

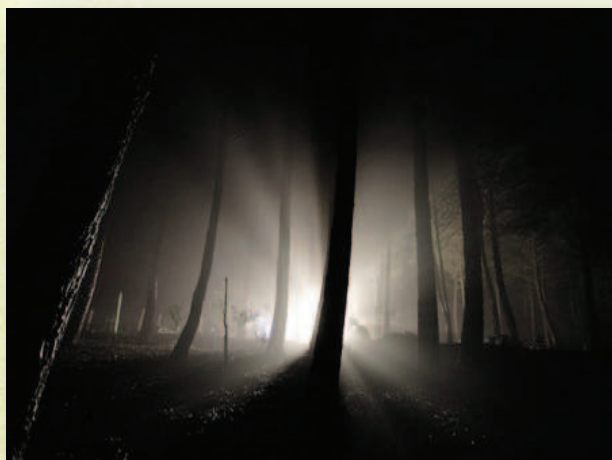


# THE SHEPHERD'S VOICE

## KCPC This Week

*"Knowing the love of Christ together with all the saints." - Eph. 3:18-19*

**Week Ending, April 25<sup>th</sup>, 2015**



### **Upcoming Events- Lord willing!**

**Prepare for Worship!:** We encourage you to spend time in prayer each Saturday evening, preparing your hearts and praying for the worship of our God. For your preachers: *"Pray us full, we will preach you full!"* Our KCPC weekly newsletter *The Shepherd's Voice* can be a helpful guide for your time of prayer. *Remember on Sunday mornings to seek to use prelude time before worship to enter God's presence with honor and respect and great awe!*

**Adult Sunday School:** Beginning this Lord's Day, the pastor and elders will be teaching a 12-15 week class on *The Triune God* soon. This Lord's Day: *"The Greatness of God"*. **Goal of class:** To help us to read our Bibles

with a better understanding of each Person of the Triune God, and to have communion with each person in worship and prayer.

**New Members!** We are thankful to receive **Dr. Mike and Mary Kucks** into membership at KCPC during the morning worship service on **May 3<sup>rd</sup>**.

**Women's Bible Study:** The study meets on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday nights at 7pm. All women are welcome to attend.

**Evening Worship Service this Lord's Day at 6 pm!** We will be concluding our sermon series on **1 Timothy**. Come and close the Lord's Day together with worship and fellowship meal.

**Shorter Catechism Memorization for KCPC in 2015:** See pg. 3, *'From Your Pastor' Section*. Let's continue to seek to memorize the Shorter Catechism together as a congregation.

Listen online to KCPC morning and/or evening sermons you missed and/or would like to hear again. Tune in for our upcoming Sunday school series on *The Triune God* as well at:  
[www.sermonaudio.com/kcpc](http://www.sermonaudio.com/kcpc)

**Coming Soon- Preaching Sermon Series:** In morning services beginning Summer 2015: *'The Book of the Twelve'* (or the **Minor Prophets**); in the evening services beginning soon: *'The Pastoral Epistles'* (**2 Timothy**). Pray that God would prepare our hearts for these upcoming sermon series.

*"For it was fitting that he, for whom and by whom all things exist, in bringing many sons to glory, should make the founder of their salvation perfect through suffering."*

- Hebrews 2:10

## *From Your Pastor*

### *A Study of the Shorter Catechism*

**Question: What are the works of providence?**

**Answer: God's works of providence are his most holy, wise, and powerful preserving and governing all his creatures, and all their actions.**

**Scripture memory:** “[Jesus] is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature, and he upholds the universe by the word of his power. After making purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high...” - <sup>ESV</sup> **Hebrews 1:3**

**An explanation:** What a glorious God we serve in that He preserves and governs all things by His great wisdom and Almighty power! Glory to His Most Powerful, and Blessed Holy Name! The Bible teaches us that our God preserves both man and beast (Psa. 36:6), and He governs all the nations of the earth whether they recognize His rule over them or not, to direct and guide them for His purposes for history in Jesus Christ (Eph. 1:9-10; Psa. 67:4; Prov. 16:9)! God upholds all things in their being; if He were to cease to uphold any creature, any created thing at any time, it would cease to exist! (Psa. 104:30; 119:89-91; Acts 17:28).

All of God’s Works are glorious! (Psa. 104:24). The Lord is not only powerful in His works, but good and kind in and through them (Psa. 145:17). He upholds the universe and all created things in their being, but also provides for their sustenance and enjoyment! (Heb. 1:3; Ecc. 2:24-25; 1 Tim. 6:17). The Bible sweetly teaches that the eyes of all living creatures “look” to God, and God opens His gracious hand to “satisfy the desire of every living thing (Psa. 145:16).

God as a Father to His children, has a special interest in watching over, protecting and blessing them. He causes the sparrow to fall to the ground, but counts every hair on His children’s heads, and cares for us because of His great love to us in Jesus Christ (Matt. 10:29-31). He clothes the grass of the fields with lilies to display His goodness and glory, and this is to remind His children that He will always provide and care for them! (Matt. 6:26-30). Although He allows His dear children to experience great tribulation and suffering in their union with Christ, He will always sustain us, and use these hard circumstances as means to free us more from indwelling sin, and cause us to be more dependent upon Him, and to be ever thankful for His grace and love.

Our Heavenly Father will cause all things to work out for the good for those who love Him and are called according to His purpose in Christ! (Rom. 8:28; Gen. 50:20). As the Heidelberg Catechism puts it: “...*That without the will of my heavenly Father, not a hair can fall from my head; yea, that all things must be subservient to my salvation.*” No amount of suffering will ever separate us from our Father’s love; it will only make us stronger, like victorious conquerors! (2 Cor. 12:9ff; Rom. 8:35-39).

Let us never forget as God’s people: His providence toward His creatures is **Most Holy:** “*The LORD is righteous in all his ways and kind in all his works*” (Psa. 145:17); **Most Wise:** “*O LORD, how manifold are your works! In wisdom have you made them all; the earth is full of your creatures*” (Psa. 104:24); **Most Powerful:** “[God] who rules by his might forever, whose eyes keep watch on the nations...” (Psa. 66:7; cf. Dan. 4:35).

**A Prayer:** Dear Most Holy, Wise, and Powerful Heavenly Father. There is nothing that can happen in this world, nor continue in this world, without your most holy, wise, and powerful preserving and governing of all things. All you do is good, and will result in your glorification and worship, and for our good! Thank you. Let us trust you.

**In Christ’s love,  
Pastor Biggs**

# THIS LORD'S DAY

**Sermon Title: “*The Light in the Darkness*”**

– Pastor Charles R. Biggs

**Theme of Sermon:** Darkness was Jesus’ only companion at the time of His passion so that we could bask in His wonderful light and enjoy His blessed companionship for all eternity!

**Scripture Lesson: Psalm 88; John 1:5, 9-13; 3:16-21**

**Scripture Text: Mark 14:43-72**

## **Questions for Family Discussion/ Thoughtful Meditation:**

- \* **Read Mark 14:43-72:** How is Jesus rejected in all three of His Offices of Prophet, Priest, and King as God’s Mediator?
- \* How does Judas betray Jesus in this passage? How is this a revelation of unholy, hard-hearted affections?
- \* **Children:** Is Jesus all alone? Has anyone stayed with Him? How could this encourage you in your own trials when called to experience rejection or to suffer loneliness (see Heb. 2:18).
- \* Read Isaiah 53:7 and Daniel 7:13-14. How does Jesus fulfill these passages in the darkness of His rejection?

Jesus says for us:

*“O LORD, why do you cast my soul away? Why do you hide your face from me? Afflicted and close to death from my youth up, I suffer your terrors; I am helpless. Your wrath has swept over me; your dreadful assaults destroy me. They surround me like a flood all day long; they close in on me together. You have caused my beloved and my friend to shun me; my companions have become darkness.” – Psalm 88:14-18*