

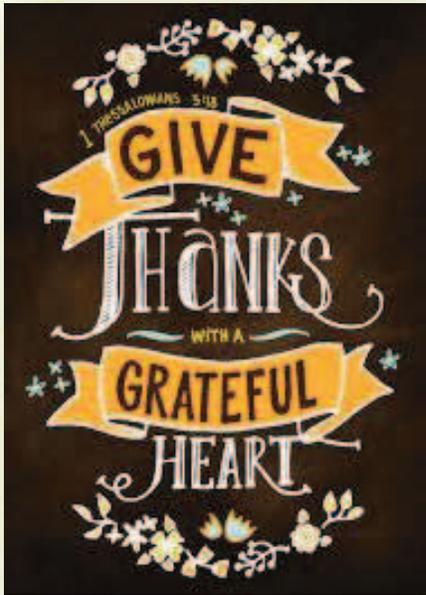


THE SHEPHERD'S VOICE

KCPC This Week

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

Week Ending, November 14th, 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. **Coming Soon:** *"Knowing Christ"*.

Congregational Family Meeting: We will have our next congregational family meeting on Sunday, Nov. 29th during our Sunday school hour.

Sunday School Classes for Christmastime: We will give our teachers a break from teaching Sunday school from Nov. 29th through Jan. 3rd.

2015 OPC Thank Offering: Prayerfully plan now how you would like to give this month to our **OPC Thank**

Offering. This will be received at Thanksgiving time to support our missionaries and Christian education in the OPC. See the inserts in weekly bulletin for the Thank Offering and articles in the [New Horizons](#) for more info.

Home Fellowship this Lord's Day: Please look for details in your email from our beloved deacons.

KCPC Booktable Sale! Take advantage of the wonderful books on the KCPC Book table and reduce the price of the books you would like to purchase by 20% for a limited time. Consider getting some of your holiday gifts in this way—these books are hand-picked and recommended highly by your pastor!

New Members! The elders are grateful to announce that we will plan to receive into communicant membership on this Lord's Day, **November 15th, Jim and Joanie Leake, David Cooke, and Esther Hope Biggs.** Rejoice in the LORD's faithfulness with us!

Orthodox Presbyterian Ambassador of Missions Visit on December 6th! Pastor Steve Doe is the OPC Ambassador of Missions and will be coming to share with us news and needs of our missionaries!

KCPC Online:

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

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

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.

From Your Pastor

The Grace of Thanksgiving

We are called by our God to be thankful in Christ Jesus! (1 Thess. 5:18; Col. 3:16-17). Thankfulness for God's mercies runs as a glorious river of grace throughout redemptive history. But how are we to feed and fuel this thanksgiving? ***We are to remember.*** We are called as God's covenant people to always remember God and His undeserved, magnificent goodness to us in Jesus. The natural, unregenerate person is unable to give thanks. Thanksgiving is a gift of grace from the Holy Spirit, particularly manifest when we remember God and His graciousness toward sinners.

But we so easily forget, and thus are tempted to ingratitude! Church historian D. Clair Davis describes the Christian life as **"a combination of amnesia and déjà vu."** He says, **"I know I've forgotten this before."** Our thanksgiving to God should come from clear and biblically informed memories that remember the love and grace of God. What does Scripture teach concerning this?

We are to remember God (Exodus 3:14-15). God reveals Himself to His people so that we will remember Him throughout generations. These memories of God's Person and loving and good character leads to service and faith that desire to focus our faith on God. God reveals Himself not because He needed anything, but that He might bless us, and allow us to enjoy Him and glorify Him in our lives of service for Him.

God remembers His covenant mercies to His people, therefore we are called to remember that He always remembers us! *"Give thanks to the LORD for He is good; for His steadfast (covenantal) love endures forever"* (Psalm 118). God instituted feasts in the Old and New Covenants so that we might formally remember His grace and goodness to us Jesus Christ. God said of Passover in the Old Covenant: *"This day shall be for you a memorial day, and you shall keep it as a feast to the LORD; throughout your generations..."* (Exo. 12:12-14). God knew our tendency to forget, and He graciously desired to capture the memories of His people as they told the story of His faithfulness in redemption. This remembering would lead to great thanksgiving from the heart, manifesting itself in covenantal obedience to God in response to His love: *"...Let the hearts of those who seek the LORD rejoice! Seek the LORD and his strength; seek his presence continually! Remember the wondrous works that he has done..."* (1 Chron. 16:9-12).

In the New Covenant, the Lord Jesus instituted the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper to *"Do this in remembrance of me"* (1 Cor. 11:23ff). This remembrance that we are to have is God's ultimate saving work in Christ for sinners, how He laid down His own life for us! Through this New Covenant feast (1 Cor. 5:8), we remember the past acts of God in Christ for us, and anticipate His glorious return, and the consummate feast we will eat with the Lord in the New Creation! At the Lord's Table, we thank God for His indescribable gift to sinners in Christ! (2 Cor. 9:11ff).

Our Puritan forefathers spoke of having holy conversations or conferences, something that we don't diligently seek to practice today as we should. These holy conversations are simply seeking to edify other brethren by reminding them of the great things God has done, and ***is doing in our lives***; this is another aspect of watching what we say, and seeking to edify those like us who are often tempted to ingratitude (cf. Eph. 4:25ff; Col. 3:16-17). This is another way of stirring up other to love and good works--to thanksgiving! (Heb. 10:24-25). We see this telling of God's goodness in Exodus 18 when Moses tells Jethro, his father in law, of God's salvation faithfulness. And Jethro rejoices! Let us rejoice together in this way! (1 Thess. 3:9).

Ingratitude is a great sin (Rom. 1:21: *"They did not honor Him as God or give thanks to Him..."*; cf. 1 Tim. 3:2; even secular psychologists today understand that ingratitude and complaining are because of narcissistic self-love). Thanksgiving is another gift of grace from God to His people. Thanksgiving is an act of faith that pleases God. We can be thankful because we have the Spirit of Joy and Rejoicing within us. This glorious Spirit has been secured for us because the Father set His affection and love upon us from eternity past, and in time the Eternal Son became man to redeem us by His precious blood. Let us give Him thanks! Glory to God! To the praise of His glorious grace! (Eph. 1)!

Let us behold the Lord Jesus giving thanks to the Father for His wisdom in salvation, and His thanks for us as His own beloved, and let us imitate His holy attitude by His powerful Spirit (Luke 10:21; Heb. 2:13).

**In Christ's love,
Pastor Biggs**

THIS LORD'S DAY

**Sermon Title: “*God’s Glory in Our Midst:
Fasting and Feasting*”**
– Pastor Charles R. Biggs

Theme of Sermon: While the people of God await the restoration of all things, there should be times of both fasting and feasting.

Scripture Lesson: Mark 2:19-22; Luke 22:14-23

Scripture Text: Zechariah 7-8:23

Thoughts for meditation, family worship, and preparation for public worship of God:

* When you read Zechariah 7:1-8:23 what do you learn about true fasting and true feasting, and what is truly acceptable and pleasing to God? (see also Matthew 6:1-20).

* When was the last time you fasted? When was the last time your family fasted together? When was the last time KCPC fasted together as a family?

* **Children:** How would you define fasting biblically? How about feasting? Consider the pattern of fasting and feasting in the Bible. What does this teach you? (Hint: Note even the pattern of our work week that God gives to His creatures at creation; notes the feasts of Israel, etc.).

Hymns

1. 4 – All Praise to God, Who Reigns Above

2. 360 – When in His Might the Lord

3. 383 – Almighty God, Your Word is Cast