



# THE SHEPHERD'S VOICE

## KCPC This Week

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

*Week Ending January 20th, 2018*



**Congregational Memory Verse for 2018—KCPC's 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary!** "For this very reason, make every effort to supplement your faith with virtue, and virtue with knowledge, and knowledge with self-control, and self-control with steadfastness, and steadfastness with godliness, and godliness with brotherly affection, and brotherly affection with love. For if these qualities are yours and are increasing, they keep you from being ineffective or unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ." -2 Peter 1:5-8

**Prepare for worship** by spending 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!

**Our monthly fellowship meal** will be held at the church building this Lord's Day after worship.

**Sunday school** has resumed, now meeting at 9:15am; our adult Sunday school has begun a series on Christ's gift of the Diaconate to His church, its nature and ministry, taught by our beloved deacons, Pat Whitmore and Mark Miller. Later in the winter, Pastor Biggs will be teaching a short mini-series on the Person and Work of the Holy Spirit.

**Locust Street Film Night** on Friday, Jan. 19<sup>th</sup>; come at 6pm for dinner, 7pm for LSFN's first ever sing-along featuring "Fiddler on the Roof."

**Baptism of covenant child** on Jan. 21<sup>st</sup> in the morning service; we will participate in the baptism of Ruth Davis in the Triune Name. Praise to the LORD, the Almighty! He is good!

**Coming soon** as a part of KCPC's 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration, we have a congregational meeting in February, missions focus in March, and a special 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary worship and celebration in July.

**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.

**Women's Bible studies** meet in the daytime on 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](mailto:j2leake@gmail.com) for details) and in the evening on 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesdays at 7pm, studying Ecclesiastes using Zack Eswine's book *Recovering Eden* (for more information, contact Margaret Biggs at [missmargaretbiggs@comcast.net](mailto:missmargaretbiggs@comcast.net)).

*"I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down His life for the sheep...I am the good shepherd. I know my own, and my own know me."*

**-John 10:11, 14**

From Your Pastor  
**“Great Grace, Part 1”**  
-Rev. Charles R. Biggs

*“And with great power the apostles were giving their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all.” -Acts 4:33*

It can be notoriously and historically difficult to quantify true and genuine revivals of the Holy Spirit in church history, but I believe we can observe biblical evidences of great grace being upon us right now at KCPC. What are genuine revivals? Revivals are genuine movements or outpourings of the Spirit upon the Church when God does a mighty work of great grace above His normal working through the ordinary means of grace (preaching, sacraments). It is important to note that a revival is foremost the “sovereign, extraordinary, saving activity of the Holy Spirit and is characterized by an intense sense of God’s presence” (Michael A. J. Haykin, *Pentecostal Outpourings*).

A genuine revival is a powerful work of the Holy Spirit in which a new awareness of the holiness of God is recovered among His people. This heightened knowledge brings in a new season of conviction of sin, which in turn leads to heartrending repentance. This lowly humility ushers in an awakened love for Christ. Believers begin to pursue personal holiness. Love for other believers intensifies. The gospel spreads like wildfire. Sinners are brought to faith in Christ, and the church is enlarged and empowered. True revivals are characterized by God’s people desiring at a deeper level to glorify Christ and to make Him known to one another and the world, and by faithful, bold, biblical teaching/preaching combined with faithful, exuberant, joyful, obedient, service-oriented living. Gifts are used and grace is given. True revival must be more than merely gifts; there must be grace that demonstrates love for Christ and one another (John 13:34-35; 1 Cor. 13:1-3).

If KCPC experienced a genuine revival, what would it look like? Both personally (individually) and corporately (as a congregation), because of the Holy Spirit’s powerful working, there would be a deeper awareness of God’s holiness and character. This would produce a greater fear, awe, and reverence for God. This deeper awareness of God would cause us to see more clearly the depths of our depravity and need for Christ and bring us to deeper, “heartrending” repentance; we would be sorry not merely because of the consequences of our sins but because our sins offend God and hurt others. There would be a deep, spiritual humility that would love Christ more and desire to be holy, gentle, more like Him. This would cause us to overflow in love for one another, and in concern for the souls of men that would cause the gospel to spread. The church would grow both spiritually and numerically.

Though there are abuses and misunderstandings, true and genuine revival ought to be sought out by those in the Reformed tradition. In fact, the great twentieth-century preacher, Martyn Lloyd-Jones (1899-1981), commented that “there is no subject which is of greater importance to the Christian church at the present time than that of revival. It should be the theme of our constant meditation, preaching and prayers.”

Next week we will continue to consider the marks of genuine revival and look for (and prayerfully expect!) revival in God’s church at KCPC...

**“...Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, and to listen than the fat of rams.”**  
- 1 Samuel 15:22b

# THIS LORD'S DAY

## *Sermon:*

“Mediator”

-Rev. Charles R. Biggs

## *Theme of Sermon:*

Samuel the Prophet teaches Israel of God's faithfulness to His people and their need for grace to fear, serve, and obey the Lord in covenantal response, and demonstrates their need for a faithful mediator.

## *Scripture Lesson:*

Deuteronomy 7:6-14; Hebrews 7:22-28

## *Sermon Text:*

1 Samuel 12

## *Hymns*

Thy Works, Not Mine, O Christ, 524

Arise My Soul, Arise, 305

According to Thy Gracious Word, 423

## *Questions for Meditation and Preparation*

- Children: Read 1 Sam. 10:25. What are the “rights and duties of the kingship”? (Hint: Deut. 17:14-20). How does this point you to Christ? How does Christ succeed as king according to God's Word where Saul will fail?
- Read 1 Sam. 12. What are Samuel's virtues of grace that are commendable and exemplary to God's people? Why does Samuel rehearse God's covenantal history with Israel? What is Israel's response?
- From last week's sermon, why is it important as God's people to remember our history, particularly our covenantal history (cf. 1 Cor. 10:1-14)?
- How does this chapter point to the importance of understanding that covenant privileges imply covenantal obligations?
- How does this chapter point to our need for a Mediator before God?

***“...For the LORD sees not as man sees: man looks on the outward appearance, but the LORD looks on the heart.”***

***-1 Samuel 16:7b***