

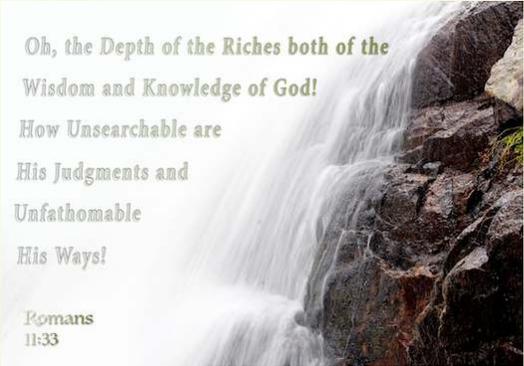


THE SHEPHERD'S VOICE

KCPC This Week

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

Week Ending April 22nd, 2017



Oh, the Depth of the Riches both of the
Wisdom and Knowledge of God!
How Unsearchable are
His Judgments and
Unfathomable
His Ways!

Romans
11:33

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: The daytime study meets 2nd & 4th Tuesdays 12:30-2:30pm, studying the book of Ruth with Paul Miller's interactive study "A Loving Life". Contact Joanie Leake at j2leake@gmail.com for details. The evening study meets 1st & 3rd Tuesdays 7-9pm (taking a break in June & July). A study of biblical friendship with Ed Welch's "Side by Side" will begin in August. For more information, contact Margaret Biggs at missmargaretbiggs@comcast.net.

Locust Street Film Night: Join us this Friday, April 21st for the first ever LSFN screening and discussion of David Lean's masterpiece 'Lawrence of Arabia;' come early for dinner at 6pm and the film at 6:30pm (due to the unusual length of the film).

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

Evening Worship: We continue our Gospel of John series in the evening service this Lord's Day, April 23rd at 6pm, with fellowship dinner afterward.

Ashburn Saints Reunion: On the afternoon of April 26th, join us for a Bible study over in Ashburn with the "Ashburn Saints," Light refreshments will be served. RSVP to crbiggs@comcast.net if you plan to come. Time to be announced.

New Members: Praise God for bringing the du Plessis family to be a part of our congregation! They will be received into membership on Sunday, April 30th.

Pastor Biggs' Sabbatical: May 29th-July 23rd: Pastor Biggs will be completing his seminary degree and being refreshed by God's grace and will be unavailable during this time. Please seek an elder's help if it is needed. We will have some wonderful, godly guest preachers from our presbytery during this time.

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!

Boardwalk Chapel Evangelism Trip: Begin praying and preparing now for July 29-Aug. 5. Pastors Flora, Brooking, Biggs and Proctor are taking a group this year. Be on the lookout for an email from Pastor Flora with details on the preparatory meetings.

"God has stooped so low, He has condescended to enter into terms of covenant with us. Now, the foundation of this covenant is, that God will be our God, and give us grace and glory, and all good in Christ, the mediator of a new covenant. Christ is the foundation of the covenant, the mediator of the covenant, a friend to both: to God as God, to man as man, God and man in Himself and by office. His office to procure love and agreement between God and man."

-Richard Sibbes

“The Power of Prayer”

John MacDuff

Remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how He said, "Whatever you shall ask in my name, that will I do — that the Father may be glorified in the Son." —John 14:13

Blessed Jesus! it is You who has unlocked to Your people the gates of prayer. Without You, they must have been shut forever. It was Your atoning merit on earth that first opened them; it is Your intercessory work in Heaven that keeps them open still.

How unlimited the promise—*"Whatever you shall ask!"* It is the pledge of all that the needy sinner requires—all that an Omnipotent Savior can bestow! As the great Steward of the mysteries of grace, He seems to say to His faithful servants, "Take your request, and under this, My superscription, write what you please." And then, when the blank is filled up, He further endorses each petition with the words, *"I will do it!"*

He further encourages us to ask *"in His name."* In the case of an earthly petitioner there are some pleas more influential in obtaining a benefit than others. Jesus speaks of this as forming the key to the heart of God. As David loved the helpless cripple of Saul's house "for Jonathan's sake," so will the Father, by virtue of our covenant relationship to the true Jonathan (literally, "the gift of God"), delight in giving us even "exceedingly abundantly above all that we can ask or think."

Reader, do you know the blessedness of confiding your every need and every care—your every sorrow and every cross—into the ear of the Savior? He is the "Wonderful Counselor." With an exquisitely tender sympathy, He can enter into the innermost depths of your need. That need may be great—but the everlasting arms are underneath it all. Think of Him now, at this moment—the great Angel of the Covenant, with the censer full of much incense, in which are placed your feeblest aspirations, your most burdened sighs—the odor-breathing cloud ascending with acceptance before the Father's throne. The answer may tarry—these your supplications may seem to be kept long on the wing, hovering around the mercy-seat. A gracious God sometimes sees it fitting thus to test the faith and patience of His people. He delights to hear the music of their importunate pleadings—to see them undeterred by difficulties—unrepelled by apparent forgetfulness and neglect. But He will come at last—the pent-up fountain of love and mercy will at length burst out—the soothing accents will in His own good time be heard, "Be it unto you according to your word!"

Soldier of Christ! with all your other armor, do not forget the weapon, "All-prayer." It is that which keeps bright and shining "the whole armor of God." While yet out in the night of a dark world—while still camping in an enemy's country—kindle your watch-fires at the altar of incense. You must be Moses—pleading on the Mount; if you would be Joshua—victorious in the world's daily battle. Confide your cause to this waiting Redeemer. You cannot weary Him with your importunity. He delights in hearing. He is glorified in giving. The memorable Bethany-utterance remains unaltered and unrepealed, "I know that You hear Me always." He is still the "Prince that has power with God and prevails"—He still promises and pleads—He still lives and loves!

"Christ is the foundation of the covenant of grace, by His humiliation and by His exaltation, whereof the resurrection was the first degree. Now, in this as in other covenants, there is the party promising, making the covenant, and the parties that answer the covenant. God promises everlasting forgiveness of sins, through the death of Christ, the mediator. We answer by faith, that we rely upon God's mercy in Christ... We lay hold on Christ that does save us."

-Richard Sibbes

THIS LORD'S DAY

Sermon

“God’s Mystery: Things into which Angels Long to Look”
- Pastor Charles R. Biggs

Scripture Lesson: Romans 16:25-27; Ephesians 3:1-13; 1 Peter 1:10-12

Scripture Text: Colossians 1:24-2:5

Theme of Sermon/Worship: *Jesus Christ is God’s mystery that was hidden yet also revealed throughout redemptive history.*

Hymns

My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less, 521

God Is Our Refuge and Our Strength, 40

Christ, Whose Glory Fills The Skies, 398

Questions

- Children: What do you think of when you hear the word “mystery”? What is the Biblical use of this word? Do you know? How might God’s mystery have to do with Jesus Christ?
- Read Romans 16:25-27. What does the Apostle Paul mean by something being hidden and also revealed (cf. Col. 1:26)?
- Read Luke 24:24-48. How does the Lord Jesus emphasize the unity of the Covenant of Grace? What is the ultimate goal and the ultimate message of the Covenant of Grace?
- How are Ephesians 3:1-10 and God’s promise to Abraham related in Christ (cf. Romans 4:17-18).

“I do not cease to give thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers, that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of him, having the eyes of your hearts enlightened...”

-Ephesians 1:16-18a