BRILL

JOURNAL OF REFORMED
THEOLOGY 14 (2020) 1–2

JOURNAL
OF REFORMED
THEOLOGY

brill.com/jrt

Editorial

Two editors of the Journal feature in a very specific way in this volume. The first contribution is the written version of the book panel on the first volume of Katherine Sonderegger's *Systematic Theology: The Doctrine of God*, discussed at the AAR annual meeting in San Antonio, TX in November 2016 with contributions by Gregory W. Lee, Ian A. McFarland, and Joy McDougall. It took us a long time to gather the written version of the contributions, but thanks to the relentless efforts of editor Cynthia Rigby we were able to compose this book panel. In a special way the publication of this book panel is timely, since the second volume of Kate's *Systematic Theology* is imminent. Another of our editorial team, Philip Ziegler, submitted an article on the Protestant understanding of divine grace in relation to human sin, reminding us of the key Reformed insight that we cannot fathom the measure of divine grace unless we realize the radical sinfulness of humanity.

Michael Allen presents the first of two articles on the relationship between systematic theology and biblical theology. In this first contribution, he analyzes the arguments of proposals by Geerhardus Vos, John Murray, and Richard Gavin for understanding this relationship.

The same Michael Allen is one among several theologians who has, in recent years, focused anew on the concept of *Reformed catholicity*. James Wood's contribution on the nineteenth-century Presbyterian theologian John W. Nevin argues that current American Presbyterianism could strengthen its catholicity by attending to Nevin's ecclesial vision of linking ecclesiology to a robust understanding of the incarnation.

Jakub Urbaniak and Mooketsi Motsisi explore the three elements of the theological rationale used by British abolitionists: deliverance, love of neighbor, and *imago Dei*. They answer the question of whether their rhetoric, which oscillated between apologetics and emancipation in the context of imperial paternalism, could be identified as a form of proto-liberation theology.

Finally, we offer eighteen book reviews. Writing this during the developing Covid-19 crisis, many of our subscribers, readers, and authors are now homebound and have to reschedule their plans. We hope you are safe, and that

this double issue offers extra theological inspiration making sense of what is happening globally. And of course, keep submitting new articles to the Journal.

Eddy Van der Borght
Editor-in-Chief