



THE SHEPHERD'S VOICE

KCPC This Week

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

Week Ending February 18th, 2017



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 the preaching of the Word and our fellowship!

Women's Bible Studies: Evening study meets on 1st and 3rd Tuesday nights at 7pm, studying *The Weight of Glory* by C.S. Lewis. For more information contact Margaret Biggs at missmargaretbiggs@comcast.net. Daytime study meets on 2nd and 4th Tuesdays from 12-2, studying *A Woman's Wisdom: How the Book of Proverbs Speaks to Everything*. Contact Joanie Leake for more information at J2Leake@gmail.com. All women are invited to attend either or both!

Men's and Boy's Breakfast: Join us for food, fellowship, and discussion of J. C. Ryle's 'Thoughts for Young Men' at 8:30am Saturday, February 25th.

February Fellowship: Our monthly fellowship will be held at the church building this Sunday, Feb. 19th. Our theme is southern comfort foods!

Locust Street Film Night: Join us for a special Valentine's dinner (all are welcome!) and a viewing of *Sabrina* (1954), Billy Wilder's classic romance, at 6 pm this Friday, February 17th (film at 7).

Evangelism Seminar: We are privileged to have evangelist Steve Doe with us during our Sunday school hour on Lord's Day, March 5th. He will be sharing a presentation tailored toward helping us reach our community in and around Purcellville. All ages are encouraged to make an effort to attend!

Congregational Memory Verses 2017: Our memory verses for this year as a congregation will be Numbers 23:19 and John 14:13-14. Meditate on these promises of God for us as His people!

Reading Bible this Year: For help in reading through the Bible this year for yourself and/or with family, go to mcheyne.info and readscripture.org. Both sites are excellent resources to help you to stay inundated, immersed, and saturated in God's promises. One help is our forefather Robert Murray M'Cheyne's bible reading plan to help you to read the entire Bible in a year, and 'Read Scripture' is an app and/or Youtube videos to give your family brief, Christ-centered overviews of sections in the Bible.

Catechism Memorization: Your pastor and elders encourage everyone to memorize and/or review the Shorter Catechism in this new year. Pastor Biggs will be continuing his commentary on the Shorter Catechism in the "From Your Pastor" section of the Shepherd's Voice.

Study the Westminster Confession of Faith online!

Boardwalk Chapel Evangelism Trip: Make plans now for July 29-Aug. 5. Pastors Flora, Brooking, Biggs and Proctor are taking a group this year. Contact Pastor Biggs by March 31st if you have questions or plan to go: crbiggs@comcast.net

"In the time of the law, there was gospel; in the time of the gospel, there is law. In justification, the law and the gospel are opposed, but in sanctification, they are friends."

— Joel Beeke

From Your Pastor
A Wedding Feast (Revelation 19:1-9)

What a glorious gift that God has given us in Scripture! The Book of Revelation directs the eyes of our faith both forward to the full realization of all God's promises in Christ, and upward to help us to meditate on the things above (Col. 3:1-4). In Revelation 19, we see that God in His might has judged evil and rid the world of sin and misery, setting the stage for the big wedding day of His Beloved Son.

*We feel the earth shake, we see smoke rising, and we join with the saints and angels in heaven, singing in response to this sure and inevitable judgment: **"Hallelujah! Salvation and glory and power belong to our God, for His judgments are true and just..."** (Rev. 19:1b-2a). God's people are to praise Him for the salvation by grace in Christ that we have received while dead in trespasses and sins, even while enemies (Eph. 2:1-10; Rom. 5:6ff). Let us live our lives in Christ determined to give God all glory, recognizing that all power comes from God (Rom. 11:33-36). We know that God will remove unrepentant sinners who contaminate His creation, and avenge the blood of His servants (19:2c).*

*We see a worship service in heaven, and we are invited as God's people to rejoice and worship with all the perfected saints and angels: **"Praise our God, all you His servants, you who fear him, small and great"** (19:5). Believers are Christ's servants, desiring to live for Him; believers fear God rather than man, having a great reverence and love for God no matter what position they hold socially or politically in this age. God is "our God": our covenantal, faithful God who has redeemed us and is renewing us into His image, so that we can live the joyful, God-centered lives we were created for!*

*Then we hear wedding bells amidst the roar of many waters and the sound of mighty peals of thunder (19:6)! Here is the greatest, most gracious demonstration of God's glory and power in the exaltation of Jesus Christ, His Beloved Son, the consummation of all history: the Marriage of the Lamb! **"Let us rejoice and exult and give Him the glory, for the marriage of the Lamb has come, for His Bride has made herself ready..."** (19:7). Though often we are weary and perplexed as we travel the difficult pilgrimage in this present age, although there be temptations, frustrations, heartaches, deaths, scoffings, beatings, even tortures, the blessed hope and eschatological relief of our final destiny is in sight as we walk by faith (Rom. 8:18-25). Though we experience painful deaths daily (1 Cor. 15:31; 2 Cor. 5:14-15), our ultimate hope is the glorious life fully realized in Christ.*

We should eagerly await this glorious wedding day! Christ, our Savior and Bridegroom, has loved us and given Himself for us (Gal. 2:20); He has prepared us for this day by giving us His perfect righteousness; He has been condemned in our place for our sins (2 Cor. 5:21); and He has given us His Spirit to show forth the beauty of His holiness through our service to Him as His Beloved Bride (19:8; cf. Eph. 2:10; Phil. 1:6). His work in us will soon be complete: when we see Jesus face to face we shall be like Him (1 John 3:1-3). Let us meditate upon this glorious wedding day to come!

"...Faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen" (Heb. 11:1).

"Why is it thought incredible by any of you that God raises the dead?"

-Acts 26:8

THIS LORD'S DAY

Sermon

“Dangerous Voyage” - Pastor Charles R. Biggs

Scripture Lesson: Mark 4:35-41; Psalm 77:11-20

Scripture Text: Acts 27-28 (various verses)

Theme of Sermon/Worship: *God's servant embarks on a dangerous voyage, entrusting Himself to God's faithful providence and promise!*

Hymns

1. O God, Our Help in Ages Past, 30
2. God Moves in a Mysterious Way, 128
3. Amazing Grace, 460

Questions

- Read Acts 27-28. How can the Apostle Paul confidently and boldly by faith sail to Rome knowing that God will see him to his destination? List various ways that God is particularly present in Paul's dangerous voyage. What does this teach you?
- Meditate on these two chapters, then thoughtfully ask: 1) Though we don't always feel God's presence, or see Him near us, how can we be encouraged that He is indeed with us? 2) Why do you think Dr. Luke put all these details of Paul's (and his!) voyage to Rome? Couldn't he have just written that they had a difficult and dangerous journey, eventually reaching Rome?
- Though we do not desire to practice allegory, how might Acts 27-28 give a typical picture of the Christian life?

“As sin brought innumerable evils upon us, we find a remedy for all in the divine properties: wisdom heals our ignorance and blindness, grace our guilt, power our weakness, mercy our misery, goodness our wickedness, justice our iniquity, the sufficiency and fullness of God our poverty and indigence, fidelity our inconstancy and fickleness, holiness our impurity and life our death.”

-Francis Turrentin