revealed its beauty to them.”
– Boris Pasternak, Doctor Zhivago

"The acceptance of oneself is the essence of the whole moral problem and the epitome of a whole outlook on life. That I feed the hungry, that I forgive an insult, that I love my enemy in the name of Christ -- all these are undoubtedly great virtues. What I do unto the least of my brethren, that I do unto Christ. But what if I should discover that the least among them all, the poorest of all the beggars, the most impudent of all the offenders, the very enemy himself -- that these are within me, and that I myself stand in need of the alms of my own kindness -- that I myself am the enemy who must be loved -- what then? As a rule, the Christian's attitude is then reversed; there is no longer any question of love or long-suffering; we say to the brother within us "Raca," and condemn and rage against ourselves. We hide it from the world; we refuse to admit ever having met this least among the lowly in ourselves."

— C.G. Jung, Memories, Dreams, Reflections

"The decisive question for man is: Is he related to something infinite or not? That is the telling question of his life. Only if we know that the thing which truly matters is the infinite can we avoid fixing our interests upon futilities, and upon all kinds of goals which are not of real importance. Thus we demand that the world grant us recognition for qualities which we regard as personal possessions: our talent or our beauty. The more a man lays stress on false possessions, and the less sensitivity he has for what is essential, the less satisfying is his life. He feels limited because he has limited aims, and the result is envy and jealousy. If we understand and feel that here in this life we already have a link with the infinite, desires and attitudes change."

— C.G. Jung, Memories, Dreams, Reflections

"Our virtues and our failings are inseparable, like force and matter. When they separate, man is no more"

— Nikola Tesla

"Live a good life. If there are gods and they are just, then they will not care how devout you have been, but will welcome you based on the virtues you have lived by. If there are gods, but unjust, then you should not want to worship them. If there are no gods, then you will be gone, but will have lived a noble life that will live on in the memories of your loved ones."

— Marcus Aurelius

"the highest point a man can attain is not Knowledge, or Virtue, or Goodness, or Victory, but something even greater, more heroic and more despairing: Sacred Awe!"

— Nikos Kazantzakis, Zorba the Greek

Brood vir die pad

Sodat almal kan lewe sonder vrees en verskrikking

DJS

Onthou iemand nog Louis Armstrong se weergawe van "Down by the Riverside" op sy 1958-album *Louis and the Good Book*? "I'm gonna study war no more," lui die refrein, die woorde ontleen aan die profeet Miga.

En onthou iemand dalk nog die vredesbeweging in die 1980's wat so baie sou bydra tot die val van die Berlynse Muur en daarmee tot die vreedsame oorgang in ons eie samelewing?

Onthou enigeen nog hoe mense Maandagaande in die eeue-oue Nikolai-kerk in Leipzig, Duitsland, sou byeenstroom om te luister na stories, kerse aan te steek en te bid vir vrede? Hoe dié byeenkomste sou aangroei totdat tot 100 000 mense op sulke aande sou versamel om te bid en ná die tyd in stille verset met kerse deur die strate te loop?

Hulle doen dit vandag nog, elke Maandag. Nie omdat hulle nie die wonder van destyds onthou en gedenk nie, maar omdat hulle stééds bid vir vrede in ons wêreld vandag, stééds stories vertel van ons strydende en stukkende wêreld ("Seems like everybody's sick, sick, sick . . . And I'm right there with them, messin' ", aldus Armstrong), stééds kerse van stille protes en hoop aansteek.

In dié dae word die 1 000 afgevaardigdes van die Wêreldgemeenskap van Gereformeerde Kerke (afkomstig uit 80 miljoen lidmate van 229 lidkerke in 108 lande) in dié kerk verwelkom.

Die Duitse president roep dié gebeure in herinnering en vertel hoe dié kerkgebou 'n simbool geword het, met hul kerse en gebede, van vreedsame verset teen "verdrukking en leuen" – en van die krag van sulke verset.

Gedurende die diens word weer geles uit hierdie visioene van Miga, van mense wat "nie meer leer van oorlog nie" sodat almal kan lewe "sonder dat iemand hulle verskrik" (Miga 4:1-5).

Die Maandagaand sluit afgevaardigdes aan by dié wat elke Maandag in die Nikolai byeenkom. Om steeds lieder te sing wat dié woorde herhaal. Om steeds stories te hoor van sovele plekke in ons wêreld waar konflik heers, waar geweld en onreg en misdaad maak dat sovele verskrik lewe, elke dag – op strate, in eie huise, by skole.

Steeds te bid vir dié plekke en vir sulke mense, oral rondom ons. En ook vir sovele wat steeds geweld so liefhet, dit bedink en bestudeer en beliggaam, in families en gesinne, van strate en skole tot by die sosiale media.

Dis 'n aangrypende byeenkoms, sovele gebede in sovele tale, maar met één gedeelde versugting: na 'n lewe waar niemand meer vrees nie.

<http://www.netwerk24.com/Stemme/Sielsgoed/sodat-almal-kan-lewe-sonder-vrees-en-verskrikking-20170707>



Lied 526

Waar daar liefde is, en deernis,
waar daar liefde is, daar is God die Heer.
Ubi caritas, et amor
ubi caritas, Deus ibi est.



"It is my wish that you may have a better and freer life than I have had. Recommend virtue to your children; it alone, not money, can make them happy. I speak from experience; this was what upheld me in time of misery."

— Ludwig van Beethoven