

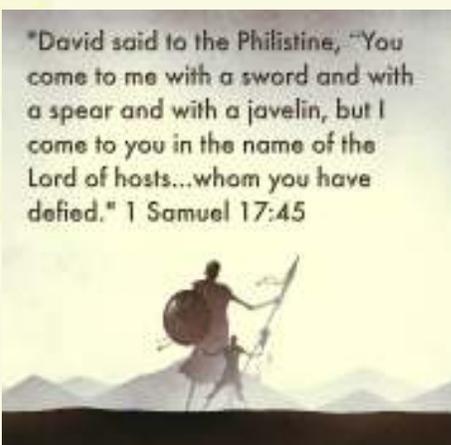


THE SHEPHERD'S VOICE

KCPC's 15th Anniversary Celebration

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

Week Ending February 3rd, 2018



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!

O&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 hymns, prayer, and a fellowship meal.

Deacon's Fund offering will be collected during morning worship this Sunday, Feb. 4th.

Locust Street Film Night on Feb. 16th will be a special Valentine's Day-themed dinner, featuring F. W. Murnau's "Sunrise" (1927). RSVP for dinner at 6pm to gcweitz@gmail.com; otherwise, enjoy the film at 7pm!

Men's and Boy's Breakfast on Saturday, Feb. 24th from 8:30-10am. We will continue to discuss Rod Dreher's *Benedict Option: A Strategy for Christians in a Post-Christian Nation*. This month we will focus on the topic of how to live a counter-cultural-kingdom Christian life in our sexuality, drawing from ch. 9: "Eros and the New Christian Counterculture."

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).

"God is a delicious good."

-Thomas Watson

A Study of the Shorter Catechism
“The Duty God Requires of Man”

-Rev. Charles R. Biggs

Question 39: What is the duty which God requireth of man? **Answer:** The duty which God requireth of man, is obedience to his revealed will (Mic. 6:8; 1 Sam. 15:22).

Question 40: What did God at first reveal to man for the rule of his obedience? **Answer:** The rule which God at first revealed to man for his obedience, was the moral law (Rom. 2:14, 15; Rom. 10:5).

Scripture Memory: “Oh how I love your law! It is my meditation all the day!” (Ps. 119:94)

An Explanation: In our study on the Shorter Catechism so far (Q&A 1-38) we have learned how God the Father has authored the salvation of His people, and how Christ has accomplished the salvation of His people in His life, death, resurrection and ascension. We now turn our attention to the Holy Spirit’s application of our redemption. To focus our attention on God’s righteousness, our need for Christ the Savior, and what the Spirit writes on the heart of every believer, we learn about God’s law.

When the rich young ruler approached Jesus, he asked him how to enter heaven: “Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?” (Luke 10:25). Our Lord Jesus answered him with the perfect standard that God has put in place for every human being, revealed in His most holy law: “What is written in the law...?” The man rightly answered: “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind, and your neighbor as yourself” (Luke 10:26-27). Jesus replied: “You have answered correctly; do this, and you shall live” (Luke 10:28).

The Law is summarized as whole-hearted love for God and neighbor, as doing justice (righteousness), loving mercy, and walking humbly with our God (Mic. 6:8), as obedience and listening to God’s wise instruction and commands rather than any mere external sacrifice we could make to him (1 Sam. 5:22). The Law of God summarized in the ten commandments is the perfect righteousness whereby all human beings will be measured on Judgment Day. This perfect Law reveals God’s perfect righteousness, His perfections and holiness, and the requirements for every human being to enter into heaven.

Though man is fallen, he is nevertheless required to keep God’s commandments. However, “ought” never implies “can” in God’s economy of redemption. Man cannot ever keep these righteous commandments, though by nature he knows he should (Rom. 1:32; 2:14-15; 8:3-4). The good news of the Gospel is that what man could never do—“doing this and living” perfectly according to God’s commandments (Luke 10:28)—God did for us in Jesus Christ (Romans 8:3-4). Jesus Christ has kept the commandments, and has fulfilled all the righteous requirements of the law so that sinners can be justified, freed and forgiven of all their sins (Acts 13:38-39).

Prayer: Father and God, thank you that in Christ I possess all the perfect righteousness revealed in the moral law. In Him, I am justified and declared righteous because His perfect obedience in His life and death is imputed to me. In Christ, I now possess your Holy Spirit who strives within me so that I will fight the good fight of faith and will and do and love your most holy Law in Christ! In Christ, you have turned my duty to obey the law into a delight.

***“There is a day, when the road neither comes nor goes,
and the way is not a way but a place.”***

-Wendell Berry

THIS LORD'S DAY

Sermon:

“Jonathan”

-Rev. Charles R. Biggs

Theme of Sermon:

The tragedy of Saul's rise and fall as Israel's king is magnified in the righteous courage and brave competence of Jonathan, Saul's son, and the heir apparent to the throne, as he demonstrates faithfulness in redeeming Israel against God's enemies.

Scripture Lesson:

Exodus 15:1-7; 1 Samuel 18:1-5

Sermon Text:

1 Samuel 14

Hymns

Rejoice, the Lord is King, 310
God Is Our Refuge and Our Strength, 40
Soldiers of Christ, Arise, 575

Questions for Meditation and Preparation

- Read 1 Sam. 13-14. Children: a) Compare and contrast King Saul with Gideon (Judg. 6-7; this story is helpful for understanding 1 Sam. 13-14). b) Compare and contrast King Saul and his son Jonathan. How are they alike? How are they different? What is Jonathan's character like? What might you learn from both of these compare/contrast meditations?
- Read 1 Sam. 11:6-7; 12:14, 24; 13:6-7, 11a. How would you characterize Israel in these passages? What does Israel need in a king? Do they have that in Saul? Who, then?
- From last week's sermon, why does Israel engage in holy war against the Philistines? Do we engage in holy war now? In what way?
- In your family worship, complete this sentence from what you learned about Saul's failure in last week's sermon: "In reliance upon the grace of God in Christ, God expects exactness in _____ and _____." How might you specifically do better in this? How can we be foolish "functional" or "practical" atheists?

“ If it is by the Spirit of God that I cast out demons, then the kingdom of God has come upon you...How can someone enter a strong man's house and plunder his goods, unless he first binds the strong man? ”

-Matthew 12:28-29