



THE SHEPHERD'S VOICE

KCPC This Week

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

Week Ending, October 25th, 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.

Sunday School 2015-16: Sunday school begins each Lord's Day promptly at 9:30 am. The adult Sunday School will be studying how to build our faith in Christ. **Coming Soon:** *"Knowing Christ"*.

The "Book of the Twelve" or the Minor Prophets Series: This week, will continue Zechariah's Prophecy, concluding our study on the *'The Book of the Twelve'* in December.

Men's and Boy's Breakfast: Join us at 8:30 am on this **Saturday, October 24** for a delicious breakfast, and rich and rewarding study, prayer-time, and fellowship. We will be discussing our heritage in the Reformation as a congregation.

Deacon's Offering/ OPC Thank Offering: Prayerfully plan now how you would like to give this month to our Deacon's Offering during worship on **Sunday, Nov. 1st**, and **OPC Thank Offering** to be received at Thanksgiving time to support our missionaries and Christian education in the OPC.

Reformation Day Worship Service, This Lord's Day Evening, Oct. 25th: Make plans to attend the 498th anniversary of the Reformation at Bethel OPC in Leesburg. **Dinner at 5:30 and Service at 7 pm.** Please plan to bring a side item for dinner, and pray for God to be glorified and exalted in His grace. **For more information:** <http://bethelpres.com/2015-reformation-day/>

Women's Bible Study: The study meets on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday nights at 7pm. All women are welcome to attend. Contact Margaret for more information: missmargaretbiggs@comcast.net

Prayer/Appreciation for Our Sunday School Teachers: Please remember to pray regularly for your Sunday school teachers who commit much time and prayer to nurture and disciple us in Christ.

10th Anniversary Season of Locust Street Film Night: **Friday, Nov. 20th at 6 pm:** Alexander MacKendrick's classic film noir *'Sweet Smell of Success'* with Burt Lancaster and Tony Curtis. www.facebook.com/LSFilmNight.

KCPC Online:

www.sermonaudio.com/kcpc
www.ketocin.org/resources

New Sermon Series Coming Soon! Our next two sermon series will be from the *Acts of the Apostles* in the morning service, and the *Book of Ecclesiastes and Song of Solomon* in the evening service.

"...A man will be justified by faith when, excluded from the righteousness of works, he by faith lays hold of the righteousness of Christ, and clothed in it appears in the sight of God not as a sinner, but as righteous. Thus we simply interpret justification, as the acceptance with which God receives us into his favor as if we were righteous; and we say that this justification consists in the forgiveness of sins and the imputation of the righteousness of Christ."

- John Calvin, Institutes in the Christian Religion, 3.11.2.

From Your Pastor *A Study of Shorter Catechism*

Question: WSC 25 How doth Christ execute the office of a priest?

Answer: Christ executeth the office of a priest, in his once offering up of himself a sacrifice to satisfy divine justice, and reconcile us to God, and in making continual intercession for us.

Scripture Memory: *ESV Hebrews 9:14* ...How much more will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without blemish to God, purify our conscience from dead works to serve the living God.

An Explanation: On the cross, the Lord Jesus offered Himself up willingly by the Eternal Spirit as a sacrificial offering to propitiate God's just wrath against sin, and reconcile sinners to God (Heb. 9:14, 26b; Rom. 3:24-26; Col. 1:20). Although Jesus was God's perfect and holy priest, He also willingly became the final sacrifice. There are two parts to Christ's priestly work that should be noted: 1) **Oblation/Sacrifice** and 2) **Intercession for sinners**. In John 17, we behold the glory of both of these aspects of Christ's priestly office. Jesus intercedes or prays for His own that the Father has given Him as he willingly and joyfully goes to the cross to satisfy divine justice and redeem His people through His blood ("...*Father, the hour has come...*", John 17:1). Jesus prays that He would glorify the Father through His priestly ministry, as the Father glorifies Him in the salvation work that will be accomplished through the cross and resurrection-ascension (John 17:1-5; cf. Heb. 10:10).

Christ completed His work of salvation for sinners through His death on the cross. He cried out: "***It is finished***" giving sinners great confidence in entering the blessed Holy of Holies through His blood, and giving His people boldness and confidence in their access to the Father (Heb. 4:14-16; cf. Eph. 2:18). Although Christ's priestly work in His estate of humiliation was fully accomplished and finished, His Heavenly Priestly work had just begun! The Bible teaches us that the priestly work of Christ in His estate of exaltation is to ever intercede for His own people, ensuring their endurance to the end, and ministering to them by His grace through Word and Sacrament by His Spirit from His Heavenly Throne in heaven. This great Gospel hope is summarized wonderfully in Hebrews 7:24-28:

...But he holds his priesthood permanently, because he continues forever. ²⁵ Consequently, he is able to save to the uttermost those who draw near to God through him, since he always lives to make intercession for them. ²⁶ For it was indeed fitting that we should have such a high priest, holy, innocent, unstained, separated from sinners, and exalted above the heavens. ²⁷ He has no need, like those high priests, to offer sacrifices daily, first for his own sins and then for those of the people, since he did this once for all when he offered up himself. ²⁸ For the law appoints men in their weakness as high priests, but the word of the oath, which came later than the law, appoints a Son who has been made perfect forever.

A Prayer: Dear Jesus, let me come daily and boldly to the Throne of Grace to have you minister to me in my needs. Let me enter into your prayer time and intercession as I seek communion and fellowship with you. Let me know your peace as I live for you (Heb. 9:14).

In Christ's love,
Pastor Biggs

"Faith is an experiential, convicting, soul-emptying grace. To lay hold of Christ, to treasure His righteousness, necessitates losing my own righteousness. Faith teaches utter humility... Faith means utter despair of everything except Christ."

-Joel Beeke

THIS LORD'S DAY

Sermon Title: *"God's Glory in Our Midst: My Spirit"*

– Pastor Charles R. Biggs

Theme of Sermon: The people of God need the power and anointing of the Holy Spirit for sanctified lives and transformative change that will glorify God.

Scripture Lesson: Luke 4:14-21; Acts 2:25-36

Scripture Text: Zechariah 4

Questions for Family Discussion/ Thoughtful Meditation:

* **Read Zechariah 1-4.** Summarize Zechariah's messages to the people in the first four chapters. Take a moment to pray for proper application of these truths. Do you need to repent, then repent (Zech. 1); do you need to exalt God for His righteousness in Christ, then praise Him; do you need an Advocate to forgive you, and to defend you against an evil and malicious Accuser, then lift your eyes to see God's Mediator, our Savior and Bridegroom in Christ, and rest in His Word of forgiveness and hope to you (Zech. 3)! How do you need His powerful Spirit today? (Zech. 4).

* **Children:** Is "Christ" Jesus's last name? What does it mean? What is the Hebrew word for it? What does this mean for Him? What does this mean for you?! (Hint: John 1:16; 1 Jo. 2:20, 27; Acts 2:33). Based on this meaning for Christ's name, what does it mean to call yourselves "Christian"?

* Where do you need to trust the power of God's Spirit more? Have you prayed recently for the fullness of Christ's Spirit in your life, family and church? Why, or why not?

Hymns for this Week

1. 172 - Let Us Love and Sing and Wonder
2. 340 - Come Dearest Lord, Descend and Dwell
3. 169 - My Heart Does Overflow

"[May] ...The Father of Glory...give you the Spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of Him, having the eyes of your hearts enlightened, that you may know...what is the immeasurable greatness of His power toward us who believe..."

- Eph. 1:17-19, ESV