



# BIBLE-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF W.A.

For the Testimony and Glory of Jesus Christ

June 11<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 Winnie Lim/Kenny Tan

The Lord Is in His Holy Temple 1

Call to Worship Deacon Joel Wong/Kong Vui Yip

\*Hymn **HOP 7** Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

\*Invocation/Gloria Patri 2

Responsive Reading Psalm 128:1-6

**HOP 210** Trust and Obey

Presentation of Tithes & Offerings

\*Doxology 3/Offertory Prayer

Scripture Reading James 1:1-8

Hymn **HOP 262** Teach Me Thy Way, O Lord

Prayer/Message Yew Jinn Chieng/Sonny Lim

## The Testing of Our Faith

\*Hymn **HOP 230** Trusting Jesus

\*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, This week, we continue our study on elections in a church. The church must choose her leaders, and they must choose them with understanding of the criteria and what the roles entail. We see, early at the start of the New Testament church, the church chose its Deacons as the church grew. In order that the Apostles would not be overly distracted from the priority of the ministry of the word and prayer (Acts 6:4), the Apostles called “the multitude of the disciples *unto them*, and said, It is not reason that we should leave the word of God, and serve tables. Wherefore, brethren, look ye out among you seven men of honest report, full of the Holy Ghost and wisdom, whom we may appoint over this business” (Acts 6:2,3).

**Biblical Qualifications.** Over the next few weeks, we will look at the biblical qualifications for each role in the Church Session. There is a common saying that “more hands make light work”. This is certainly true in the physical realm. More people helping in the kitchen make the toil of cooking less laborious. More helpers during the Busy Bee activity help to cut down the cleaning that each one must do. However, when it comes to Session members, it is certainly not merely “the more the merrier”. Instead, each person joining the church Office (ie, a leadership position in the church as part of the elected Session) has to carefully qualified. The Church is not a business or social organisation, based on pragmatic or business principles. Everything in the Church must be run based upon biblical principles for a spiritual work. Our focus is not simply effectiveness, but upon spirituality first. So, having the right biblical qualifications is not a “good to have” – it is an uncompromising, essential criteria. This helps to ensure that the Session will be united in God’s work according to God’s way. In

Acts, we have the Apostles giving God's requirements. The leaders of the church will affect the "temperature" of the church. Leaders who think biblically will make biblical decisions.

*Firstly*, the men must have an "honest report". The person must be reported to be genuine in his Christian witness for God. This individual must be proven to be obedient to the Word in all areas of life, laboured diligently for the salvation and edification of saints, faithful in the defence of the Truth, and trustworthy because of honesty in handling matters and resources. Such a report must be agreed upon as consistently authentic.

*Secondly*, they are to be men "full of the Holy Ghost and wisdom". This does not mean that the men have a halo floating about their heads as they walk. Notice that the Bible joins the fullness of the Holy Ghost with wisdom. This denotes a life totally submitted to the Holy Spirit in all things. In addition, it means to say that the leaders must be people who will make decisions based upon the Word of God. He must fear God. This combination produces godly wisdom when making decisions for the church. It begins with leaders who are interested in the study the Word of God. Only with the knowledge of Scripture will they be able to exercise spiritual wisdom. They may have qualifications sought after by the leading commercial organisations, but that does not automatically qualify them for Church leadership. Men who are carnal and have no interest in God's Word will make decisions against God's will, because the Bible tells us that "the flesh lusteth against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh: and these are contrary the one to the other" (Gal 5:17). Session members

must be lovers of the Bible and to obey it. Hence, they must have a consistent personal study of the Bible, privately in daily devotions, and with the church so that they can grow in unity together with the church. Those who regularly absent themselves from the church fellowships (unless for valid reasons) and show no interest in the study of God's Word would not be deemed to be men full of the Holy Ghost and of wisdom. This is not about something that is done only in the months running up to the elections, but which has been demonstrated in their lives consistently, before and after elections.

**Process of choosing.** Preparation for the elections does not start just 3 months before the elections. It is my responsibility, together with the Board of Elders, to look out for faithful men that can serve in this church Office. But it is absolutely clear that they must be men that meet these qualifications discussed above, and also that of the respective church Office in which they are to serve (which I shall discuss next week). They must be men who will serve as examples of Christian testimony. They must be men who are committed to our beliefs and will work in unity with us in the church for God. And they must have demonstrated these characteristics consistently in the ministries of the church. They must be people that are committed – not to the title of the Office – but to serving God for the edification of the saints. At the same time, if members wish to propose members for nomination (who must fully meet the biblical criteria), they may get a copy of the forms and submit these proposals to the Board of Elders. Not all proposals will eventually be put up for election. Every proposal, however, will be carefully assessed by the Board of Elders according to God's Word and the member's declaration of their beliefs. Finally, if any new Deacons and Elders are nominated for election, they will be required to write testimonies of their beliefs, after which they will be interviewed by the Board of Elders.

The growth of the church must begin with having the right leaders in place. An obedient church begins with obedient leaders. Will you join with us in prayer for this for BPCWA now and in the months to come? When the right spiritual leaders were appointed, “. . . the word of God increased; and the number of the disciples multiplied in Jerusalem greatly; and a great company of the priests were obedient to the faith.” (Acts 6:7)

Yours in our Lord’s service

Pastor

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS, PRAISE & PETITION**

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1. **Mandarin Care Group (Saturday, 17 June, 10:30 am):** The meeting will be held in church. Yew Jinn will speak on “The Christian Armour” (Ephesians 6:10-18) series. As there is lunch fellowship after the message, please kindly bring a dish to share. All are welcome to attend and learn God’s Word together.
2. **2017 Church Family Camp Briefing (Next Sunday, 18 June, after worship):** Camp briefing will be held immediately after worship service next week to prepare campers with the necessary information for the camp. All full time and part time campers are required to attend. Day Trippers who are planning to attend are requested to inform either Eugene Leong (0401 155 386) or Kenny Chia (0425 568 918) by Sunday 25/06 of the days they are attending and their catering requirements.

3. **Family Seminar (Saturday, 1 July, 10 am - 12 pm):** Do you know how to conduct family worship with your children? Do we know how to bring up godly seed and “Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it.”? Rev Koshy will be conducting the family seminar on upbringing of children. There will be a separate program for children running concurrently. Please inform Terry Chong (terry.chong@gmail.com) for lunch catering purposes.
  
4. **BPCWA Triennial Election:** Members who wish to propose a nomination for election to Session can collect a Proposal Form from the table at the foyer. Completed forms must be submitted to Pastor by 2<sup>nd</sup> July, after which they will be reviewed by the Board of Elders.
  
5. **Thanksgiving and Prayer Items:**
  - Thank God for good weather and the opportunity for the children to grow together with others in the church, and a time of mutual encouragement at the Sunday School Family Day event.
  - Thank God for His physical and spiritual protection upon BPCWA.
  - Pray for a blessed time of fellowship and growing together in God’s Word at the Mandarin Care Group.
  - Pray for BPCWA and her leaders to be united in God’s truth and genuine love, serving the Lord fervently in the ministry of the saints. Pray for protection from the wiles of the devil.
  - Pray for Pastor and Mrs Poon as they teach the adults and children at Truth B-P’s Family Camp this week.
  - Pray for Rev Koshy, Pastor and Mrs Koshy as they prepare for the messages at the Family Camp to forge a common purpose and bond in God’s work at BPCWA. Pray for wisdom for the final stages of the planning for the camp.

SERVICE DUTY	11/6 COMBINED	18/6 COMBINED
Speaker/Interpreter	Yew Jinn Chieng/Sonny Lim	Yew Jinn Chieng/Kong Vui Yip
Worship Leader/Interpreter	Deacon Joel Wong/Kong Vui Yip	Deacon Adrian Cheng/Deacon Joel Wong
Preparatory Hymn	Kenny Tan	Allan Ang
Musician(s)	Winnie Lim	Karen Ee
Welcomers (Foyer)	Claude Yiu, Esther Yiu, Yi Choong Liew	Jonathan Woo, Bonnie Woo, Mark Heath
Offering Stewards *To Help Count Offering	*Claude Yiu, *Eugene Leong Allan Ang, Ben Kan, Jason Tey Deacon Stephen Chia	*Mark Heath, *Kenny Tan Jonathan Woo, Pei Shion Chai Eddie Foo, Alex Luu
Ushers (Sanctuary)	Edward Ee, Nancy Chai, Vincent Naing	Kenny Tan, Yi Mey Tan, Jay-son Lim
P.A. System	Kenny Chia	Yi Choong Liew
Kitchen Duties	Lee Lian Yong, Victoria Lew, Christine Chia Julia Chia, Illhoa Ramachandran Mable Soon	Yi San Chieng, Lily Liow May Chee Tey, Edward Teng Joanne Teng
Transport	Allan Ang (0433 032 709) / Eugene Leong (0401 155 386)	

Nursing Home Ministry		
Subiaco	Mark Heath (Ben Kan)	Allan Ang (Hannah Th'ng)
South Perth	A: Yew Jinn Chieng B: Kenny Tan	A: Caleb Cheng B: Yew Jinn Chieng
Berrington	Mark Heath (Ben Kan)	Allan Ang (Hannah Th'ng)
Bull Creek	Yew Jinn Chieng	Yew Jinn Chieng

APPOINTMENTS FOR TODAY AND THE WEEK			
Tuesday	13/6	7:30 pm	Prayer Meeting: Yew Jinn Chieng/Deacon Joel Wong, Deacon Adrian Cheng, Ellainne Cheng
Friday	16/6	7:30 pm	Fellowship Meeting: Regen/Youth 180°/CYAF/CYPG
Saturday	17/6	10:30 am	Mandarin Care Group: The Christian Armour (Ephesians 6:10-18)
Sunday	18/6	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 (4/6)

Attendance: 196 (Combined-165; JSS-31); Prayer Meeting: 68  
Offerings in Total: \$8,521.65; General Fund: \$8,521.65  
(#4242-\$85.50; #4243-\$66.00; #4244-\$378.50; #4245-\$90.00)

**SHORTER CATECHISM: What is required in the eighth commandment?** The eighth commandment requireth the lawful procuring and furthering the wealth and outward estate of ourselves and others. (Leviticus 25:35; Ephesians 4:28b; Philipians 2:4)