

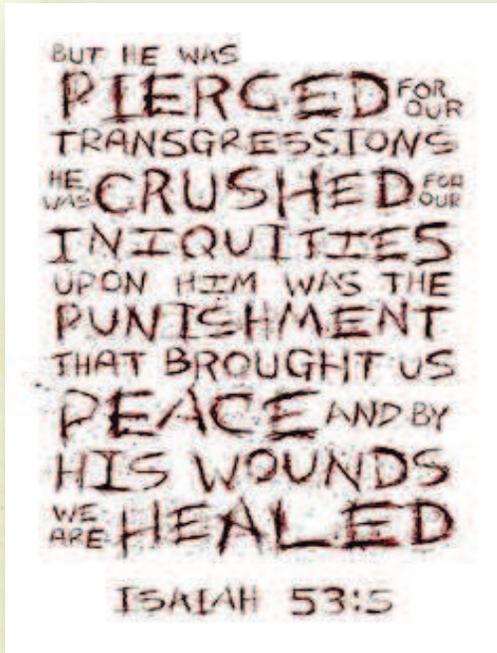


# THE SHEPHERD'S VOICE

## KCPC This Week

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

Week Ending, April 4<sup>th</sup>, 2015



### Upcoming Events- Lord willing!

**Prepare for Worship!:** Your elders encourage you to spend time in prayer each Saturday evening, preparing your hearts and praying for the worship of our God.

**Good Friday Service:** This Friday, April 3<sup>rd</sup> at 7 pm we will have our annual **Good Friday worship and celebration** here at KCPC in Purcellville with our sister church Potomac Hills PCA. Invite your neighbors to come!

**Adult Sunday School:** Your pastor and elders will continue to teach through 'Ordinary' by

Michael Horton this week, and coming soon we will be teaching a 12-15 week class on **The Triune God**.

**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.

**Baptism of Our Covenant Children:** By God's grace, we will participate in two baptism services in April. **Calvin Lewis Gray** on **April 12** and **Genevieve Gerda Nastaran Greendyk** on **April 19**, both in morning worship services. Hallelujah to God for answered prayers in growing in our church in grace—and in numbers!! God is faithful. We will have a special sermon on baptism on Lord's Day, April 12<sup>th</sup>.

### What is the Gospel meaning of "Good Friday"?

"[Sinner]: Give up all hope and despair of yourself; believe and acknowledge the righteousness of God who cannot forgive sin apart from *satisfaction* and the *bearing of punishment*.

Keep your sins and the justice of God clearly in view, as well as your inability to satisfy this *justice*. Freely fear and tremble, but do not remain in such a condition nor end in it. Allow the terror of the Lord to move you to *faith*. Seek salvation in a way whereby *God's justice is satisfied*. Flee to the Lord Jesus as Surety [Mediator], receiving Him to your justification and sanctification. That is the only way by which you can be saved." –

**Wilhelmus A' Brakel**

*"Death and the curse were in our cup./ O Christ, 'twas full for Thee!/  
But Thou has drained the last dark drop./ 'Tis empty now for me./  
That bitter cup, love drank it up,/ Now blessing's draught for me."*

## *From Your Pastor* *Good Friday/Easter Thoughts*

**Good Friday Meditation:** BEHOLD THE LORD JESUS: “With what less than ravishment of spirit can I behold the Lord Jesus, who, from everlasting was clothed with glory and majesty, now wrapped in rags, cradled in a manger, exposed to hunger, thirst, weariness, danger, contempt, poverty, revilings, scourgings, persecution? Into what ecstasies may I be cast to see the Judge of all the world accused, judged and condemned? To see the Lord of life dying upon the tree of shame and curse? To see the eternal Son of God struggling with His Father’s wrath [in the Garden...on the cross]? ...How Jesus’ love toward His own has carried Him! He has laid down His life for us! What raptures of spirit can be sufficient for the admiration of this infinite mercy! Be thou swallowed up, O my soul, in the depth of divine love; and hate to spend your thy thoughts any more upon the base objects of this wretched world. Look upon Him! He hangs on the cross naked, torn, and bloody, between heaven and earth, as if He were cast out of heaven, and also rejected by earth....The whole gospel is no other thing than a motive to draw man to God by the force of God’s love to man in Christ....Is not this a great love? Are not all mercies wrapped up in this blood of Christ? ...Christ is all in all, and Christ above all, and will you not love Him? O that all our words were words of love, and all our labors, labors of love, and all our thoughts, thoughts of love, that we might speak of love, and muse of love, and love this Christ who first loved us, with all our heart, and soul, and might!” – **Isaac Ambrose, ‘Looking Unto Jesus’.**

**Easter Meditation:** “How was Christ exalted in his resurrection? A. Christ was exalted in his resurrection, in that, not having seen corruption in death, (of which it was not possible for him to be held,) and having the very same body in which he suffered, with the essential properties thereof, (but without mortality, and other common infirmities belonging to this life,) really united to his soul, he rose again from the dead the third day by his own power; whereby he declared himself to be the Son of God, to have satisfied divine justice, to have vanquished death, and him that had the power of it, and to be Lord of quick and dead: all which he did as a public person, the head of his church, for their justification, quickening in grace, support against enemies, and to assure them of their resurrection from the dead at the last day.” – **Westminster Larger Catechism.**

**Easter Weekend Prayer:** “Our Lord, teach us to see that our whole salvation and all its parts are comprehended in Christ...If we seek salvation, we are taught by the very name of Jesus that it is ‘of him’. If we seek any other gifts of the Spirit, they will be found in his anointing. If we seek strength, it lies in his dominion; if purity, in his conception; if gentleness, it appears in his birth. For by his birth he was made like us in all respects that he might learn to feel our pain. If we seek redemption, it lies in his passion; if acquittal, in his condemnation; if remission of the curse, in his cross; if satisfaction, in his sacrifice; if purification, in his blood; if reconciliation, in his descent into hell; if mortification of the flesh, in his tomb; if newness of life, in his resurrection; if immortality, in the same; if inheritance of the Heavenly Kingdom, in his entrance into heaven; if protection, if security if abundant supply of all blessings, in his Kingdom; if untroubled expectation of judgment; in the power given to him to judge. In short, since rich store of every kind of good abounds in him, let us drink our fill from the fountain, and from no other. In Jesus’ Name we pray, Amen.” - From **John Calvin, Institutes 2.16.19.**

In Christ’s love,

Pastor Biggs

*“...Call upon me in the day of trouble;  
I will deliver you, and you shall glorify me.”  
- Isaiah 50:15*

# THIS LORD'S DAY

**Sermon Title: "After I Am Raised Up..."**  
— Pastor Charles R. Biggs

**Theme of Sermon:** The resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ as a fulfillment of the Covenant of Redemption shines bright hope in the pitch darkness of denial, distress, trouble, sorrow, weakness, and death in this present age.

**Scripture Lesson: Isaiah 53:10-12; Luke 24:25-53**

**Scripture Text: Mark 14:26-42**

## Questions for Family Discussion/ Thoughtful Meditation:

- \* **Read slowly and carefully Mark 14:26-42.** How is the love of the Savior revealed to us in the Garden of Gethsemane? (I know; a virtually impossible task to fully comprehend. There are an infinite number of ways to be revealed to you; just name a few). How do you see Jesus as your particular hope in sin and weakness? Be specific.
- \* **Children:** Jesus teaches His disciples to "watch and pray". How do the disciples fulfill this command of the Lord Jesus? Why does Jesus think it is important that we "watch and pray" as His people?
- \* How do you know with all of these denials, all of these difficulties, that this is not the end for Christ's disciples and His Church?
- \* Why does Jesus address the Heavenly Father as 'Abba, Father' in his prayer in the garden?
- \* Why does Jesus ask: "Remove this cup from me" (v. 36)?
- \* What does it mean that "the spirit is willing and the flesh is weak" (v. 38)?

**"Abba, Father, all things are possible for you. Remove this cup from me. Yet not what I will, but what you will."- Mark 14:36:**

"[What an example of proper submission to our Heavenly Father the Lord Jesus demonstrated to us]: *To take patiently whatever God sends—to like nothing but what God likes—to wish nothing but what God approves—to prefer pain, if it pleases God to send it; to forego ease, if God does not think fit to bestow it—to lie passive under God's hand, and know no will but His—this is the highest standard at which we can aim, and of this our Lord's conduct in Gethsemane is a perfect pattern. Let us strive and labor to have 'the mind that was in Christ in this matter. Let us daily pray and endeavor to mortify our self-will.'* - J. C. Ryle

*"Therefore my heart is glad, and my whole being rejoices; my flesh also dwells secure. For you will not abandon my soul to Sheol, or let your holy one see corruption. You make known to me the path of life; in your presence there is fullness of joy; at your right hand are pleasures forevermore."*

- Psalm 16:9-11