



THE SHEPHERD'S VOICE

KCPC's 15th Anniversary Celebration

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

Week Ending January 27th, 2018



Thanks to all who are participating in the renovation project from the childrens' Sunday school classes!

Congregational Memory Verse for 2018—KCPC's 15th 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!

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.

Q&A and prayer meeting this Lord's Day evening; come at 5pm with questions on recent sermons or classes, Scripture, and theology for Pastor Biggs and at 6pm for a hymn sing, prayer, and a fellowship meal.

Deacon's Fund offering will be collected during morning worship on Feb. 4th.

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

A Good Friday service will be held at KCPC on Friday, Mar. 30th together with our sister congregation, Potomac Hills PCA.

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, beginning a new study on Feb. 27th using William W. Harrell's *Let's Study 1st Peter* (contact Joanie Leake at j2leake@gmail.com for details), and in the evening on 1st & 3rd Tuesdays at 7pm, studying Ecclesiastes using Zack Eswine's book *Recovering Eden* (for more information, contact Margaret Biggs at 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 2”
-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? During Great Awakening, a time of revival in eighteenth-century colonial America, Jonathan Edwards wrote that a genuine and true revival could be recognized by a few important characteristics: **Christ-centeredness**—true revival makes much of Jesus Christ and is not self-focused; **humility and other-worldliness**—true revival operates against Satan, the world, and the flesh; **use of means of grace**—in true revival there is a higher regard for Scripture and preaching; **witness and seal of the Spirit**—the Spirit of truth witnesses to genuine revival’s validity; and **personal, congregational, and cultural transformation**—a change of heart evidences itself in love to God and others (with societal and cultural implications). Edwards warned critics of genuine revival, saying, “To oppose a genuine revival is to oppose God Himself.”

Prayer is of utmost importance for revival. The grand object of prayer should be the outpouring of the Holy Spirit on our ministers and churches so that sinners may be converted, saints may be edified, interest in religion may be revived, and the name of God may be glorified. Edwards wrote: “When God is about to bestow some great blessing on His church, it is often His manner in the first place, so to order things in His providence as to show His church their great need of it, and to bring them into distress for want of it, and so put them upon earnestly crying to Him for it.” Edwards’ pastoral-theological instinct was “simply to prayerfully seek and expect from God ‘outpourings of the Holy Spirit’ as the central means of spreading Christianity until the Consummation.”

Some evidences we can observe of great grace being upon KCPC: increased joy in worship; deeper desire for holiness and communion with God; strength, endurance, and sanctification in troubles; confessional carefulness, clarity and boldness in making the word known; loving, healthy, and gracious “one-anothering” among members; increased attendance and participation at worship services and prayer meetings in particular (and new prayer meetings/gatherings starting organic-Spiritually); unity, humility, and gentle care in the body; working together as one body to beautify our building; and unique and magnanimous generosity by God’s grace! Our Heavenly Father does indeed do more than we can ask or even imagine according to the power at work within us! (Eph. 3:20-21).

Let us continue to pray together for more of Christ’s anointing by His Spirit. True revival will never depend upon techniques and the self-centered works of men. We must seek God for outpourings of His Spirit, while remaining ever faithful to the preaching of God’s Word and the means of grace He has graciously provided for His church to accomplish the mission He has given us. Let us also pray for more watchfulness, knowing that our enemy prowls around like a roaring lion seeking whom he may devour. We must pray to powerfully resist him by standing firm in the faith (1 Peter 5:6-11). Our real enemy hates what God seems to be doing; let us watch and pray lest we fall into temptation!

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

THIS LORD'S DAY

Sermon:

“Foolish”

-Rev. Charles R. Biggs

Theme of Sermon:

King Saul's actions of impatience and impertinence reveal a heart of disobedience, not a man after God's own heart.

Scripture Lesson:

Numbers 18:1-7; Exodus 32:1-6; 2 Chronicles 26:16-21

Sermon Text:

1 Samuel 13

Hymns

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise, 38

Who is on the Lord's Side, 587

Jesus Calls Us, 591

Questions for Meditation and Preparation

- Read 1 Sam. 13. Children: What is the redemptive-historical significance of Gilgal? How might this help you to rightly interpret this story of King Saul?
- From last week's sermon, what three things do God's people need in a mediator that we observe in 1 Sam. 12? Say together as a family: "Covenant privileges demand covenant _____ in Christ by His grace!"
- Why are God's people fighting other folks like the Philistines? Reach back in your biblical memory, and remind yourself of Israel's calling in the land.
- Why is King Saul foolish in 1 Sam. 13? What does he do wrong? Why is it wrong? What does this reveal about his character?
- Compare 1 Sam. 11:7-8 with 1 Sam. 13:7-8. How would you describe Israel as God's "Holy Warriors"? How are you doing in Holy War in Christ?

“...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