



# THE SHEPHERD'S VOICE

## KCPC This Week

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

**Week Ending March 4th, 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 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday nights at 7pm, studying *The Weight of Glory* by C.S. Lewis. Contact Margaret Biggs at [missmargaretbiggs@comcast.net](mailto:missmargaretbiggs@comcast.net) for details. Daytime study meets on 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).

**Evangelism Seminar:** We are privileged to have evangelist Steve Doe with us during our Sunday school hour on Lord's Day, March 5<sup>th</sup>. He will share a presentation for all ages tailored toward helping us reach our community in and around Purcellville.

**New Members!** We are grateful to receive Micah and Abby Esmond as members on Lord's Day, March 12<sup>th</sup> in the morning worship service.

**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. Memorial service details will be announced soon.

**Young Adult Fellowship:** Join us Sunday afternoon, March 5, for the Young Adult Fellowship, at 1 p.m. at the Weitz home in Round Hill. Please let us know you are coming so we have plenty of food, and feel free to ask for a ride! [weitz.kathy@gmail.com](mailto:weitz.kathy@gmail.com)

**Locust Street Film Night:** Join us Friday, March 17<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!

**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' commentary on the Shorter Catechism in the Shepherd's Voice.

**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.

*"Nevertheless, I am continually with you; you hold my right hand. You guide me with your counsel, and afterward you will receive me to glory. Whom have I in heaven but you? And there is nothing on earth that I desire besides you. My flesh and my heart may fail, but God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever. For behold, those who are far from you shall perish; you put an end to everyone who is unfaithful to you. But for me it is good to be near God; I have made the Lord GOD my refuge, that I may tell of all your works.*

**—Psalm 73:23-28**

*From Your Pastor*  
**A Study of the Shorter Catechism**

**Question 45:** *Which is the first commandment?* **Answer:** *The first commandment is, Thou shalt have no other gods before me (Exod. 20:3).*



**Question 46:** *What is required in the first commandment?* **Answer:** *The first commandment requireth us to know and acknowledge God to be the only true God, and our God; and to worship and glorify him accordingly (1 Chron. 28:9; Deut. 26:17; Matt. 4:10; Ps. 29:2).*

**Question 47:** *What is forbidden in the first commandment?* **Answer:** *The first commandment forbiddeth the denying, or not worshipping and glorifying the true God as God, and our God; and the giving of that worship and glory to any other, which is due to him alone (Ps. 14:1; Rom. 1:21; Ps. 81:10,11; Rom. 1:25,26).*

**Question 48:** *What are we specially taught by these words [before me] in the first commandment?* **Answer:** *These words [before me] in the first commandment teach us, That God, who seeth all things, taketh notice of, and is much displeased with, the sin of having any other God (Ezek. 8:5,6; Ps. 46:20,21).*

**Memory Verse:** *“You shall worship the Lord your God and him only shall you serve.” (Matt. 4:10)*

**An Explanation:** *As we continue through the Ten Commandments in the next few questions and answers from the Shorter Catechism, let us keep an illustration in mind. The Law of God can be likened to a mirror as you might find in an enchanted land. The mirror can be seen in, but it can also be seen through. We look through the mirror of God’s commandments to see the wonderful and perfect character of our God, and His perfect holiness and righteousness. We look into the mirror and see the reflection of how we are living in light of His character and righteousness. As we look through the mirror, so we see a gracious and forgiving God who provides all the grace and power we need to live holy lives. As we look into the mirror and see our own reflection, we learn where we specifically need to repent of our sins, and seek in Christ the grace and power to live holy lives. Through the mirror to behold the happy and joyful life we were created to live; in the mirror to behold the progress we may be making in living before Him but also to be aware of the ongoing need of repentance and forgiveness we need in Christ Jesus!*

*How do you see God and His character in questions 45-48? How do you see Christ? What is your need of change? Use the Shorter Catechism exposition of the Law to focus your sights on God, His glorious Christ, and your need of ongoing repentance and faith!*

**Prayer:** *Father, let me live my life before you, seeking to please you in all I do and say by your grace (2 Cor. 5:9). Teach me your ways, and let me demonstrate my love for you in joyful obedience, as my Savior before me has shown to me! (John 15:9-11).*

*“It is a pleasure to him who loves holiness, to behold a most exact delineation of [holiness] in the written law of God. But what is that delineation but only a picture? It is indeed exact, and painted in natural colours; but then it is a picture only, without flesh and blood, without life and motion. How much greater therefore the pleasure, to behold the same holiness which is portrayed in the law, living, as it were, and animated in Christ?”*

**- Herman Witsius**

# THIS LORD'S DAY

## Sermon

### *“Thy Kingdom Come”*

- Pastor Charles R. Biggs

**Scripture Lesson: Acts 1:6-8; Romans 15:14-21; 2 Timothy 4:5-8**

**Scripture Text: Acts 28:17-31**

**Theme of Sermon/Worship: *At Rome, God's servant-prisoner-ambassador witness continues faithfully to proclaim the kingdom of God with boldness and without hindrance.***

## Hymns

1. I Love Thy Kingdom, Lord, 353
2. O Wherefore Do the Nations Rage, 314
3. Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus, 196

## Questions

- Review Paul's trials and adventures in preaching the Kingdom (see 2 Corinthians 1:8-12; 11:25-28). What has he learned? What have you learned?
- Once the Apostle Paul safely arrived in Rome, after he had suffered greatly for his faith, what was the first thing that God used to encourage him and strengthen his heart? (Hint: Acts 28:15). What does this teach you? (cf. Rom. 1:11-12).
- What is the “hope of Israel”? (Acts 28:20)? Where else do you recall speaking about this? How is this related to the Kingdom of God?
- What is the great redemptive-historical shift that takes place at the end of Acts? What is the significance of this? How might this be a “preview” of many of Paul's letters?
- How is the last verse of Acts a (partial) fulfillment of Acts 1:6-8?

*“What is my only comfort in life and death? That I am not my own, but belong with body and soul, both in life and death, to my faithful Savior Jesus Christ...By His Holy Spirit He also assures me of eternal life and makes me heartily willing and ready from now on to live for Him.”*

**-Question & Answer 1, Heidelberg Catechism**