

PROVIDENCE REFORMED CHURCH

September 28, 2025; All this the Lord willing

Oct 1: Lay Preaching Class

Oct 5: Lord's Supper – Rev. Schipper AM

Oct 8: Midweek Service

Oct 12: Baptism PM

Oct 15: Titus 2

Oct 17-18: God's Word Conference

Oct 19: Dr. Henk VandenBelt PM

Offering Schedule

Today: General Mission – Schipper Family South Africa

Oct 5: General Benevolent

Nursery Schedule

Today: AM Meleah Tubergen, Pat Sweetman, Tanner Klaasen

PM Maria Verbeek, Olivia Dykema, Lauren Boerkoel

Oct 5: AM Kim Boerkoel, Jenna Boerkoel, Trevor Schipper

PM Janelle Walma, Kristen Bazen, Theo Rozeboom

Oct 12: AM Roberta Hoogmoed, Jane Heikoop, Caleb Schipper

PM Faith VanderBoon, Monica Bazen, Joel VanderBoon

Family Visitation

Sept 30: Joe Tubergen family 7PM / Mark Hoffmann family 8:15 PM

Oct 7: Nathan Kelderman family 7PM / Neal Boerkoel family 8:15PM

Oct 14: Dave Meeuwse family 7PM / Dan Rozeboom 8:15PM

Nov 4: Joe Parmeter family 7PM/ James Bazen family, Kristen 8:15PM

Nov 11: Ryan Hoogmoed family 7PM / John Boerkoel family, Caleb, Kate 8:15 PM

Nov 20: Faith VanderBoon family 7PM / Don VanderBoon family, Gloria, Charity, Donny 8:15 PM

Youth Group

Oct 5: Singalong at Pastor Pronk's home

Oct 10: Corn Maze at Heidi's Farmstand

Announcements

- We give thanks for Anna Pronk's birthday today. *"But the mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting upon them that fear him, and his righteousness unto children's children;" Psalm 103:17*
- We give thanks for Gary Kwekel's birthday tomorrow. *"The Lord is my portion, saith my soul; therefore will I hope in him." Lam 3:24*
- Anna Pronk's Birthday Celebration is Friday, October 3 at 10:00AM, Schwallier's Country Basket, 1185 9 Mile Road NW, Sparta. Inviting all women and young children. Rain date is Friday, October 10.
- The youth group is planning a corn maze event at Heidi's Farmstand on Friday, October 10.

- Please contact the pastor if you are considering making a confession of faith and would like to attend the confession of faith classes this year.
- Censura Morum will be held after the evening service.
- Advanced notice. A congregational meeting is scheduled for Monday, October 27 at 7:00PM to discuss our church's financial commitment for the Schipper Family - South Africa Mission.

Meditation

Satan is cast out of heaven (Revelation 9:2 and 11)

Let us take a closer look at the 5th trumpet (Revelation 9:1-11). These verses are organized in a ring structure. The core of this passage is verse 6. Surrounding it, we find verses 3-5 and 7-10 in two rings. The outer ring consists of verses 1-2 and 11. The verses forming this outer ring address what lies behind the great evil described in the 5th trumpet. First of all, that is God. It is comforting to know that God is present in the evil we see in this world, which will only increase. We read in verse 1: *"And I saw a star fall from heaven unto the earth."* and then *"and to him was given the key of the bottomless pit."* Someone, for it is a person, is cast out of heaven and given power. God is above all. Let us always keep that clear in our minds. If He is our Father in Christ, who can harm us? What a call to go to Christ! It is not for nothing that we first encountered Him in Revelation 1. Let us be assured of a heavenly Father who is above all the rage and evil around us. But *"the star that falls from heaven"* is the one who unleashes and directs evil. In verse 11, he is called *"the angel of the bottomless pit."* In that same verse, he is called *"king"* of the hellish powers in the bottomless pit. His names are *"Abaddon"* and *"Apollyon."* *"The angel who is cast out of heaven"* is Satan, who is cast out of heaven when Christ ascended to the throne. The 1000-year kingdom of peace has then arrived. We read about this in Luke 10:18, Isaiah 14:12, and Revelation 12:7-9. His Hebrew name is *"Abaddon,"* meaning Destroyer. His Greek name is *"Apollyon,"* which also means Destroyer or Devastator. That is Satan, God's great adversary. He is the Destroyer, as seen in the horror of the 5th trumpet. Satan is King over *"the bottomless pit,"* as described in verse 2. When Satan is cast out of heaven because Christ has completed His work of reconciliation, he opens the prison on earth where the evil powers are kept. The powers of darkness drive out the light on earth, and the smoke rising from the pit darkens the sun. The smoke penetrates everywhere, even into the hearts of unbelievers. Although this picture is frightening, let us not lose hope. It is God who remains in control. We read in Revelation 12, Satan is cast out of heaven after Christ's ascension. Satan has much power, but Christ has all power. When Christ, by grace alone, through repentance and faith, becomes our all in all, there is no reason to fear. Christ reigns. What a comfort!

Rev. J. Th. Pronk