



THE SHEPHERD'S VOICE

KCPC This Week

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

Week Ending May 6th, 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: 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.

No YAF this Sunday: The Weitzes will be hosting a PHC graduation party for KCPC grads on Saturday, May 13th at 2pm. All YAF is invited, as well as any others who'd like to come. (RSVP to Kathy Weitz).

Pastor Biggs Out of Town: Pastor Biggs will be away for the next two weeks for seminary classes and graduation; if you have any pastoral needs please contact one of the elders. We are thankful and pleased to welcome Rev. Steve Brown, Rev. Dr. Chad Van Dixhoorn, and Ministerial Licentiate Mr. Zachary Simmons to the KCPC pulpit while Pastor Biggs is out of town.

Deacon's Offering: We will take a special offering for the Deacon's Fund this Sunday, May 7th.

Evening Worship: We have the privilege of gathering for worship and a fellowship meal at 6 pm this Sunday, May 7th. The monthly prayer meeting will be moved to next Sunday, May 14th.

Pastor Biggs' Sabbatical: From May 29th to 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.

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 Sheep Do Not Choose Their Own Pasture”

Francis Bourdillon

"He makes me to lie down in green pastures. He leads me beside the still waters." -Psalm 23:2

"He makes me lie down in green pastures." That is, He supplies the needs of our souls. He... gives us the food of the Word of God, strengthens us with His grace, and makes us to find our rest in Him.

"He leads me beside the still waters." That is, He... refreshes us when we are weary, revives our hearts by His promises, cheers us by His presence, gives us His Holy Spirit, and enables us to rejoice in His salvation.

Amidst all our trials and troubles--He comforts us and gives us fresh hope.

Some may say, "Why should I have trouble at all? Why does the good Shepherd send me anything besides comfort and pleasure? Why am I *poor* or *sad* or *sick*?"

The sheep do not choose their own pasture--the shepherd chooses for them. In the same way, the disciple does not choose his own lot in life--it is *appointed* for him. His Shepherd knows best what is good for him. The best is not always what is the most pleasant at the moment--but what is most profitable in the end.

Our Shepherd sometimes leads us through what seem to us dry and stony places—but they lead to the Heavenly pastures! And even along the way, He feeds us and comforts us with all a shepherd's care. Never is our Shepherd nearer to us, than when we are in need or danger.

"My sheep hear My voice, I know them, and they follow Me. I give them eternal life, and they will never perish--ever! No one will snatch them out of My hand!" -John 10:27-28

"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 Grace for Prodigals”

- Pastor Steve Brown

Scripture Lesson: Psalm 42

Scripture Text: Luke 15:11-32

Theme of Sermon/Worship: *Return to God's love and rejoice in His mercy to others.*

Hymns

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise, 38

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing, 457

Not Worthy, Lord, 428

“...He arose and came to his father. But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and felt compassion, and ran and embraced him and kissed him.”

-Luke 15:20

“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