

CHURCH AND SOCIETY 1990

A TESTIMONY OF THE DUTCH REFORMED CHURCH (NED GEREF KERK)

APPROVED BY THE
GENERAL SYNOD
OF THE
DUTCH REFORMED CHURCH

OCTOBER 1990

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FOREWORD

Since churchwork involves people, it is never finally concluded.

The Church and Society statement of policy of the 1986 Cape Town General Synod was the first courageous attempt at shaking off an unfortunate image of the Dutch Reformed Church (Ned Geref Kerk). This document did more than only send a ripple across the surface, because what it initiated was an ongoing process.

We listened not only to each other but also to outside advice. We especially listened again to Holy Scripture. Matters were weighed and sifted, studied and formulated – in conversations and meetings, in committees and in the Synod itself.

The Bloemfontein General Synod presents this revised document, Church and Society 1990, as a result of its further reflection and as testimony of its view with regard to the calling of the church – all at a time which is loaded with new challenges.

The Dutch Reformed Church offers this statement as a sign of its integrity, as guidelines for its members to follow and as an invitation to dialogue with the ecumenic community – with this one prayer in our hearts that also in this way we may serve the Kingdom of Christ.

P C Potgieter
Moderator, General Synod 1990

Bloemfontein
October 1990

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