

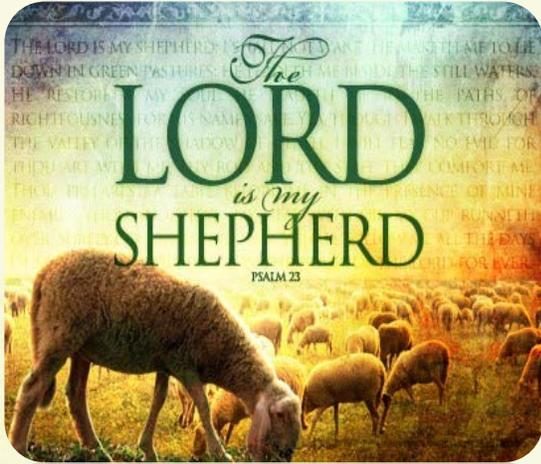


# THE SHEPHERD'S VOICE

## KCPC This Week

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

Week Ending, September 3, 2016



### Upcoming Events- Lord willing!

**Prepare for Worship:** Your pastor and elders encourage you to spend time in prayer each Saturday evening, preparing your hearts for the Lord's Day, and praying for the worship of our God. Pray for the Holy Spirit's blessing on preaching of word and fellowship!

**Women's Bible Studies:** The evening study meets on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday nights at 7pm. Studying the **Book of Daniel**. Contact Margaret Biggs for more information:

[missmargaretbiggs@comcast.net](mailto:missmargaretbiggs@comcast.net). The daytime study meets on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesdays from 1-3, beginning Sept. 27. Studying "A Woman's Wisdom: How the book of Proverbs speaks to everything." Contact Joanie Leake for more information: [J2Leake@gmail.com](mailto:J2Leake@gmail.com). All women are invited to attend either or both!

**Labor Day Family Camp at Machen Retreat this Weekend:** Make plans now to join Pastors Biggs and Flora on September 3-5. Should be a lot of good learning, fun and fellowship—sign up today! Please pray for refreshment and blessing from Christ's Spirit.

**The \*11<sup>th</sup>\* Season of Locust Street Film Night begins in September:** We begin the 11<sup>th</sup> season with Preston Sturges' *'Sullivan's Travels'* and Martin Rosen's animated classic interpretation of *'Watership Down'*.

**Guest Preacher this Lord's Day:** We are grateful to have Rev. Steve Brown from Grace OPC in Vienna, Va. to minister God's Word to us next weekend while Pastor Biggs is out of town at Machen Retreat.

**Sunday School Classes- Autumn 2016:** Begins on Lords Day, Sept. 11. The adults will be studying a year of church history taught by Pastor and elders. New Members class begins on Nov. 1. Please **RSVP** by Oct. 15 to [crbiggs@comcast.net](mailto:crbiggs@comcast.net) if you're interest in this class. Space is limited.

**Deacon's Offering this Lord's Day, Sept. 4:** Prayerfully consider how you might like to give to provide for others in our communion and community by giving to the Deacon's Offering, Sept. 4.

**Reformation Day Service 2016:** Join us on Sunday evening, October 30<sup>th</sup> as we celebrate with other OP congregations the 499<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Reformation. Pastors Hammond, Proctor, VanDelden, and Biggs will be speaking on the *Proper Use of the Law in the Christian Life*.

*"Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest."*

- Jesus (Matthew 11:28)

## *From Your Pastor*

# *A Biblical Spirituality*

**Biblical Spirituality.** A Biblical spirituality is seeking to be holy as God the Father is holy in an intimate communion or relationship with Him through union with Christ by His Spirit (2 Cor. 13:14; John 14:21, 23; 1 Pet. 1:16-17). A Biblical spirituality is a desire to know, love, obey, and experience God as Father from the heart while fearing and reverencing Him as Supreme God and Lord (John 17:3; John 15:9-11; Rom. 6:4-6, 11-17; Eph. 3:14-21). Biblical spirituality expresses itself in the words of our forefather John Calvin: ***“I offer Thee my heart, O LORD, promptly and sincerely.”*** A Biblical spirituality is not first and foremost an emotional experience; it is not always *necessarily* an emotional experience (although there is nothing wrong with praying for and expecting this). But true Biblical spirituality is a seeking to know, love, obey, and experience God as He is revealed in Holy Scripture, and especially as He has revealed Himself in Christ, and seeking to understand, as well as be transformed by this truth (Rom. 12:2).

**Trinitarian Spirituality.** A Biblical spirituality is always Trinitarian. The goal of Biblical spirituality is to glorify and delight in the Triune God and to enjoy Him (Eph. 1:3-14; Rom. 11:33-36; 1 Cor. 10:31). There are false and dangerous spiritualities bandied about today that seek false hopes through false gods and saviors. This is not Biblical spirituality but demonic spirituality of which we must be careful (1 Cor. 10:19-22; Acts 13:10, 16:16-18; 1 Tim. 3:7, 4:1; Rev. 9:20, 16:14). A Biblical, Trinitarian spirituality teaches believers to go boldly and courageously to the Father, through the Son, our provided Mediator, by the Spirit (Eph. 2:18; cf. 1 Tim. 2:5). All Persons of the Godhead are equal in substance, power and being, and yet they all three perform specific aspects of our salvation as the one God. In Biblical spirituality, this ought to be recognized. Believers should seek to have a relationship with the one God through each Person of the Trinity by praising and enjoying God the Father’s love for us in Christ, adoring the grace of the Son as our Savior, Bridegroom, Mediator, Friend, and King, and living in fellowship with the Holy Spirit and in communion with one another as members of Christ’s one Church! As the Apostle Paul summarizes this Trinitarian spirituality:

***“The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.” (2 Corinthians 13:14)***

**Christ-focused Spirituality.** Though some spiritualities in Christian history have emphasized the importance of the imitation of Christ, they have sometimes failed to place Christ first and central in our reflection upon this imitation. Biblical spirituality is a Christ-focused spirituality (Phil. 2:1-11; Heb. 12:1-2). Christ is our Savior *first*. He is the Savior of our souls, but He is also our *example*. The Apostle Peter wrote: ***“For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you might follow in his steps”*** (1 Pet. 2:21; cf. 1 Cor. 11:1). Focus on Christ’s suffering in your place as a propitiation for your sins, then see Him as an example of how you should live, seeking God the Father.

**Communal and Personal/Public and Private Spirituality.** A Biblical spirituality is both communal and personal, it is concerned with the visible church and with our personal pursuits of “quiet time” with God. Biblical spirituality steers a clear path through the Scylla of Sacramentalism, and the Charybdis of Individualism; it seeks the means of grace in the Word of God, the Sacraments, corporate fellowship and prayer, but it also seeks the LORD individually each day through the word and in prayer through private devotions, memorization and meditation on the Bible (Psa. 5:3; Mark 1:35; Matt. 6:1-17).

**A Spirituality for Everyone!** Do you desire to be spiritual? It’s not just for monks! Do you desire to be spiritual as you are called to be as a Christian (Gal. 6:1-2)? If you are united to Christ Jesus by His Spirit, and if you are a child of the Heavenly Father through faith in Christ, then you are indeed “spiritual”—that is, you possess the Holy Spirit (Rom. 8:9-11). Do you want to be spiritual? Then become who you already are in Christ, and mature in Him by His Spirit, walking with Him, trusting Him, knowing Him, obeying Him. Seek to earnestly live this biblical spirituality out in your daily life in reliance upon His grace. Do you want to know more of God’s love for you in Christ? Do you want to possess more of the fullness of grace and joy that is found within Christ? Ask Him for it. Walk in obedience because of His love (John 15:9-11).

In Christ’s Love,  
Pastor Biggs

***“Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.”***

**- Jesus (Matthew 11:29)**

# THIS LORD'S DAY

**Title:** *"The Shepherd's Table"*

- Pastor Steve Brown

**Scripture Lesson:** Ezekiel 34:11-16; John 10:1-21

**Scripture Text:** Psalm 23

**Theme of Sermon/Worship:** The Lord is your shepherd and his goodness will follow you all the days of your life.

## Hymns

1. 81 "O Love of God, How Strong and True"

2. 599 "Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us"

3. 86 "The Lord's My Shepherd, I'll Not Want."

*"For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."*

- Jesus (Matthew 11:30)