

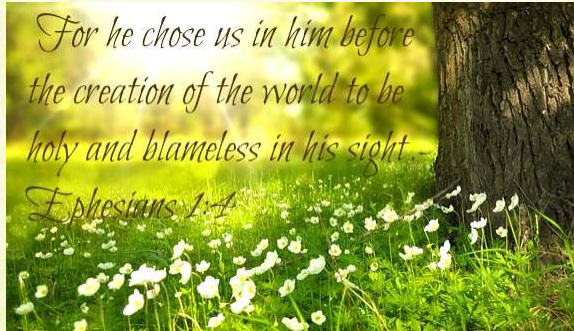


# THE SHEPHERD'S VOICE

## KCPC This Week

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

**Week Ending March 25<sup>th</sup>, 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!

**Evening Worship:** Join us this Sunday, March 26<sup>th</sup> at 6pm as we continue our sermon series on Gospel of John and enjoy a fellowship meal.

**Women's Bible Studies:** Evening study meets 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday at 7pm, studying C.S. Lewis' *The Weight of Glory*. Contact Margaret Biggs at [missmargaretbiggs@comcast.net](mailto:missmargaretbiggs@comcast.net) for details. Daytime study meets 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesdays from 12-2, studying *A Woman's Wisdom: How the Book of Proverbs Speaks to Everything*. Contact Joanie Leake at [j2leake@gmail.com](mailto:j2leake@gmail.com).

**Men's and Boy's Breakfast:** On Saturday, April 22<sup>nd</sup> at 8:30am, join us as we share in food, fellowship, and a study of J. C. Ryle's "Thoughts for Young Men."

**Locust Street Film Night:** Join us Friday, March 24<sup>th</sup> (6pm for dinner, film at 7 pm) as we view and discuss Orson Welles' famous "Citizen Kane" (1941). A great and influential film, with relevance for today!

**Robert John Manser (1938-2017):** Our kind and merciful Lord Jesus took our brother Bob home on February 28<sup>th</sup>, 2017. He no longer suffers, but sees His Savior face to face. A memorial service will be held at 11am, Saturday, March 25<sup>th</sup> at Bethel OPC in Leesburg.

**New Members:** Praise God for Kathryn and Wayne Curles' professions of faith! They will be received as communicant members on Sunday, April 2<sup>nd</sup>.

**Latin Camp:** Dr. David Noe, OP elder and professor of Classics at Calvin College, is organizing a Latin camp at Machen Center July 31 - August 5 for ages 14 -18. See <http://www.latinperdiem.com/tusculum17/> for details.

**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, see [mcheyne.info](http://mcheyne.info) for a bible reading plan and [readscripture.org](http://readscripture.org) for overviews of sections in the Bible.

**Catechism Memorization:** Your pastor and elders encourage everyone to memorize and/or review the Shorter Catechism. Enjoy Pastor Biggs' ongoing commentary in the Shepherd's Voice and online: <http://www.ketocin.org/resources/westminster-shorter-catechism-study>

**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.

*"I will sing to the LORD, for He has triumphed gloriously...  
The LORD is my strength and my song, and He has become my salvation;  
this is my God, and I will praise Him, my father's God, and I will exalt Him."*

**-Exodus 15:2**

*From Your Pastor*

## **“The Spirit of Holiness” (continued)**

*“...Even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world,  
that we should be holy and blameless before him...” (Ephesians 1:4)*

**How does the Spirit’s work on Jesus Christ, God-Man, help us understand our holiness before God that we find in our dear Savior?** We should understand that there was a twofold mission of the Triune God to secure the salvation of God’s people that are intimately (covenantally!) related, but should be distinguished: 1) The sending of the Eternal Son by His Father to become man and to perform and accomplish as Mediator of God’s people all of the acts of obedience unto death as Prophet, Priest and King; 2) The sending of the Eternal Spirit by the Father and Jesus the Enthroned King at God’s right hand to His people to enable them to follow Him in obedience and suffering and holiness until they would meet safely in heaven, and behold the Son face to face. This is the grace we speak of when we say that we do all things for Christ “because of His grace,” “by His grace,” “through His grace,” “in light of His grace,” etc. The grace is particularly the “grace of the Lord Jesus Christ” given to us by God’s Spirit to enable us (although sinful) to make progress in obedience and holiness (we are saved by faith alone but not a grace that is alone; we are saved to be holy and obedient unto God, Eph. 1:3-5, 2:10; Phil. 1:6, 2:12-13).

Although He was sinless and needed no grace as sinners need grace, nevertheless, Christ Jesus lived by faith in his estate of humiliation. Christ is the holiest man and the greatest “believer” (or man of faith) who ever lived (Heb. 12:2). There has never been, nor will there ever be, a more perfect example of living by faith than Jesus. By faith, He believed the word and promises of God. If Christ had not had faith, His people would remain in their unbelief; if Christ had not been vindicated (1 Tim. 3:16), adopted (Psa. 2:7; Rom. 1:4), sanctified (Rom. 6:9-10; John 17:19), and glorified (1 Cor. 15:35-49), His elect would not receive these blessings!

There is no grace we received by the Spirit that was not first present in Christ Himself, particularly the grace of faith. The Holy Spirit bestows all the blessings of Christ upon the members of His church only because they were first bestowed on Christ. This means then that the life of holiness is the life of faith.

The way we begin the Christian life with faith is the way we continue in the Christian life until we get to heaven and faith becomes sight (Col. 2:6). Those who belong to Christ are as dependent upon the Spirit for their holiness as they are dependent upon air to breathe. Just as Christ lived by faith and depended upon the grace of the Holy Spirit to work on His human nature, so we are likewise to live by faith and depend upon the Holy Spirit to enable us to love God with all of our heart, soul, mind, and strength.

*“We have not the Holy Spirit immediately from God, but we have Him as sanctifying Christ first [not from sin, but consecrating him as man to the Father’s will], and then us, and whatsoever the Holy Spirit does in us, He does the same in Christ first, and He does it in us, because of Christ.”*

**-Richard Sibbes**

# THIS LORD'S DAY

## Sermon

*“Praying Unceasingly”*  
- Pastor Charles R. Biggs

**Scripture Lesson: Ephesians 1:15-23; 2 Thessalonians 1:11-12;  
Colossians 4:12**

**Scripture Text: Colossians 1:9-14**

**Theme of Sermon/Worship: *Our Triune God has given us intimate communion with Him in prayer so that we can mature and learn to pray for the maturity of other believers.***

## Hymns

Rejoice, the Lord Is King, 310

Come, My Soul, Thy Suit Prepare, 628

In Sweet Communion, Lord, with Thee, 657

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## Questions

- What is the tone of the Apostle's Paul's opening words to this congregation at Colossae? Does this sound like the tone you use when speaking or writing to other brothers and sisters in the faith?
- How are the Colossians specifically being changed? What has changed them, and continues to change them?
- How has the congregation's life been made public to others?
- How does God use ministers in the life of the congregation from this passage? How is the minister particularly described? What does this teach you about God's ministers and servants?

*“Your way was through the sea, your path through the great waters;  
yet your footprints were unseen.”*

**-Psalm 77:19**