



THE SHEPHERD'S VOICE

KCPC This Week

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

Week Ending November 18th, 2017

REMEMBER THIS: WHOEVER SOWS SPARINGLY WILL ALSO REAP SPARINGLY, AND WHOEVER SOWS GENEROUSLY WILL ALSO REAP GENEROUSLY. EACH OF YOU SHOULD GIVE WHAT YOU HAVE DECIDED IN YOUR HEART TO GIVE, NOT RELUCTANTLY OR UNDER COMPULSION, FOR GOD LOVES A CHEERFUL GIVER.
2 CORINTHIANS 9:6-7

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, enjoying a study of biblical friendship with Ed Welch's *Side by Side*. For more information, contact Margaret Biggs at missmargaretbiggs@comcast.net.

Thank Offering 2017: This month, be prayerfully considering how you would like to generously offer above and beyond your tithe and regular offerings to bless the larger Orthodox Presbyterian Church.

Monthly Fellowship Meal: Join us for our Thanksgiving-themed November fellowship lunch after worship this Lord's Day, Nov. 19th.

Men's and Boy's Breakfast: On Saturday, Nov. 18th at 8:30am, we will continue studying Christian life in cultural context, discussing "The Benedict Principle."

KCPC Family Meeting: We will gather as a congregation for an informal family meeting on Lord's Day, Dec. 17th during our regular Sunday school hour.

Advent/Christmas Season at KCPC: We will focus on the Person and Work of the Holy Spirit in the birth of Jesus Christ through a sermon series on "The Spirit of Christmas." **Caroling in Purcellville** will be on Lord's Day, Dec. 17th at 5 pm, followed by our annual Christmas supper at 6pm.

Pastor/Elder Family Visitation: Your pastor and elders will be seeking to schedule in-home family visits for pastoral care and prayer over the next several months. Let us know at any time how we can best serve you as your shepherd-elders.

New Members Class: Your pastor and elders will be offering 5-6 classes during the Sunday School hour for those interested in joining KCPC, beginning Sunday, Jan. 14th, covering the five membership vows and the helpful book *Presbytopia: What It Means to be Presbyterian*. If you are interested, please email Pastor Biggs at crbiggs@comcast.net by Dec. 15th.

Winter/Spring 2018 Sunday School: Our beloved deacons will teach on the nature of the Diaconate and how we can show Christ-like compassion through our service and stewardship of God's good gifts in our congregation and community. Pastor Biggs will teach a class on the Person and Work of the Holy Spirit.

Congregational Memory Verses 2017:

"God is not man, that He should lie, or a son of man, that He should change his mind. Has He said, and will He not do it? Or has He spoken, and will He not fulfill it?"
-Numbers 23:19

"Whatever you ask in my name, this I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If you ask me anything in my name, I will do it."
-John 14:13-14.

"Now although we owe innumerable things to God, they can all be summarized in four points: worship, trust, invocation and thanksgiving. I call 'worship' the reverence shown to Him by every creature which submits to His greatness..."

-John Calvin

From Your Pastor
“The Grace of Giving and Generosity, Part 1”
Charles R. Biggs

Dear family in Jesus, let us seek to flourish in the grace of magnanimously generous giving. Because of God’s grace to us, let us eagerly desire to honor and glorify God in Christ by “crowning” our King in the extension and advancement of His Kingdom to the ends of the earth!

A Tale of Two Stewards: Once upon a time there was a young man named Mr. Consumer, known to all as a taker who wanted instant gratification. He desired everything now. He was constantly tempted to buy, and buy, and buy. His kinder neighbors knew that this, too, was their temptation, but Mr. Consumer would not resist this terrible desire for more buying. When Mr. Consumer was asked by others why he would often buy, buy, buy, he said that he had come to believe that peace, joy, and satisfaction could be purchased (but this was a lie).

In the same town, there also lived a young man named Mr. Producer. He was always seeking to give and to be a steward-manager of all his resources. Though Mr. Producer was often greatly tempted to buy, buy, buy, he was not taken by the temptation to instant gratification, but rather enjoyed the peace and trust of delayed gratification. Mr. Producer ultimately sought to live for Jesus Christ who had loved him and given Himself for him, to produce more gospel resources for the extension of Christ’s Kingdom. He desired Christ to be crowned as King through his giving and generosity. Mr. Producer desired to give and bless others because he believed greater eternal rewards awaited those who showed magnanimous generosity (this was the truth).

One day, Mr. Consumer met Mr. Producer, and was convinced by God’s grace, that the life Mr. Producer lived was the true life of peace, joy, and satisfaction. Mr. Consumer realized that while he lived for self, Mr. Producer lived for Christ and others, and gave glory to God! Mr. Consumer repented of his terrible sin against God, found mercy and grace in Christ, and both he and Mr. Producer from that day forth walked hand in hand in the fear of the LORD, helping, exhorting, and encouraging one another to live for the glory of God.

The truth is, beloved of Jesus, most of us can see a bit of both Mr. Consumer and Mr. Producer in ourselves, but we are called by God’s grace to be Mr. Producers. Wisdom has shown us that often the Christian who is more of a consumer than a producer-giver in the marketplace is also more of a consumer in the church. This sin can make us grace-takers rather than grace-givers. Only Christ through His grace can redeem Mr. Consumer and transform him into Mr. Producer, a recipient of Christ’s rich benefits, full of thanksgiving! Let us cry out with the Psalmist, “Bless the LORD, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless His holy name! Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all His benefits, who forgives all your iniquity, who heals all your diseases, who redeems your life from the pit, who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy, who satisfies you with good so that your youth is renewed like the eagle’s!” (Psalm 103:1-5).

How easily we forget God’s mercies to us in Jesus—so make a point of remembering! In this year alone, God has blessed KCPC in many ways! Think of five specific benefits to you, our congregation, and your family. Stop. Do it right now. Make a list of what God has done in your life and is doing presently! Be thankful; be grateful! This exercise is to stir you up to love and good works (Heb. 10:24-25). Behold the riches of God in Christ: all that He has is yours! “Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places” (Eph. 1:3).

Beloved in Jesus, remember because of God’s love to you in Christ to give faithfully in your tithes and offerings. Give yourself to Jesus who has given Himself for you (Rom. 12:1). Your tithes and offerings are tangible displays of your giving yourself back to God in response to His Gospel promises to you in Christ. You are God’s precious treasure and possession; give yourself fully back to Him (Romans 5:6-11). If you have been redeemed you are not your own. Say it: “I am not my own; I belong to the Lord Jesus Christ” (Rev. 1:5-7).

In your giving, always remember the Gospel and meditate on God’s goodness to you and your family in the Gospel daily...

**“‘Invocation’ is when our soul, beset by some necessity,
turns for help to Him as to its only hope...”**

-John Calvin

THIS LORD'S DAY

Sermon

“Saul”

-Rev. Charles R. Biggs

Scripture Lesson: Proverbs 16:1-4; Matthew 10:29-31; Acts 13:16-23

Scripture Text: 1 Samuel 9

Theme of Sermon:

*God is in the details of our lives and through them
He brings about His good purposes for His own glory.*

Hymns

Exalt the Lord, His Praise Proclaim, 12

His Eye Is on the Sparrow, 618

How Vast the Benefits Divine, 470

Questions for Meditation/Reflection

- *Children: Read 1 Samuel 8 and 12:13-25. What was evil and wicked about Israel asking for a king? How might you fall into this same sin at times? Take time to repent of your sins and know Christ is gracious and merciful.*
- *Normally, Hebrew narrative is terse in summary of events. Why might 1 Samuel 9 have a more detailed full account? Would you expect something more concise? Why, or why not?*
- *Read 1 Samuel 9:1-10:8. Note all the details of this passage. What might this teach you about God, about your own life? How can this cause you to rejoice in the LORD?!*
- *In Samuel 9:15-17, the inspired writer tells us about what Samuel was told and was expecting from God. Was he the only one with this knowledge? What might this teach you?*
- *How does this passage point us to our need for Jesus Christ?*

“Thanksgiving’ is the gratitude which allows us to give praise for every blessing; since God will not suffer it to be directed elsewhere, He desires that it be wholly rendered to Him.”

-John Calvin