



# BIBLE-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF W.A.

For the Testimony and Glory of Jesus Christ

March 26<sup>th</sup>, 2017

## SUNDAY COMBINED WORSHIP SERVICE

### 1 The Lord Is in His Holy Temple

The Lord is in His holy temple, The Lord is in His holy temple: Let all the earth keep silence, Let all the earth keep silence before Him Keep silence, keep silence before Him. Amen.

### 2 Gloria Patri

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost, As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, Amen.

### 3 Doxology

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below; Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host; Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

### 4 The Lord Bless You and Keep You

The Lord bless you and keep you; The Lord lift His countenance upon you, and give you peace, and give you peace, The Lord make His face to shine upon you, And be gracious unto you, be gracious, The Lord be gracious, gracious unto you. Amen.



Prelude/Preparatory Hymn Karen Ee/Claude Yiu

The Lord Is in His Holy Temple **1**

Call to Worship Deacon Michael Lee/Kong Vui Yip

\*Hymn **HOP 2** To God Be the Glory

\*Invocation/Gloria Patri **2**

Responsive Reading Psalm 119:153-160

Hymn **HOP 396** Give of Your Best to the Master

Presentation of Tithes & Offerings

\*Doxology **3**/Offertory Prayer

Scripture Reading 1 Corinthians 15:51-58

Hymn **HOP 432** Thanks to God!

Pastoral Prayer/Message Pastor Joseph Poon/Sonny Lim

## No More Fear of Death!

\*Hymn **HOP 314** Work, for the Night Is Coming

\*Benediction/Threefold Amen

Announcements

\*The Lord Bless You and Keep You **4**

\*Congregation Standing

### THEME FOR 2017:

“... STAND FAST IN ONE SPIRIT, WITH ONE MIND STRIVING TOGETHER FOR THE FAITH OF THE GOSPEL” (Philippians 1:27)

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# PASTORAL LETTER

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Dear BPCWAians, Every Sunday, our bulletin announcements remind worshippers of upcoming Bible Studies and Fellowships which are conducted monthly or on less regular frequencies. At the back of the bulletin is a table of the “Appointments For Today and the Week”. Why do we have Fellowship Groups and Bible Studies? Or perhaps you may wonder – does this apply to me, should I attend? Or you may think – I am regular at Sunday Worship service every week, do I still need to be interested in any of these?

**What are Fellowship groups?** A definition in the Merriam-Webster Dictionary defines the English word “fellowship” as *the quality or state of being friendly*. Another definition in the same dictionary is that fellowship means *companionship, company*. The world’s idea is simply one of fun and friendships. Christians often adopt the secular interpretation of fellowship and apply it to Christian or church fellowships because of a lack of understanding of what the Bible teaches about Christian fellowship. As such, it is important to go back to what the Bible teaches about fellowship. The first mention of “fellowship” in the New Testament church is in Acts 2:42. “And they continued stedfastly in the apostles’ doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers”. The Greek word for “fellowship” (*koinonia*) among believers describes a community relationship in which there is 1) sharing and 2) participating in something common. “Sharing” means mutual help and the thing in “common” is the Word of God. So, in biblical terms, fellowships are a community relationship where a group of people help each other and gather to pursue a common interest or aim.

**Why do we have Fellowship groups?** To answer this, we must go back fundamentally to the Biblical model of *koinonia*. The commonality that underlies all fellowship groups is that all exist for one important purpose in God's church – to help us to “come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ” (Eph 4:13) and to “grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ” (Eph 4:15). The objective of every fellowship group must be to help the believers in that group become more and more conformed to the image of Christ. In order to do this, the fellowship groups have the important purpose of teaching every believer more about God, and how to live this earthly life so that they may enjoy the sweetness of fellowship with God and hence with each other (1 John 1:3). If we lose sight of this main purpose for fellowships, we lose focus of what God requires of us in Christian fellowship. Unlike neighbourhood community groups, church fellowships are not mere friendships, but are founded upon the deep bonds of promoting and deepening a common faith, based squarely upon the Word of God. Through the bond that we have in Christ, we can mutually encourage and support our brethren in Christ who may be facing challenges that we have faced ourselves.

**What is the difference between Fellowship Groups and Bible Studies?** There is often a misconception that fellowship groups have more testimonies and opportunities for everyone to talk and perhaps even just have games together, while Bible Studies are more “serious” and conducted more as “teaching sessions”. But from the definition of *koinonia*, fellowship groups have the purpose of

both 1) sharing mutual encouragement and genuine help while 2) having the central basis of the teaching of the Word. That is why in the NT Church in Acts 2, there was the continuing steadfastly in the Apostles' doctrine and breaking of bread. Mutual care and the study of the Word are both are founded upon the teaching of God's Word. Both Fellowship Groups and Bible Studies serve to build up the Christian's faith and promote mutual care. Both focus on building closer bonds between like-minded brethren who are drawn together based on a commonality of Biblical convictions. For example, at the Seniors' Fellowship and Men's and Ladies' Fellowship, there is the teaching of the Word of God, and there is also a time for interaction and mutual encouragement over a meal. Sunday Lunch Fellowship occurs after the preaching of the Word at Worship. Ultimately, we must remember that these Bible Studies and Fellowships are part of our Christian duty in Hebrews 3:13, "But exhort one another daily, while it is called To day; lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin". Through Fellowship Groups and Bible Studies, closer bonds between brethren can be built up, and the weaker brethren can be encouraged.

**Why should I be interested in attending Fellowship Groups?** We shall cover this question next week.

Yours in our Lord's service

Pastor

# ANNOUNCEMENTS, PRAISE & PETITION

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1. **Lunch Fellowship:** All worshippers and visitors are welcome to join the lunch fellowship after Worship Service today. Do take the opportunity to fellowship and welcome some of the new visitors in our midst.
2. **Church 31<sup>st</sup> Anniversary Thanksgiving Dinner Registration (Today after worship):** Registration for the Anniversary Dinner closes next week on the 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2017. Please register early to help with the planning and logistics.
3. **City Evangelism (Today, 2 pm):** Do come to join this outreach to share the gospel, or come to observe how to do so. Please leave your name on the registration form in the foyer, and meet in Church for a briefing and prayer before departing to Perth City. The street outreach will end with testimonies in Church at 5 pm.
4. **Rededication Forms:** For those serving in various ministries, if you have not already done so, please complete your Rededication form and Service Survey in the foyer and place it in the box provided.
5. **Offering for Myanmar Mission (2<sup>nd</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> April):** Worshippers who wish to give additional offerings to the mission work in Myanmar can do so by designating a love gift to “Myanmar Mission” and dropping it into the offering bag over the next 2 Sundays.
6. **New Tables:** A gift has been received to purchase new tables to replace the existing tables in our church. Worshippers who wish to have the old tables can indicate their interest to brother Mark Heath on a first come first served basis. Those who wish to have the old tables must make their own arrangements to move the old tables out from church by Friday, 7<sup>th</sup> April, so as to make space for the new tables.
7. **Mandarin Care Group (Saturday, 8th April, 10:30 am):** The meeting will be held in church and will be followed by lunch after the message. We will continue with the series on “The Christian Armour” (Ephesians 6:10-18). Please bring a dish to share. All are welcome.
8. **Invitation flyers** to invite friends for the Good Friday, Easter Sunrise, and Easter Worship Services are available at the foyer.

9. **Church Parking:** Please do not drive over the neighbour's driveway (29 Ullapool Road) and patch of ground in order to park on the brick paved verge outside Nehemiah. This can cause damage to water pipes underneath the patch of soil. Please also do not park in such a way as to block the access or unnecessarily restrict the view of the cars driving out from the rear neighbour's driveway.

10. **Programs planned for April:**

DATE		TIME	PROGRAM
8/4	Saturday	10:30 am	Mandarin Care Group
9/4	Sunday	3:30 pm	Husbands' & Fathers' Fellowship
14/4	Friday	7:30 pm	Good Friday Worship Service
16/4	Sunday	7:30 am	Easter Sunrise Worship Service
16/4	Sunday	10:00 am	Easter Worship Service & Membership Transfers
16/4	Sunday	6:00 pm	BPCWA 31 <sup>st</sup> Anniversary Dinner
25-30/4	Tuesday-Sunday		Mission Trip to Myanmar

11. **Thanksgiving and Prayer Items:**

- Thank God for many who have been serving faithfully and also those who have stepped forward to serve after Rededication Sunday.
- Thank God for the His help in the Committee Leads Training session last Saturday.
- Thank God for His continued guidance and protection over BPCWA.
- Pray for the City Evangelism outreach today to reach out to many with the seed of the gospel. Pray for safety for those going out, and prepared hearts for those that will receive the tracts.
- Pray for the various ministries to be used of God to help worshipers grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.
- Pray for the welcomers and usher ministries, parking arrangements, and transport needs as more worshippers come.
- Pray for the planning of the April activities, including Good Friday, Easter, Membership Transfers, and our 31<sup>st</sup> Anniversary Dinner. Pray for salvation of souls, and for saints to grow in love and service for our Resurrected Saviour.

SERVICE DUTY	26/3 COMBINED - Fellowship Lunch	2/4 COMBINED - Holy Communion
Speaker/Interpreter	Pastor Joseph Poon/Sonny Lim	Pastor Joseph Poon/Kong Vui Yip
Worship Leader/Interpreter	Deacon Michael Lee/Kong Vui Yip	Deacon Adrian Cheng/Sonny Lim
Preparatory Hymn	Claude Yiu	Claude Yiu
Musician(s)	Karen Ee	Sharon Poon
Welcomers (Foyer)	Terry Chong, Lydia Chong Albert Ho	Jonathan Woo, Bonnie Woo Yi Choong Liew
Offering Stewards *To Help Count Offering	*Eugene Leong, *Claude Yiu Terry Chong, Deacon Adrian Cheng Deacon Joel Wong, Deacon Stephen Chia	*Edward Ee, *Caleb Cheng Jonathan Woo, Yan Wei, Allan Ang Eugene Leong
Ushers (Sanctuary)	Yi Choong Liew, Ellainne Cheng, Lilian Cheo	Kenny Tan, Yi Mey Tan, Yi Jye Chieng
P.A. System	Kenny Chia	Kenny Chia
Kitchen Duties	Yung Tsing Mew, Andy Ho, Lee Fung Fong Ming Ming Th'ng, Xuan Rui Yong	Lilian Cheo, Li Xin Cheo, Lily Liow May Chee Mak, Valerie Wan
Transport	Allan Ang (0433 032 709) / Eugene Leong (0401 155 386)	

### Nursing Home Ministry

Subiaco	Pastor Joseph Poon (Sharon Poon)	Mark Heath (Ben Kan)
South Perth	A: Mark Heath      B: Caleb Cheng	A: Pastor Joseph Poon      B: Allan Ang
Berrington	Pastor Joseph Poon (Sharon Poon)	Mark Heath (Ben Kan)
Bull Creek	Mark Heath	Pastor Joseph Poon

### APPOINTMENTS FOR TODAY AND THE WEEK

Sunday	26/3	12:45 pm	Teens Q & A
		2:00 pm	City Evangelism
Tuesday	28/3	7:30 pm	Prayer Meeting: Pastor Joseph Poon/Deacon Joel Wong, Caleb Cheng, Yi Mey Tan
Wednesday	29/3	7:30 pm	Far Eastern Bible College Online Courses: Systematic Theology (Anthropology)
Friday	31/3	10:00 am	Mother's Fellowship: Genesis
		7:30 pm	Fellowship Meeting: Regen/Youth 180°/CYAF/CYPG
Sunday	2/4	8:30 am	Pre-Service Prayer Meeting
		9:00 am	English & Mandarin Sunday School/English Basic Bible Knowledge Class
		10:00 am	Sunday Combined Worship Service
		2:00 pm	Nursing Home: Concorde – 25 Anstey Street, South Perth Onslow Gardens – 39 Hamersley Road, Subiaco
		3:30 pm	Nursing Home: Berrington, Subiaco – 45 Bishop St, Jolimont Bull Creek – RAAFA Memorial Estate, 2 Bull Creek Drive, Bull Creek WA 6149

### ATTENDANCE & OFFERINGS (19/3)

Attendance: 215 (Combined-177; JSS-38); Prayer Meeting: 70

Offerings in Total: \$7664.60; General Fund: \$7664.60 (#4199-\$59.80; #4200-\$157.00; #4201-101.50; #4202-Anniversary Dinner-\$250.00; #4203-\$241.00, #4204-Table-\$10,000.00)

**SHORTER CATECHISM: Which is the fifth commandment?** The fifth commandment is, *Honor thy father and thy mother: that thy days may be long upon the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee.* (Exodus 20:12; Deuteronomy 5:16)