



BIBLE-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF W.A.

For the Testimony and Glory of Jesus Christ

August 6th, 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 Sharon Poon/Claude Yiu
 The Lord Is in His Holy Temple 1
 Call to Worship Deacon Adrian Cheng/ Deacon Joel Wong
 *Hymn **HOP 364** Praise Him! Praise Him!
 *Invocation/Gloria Patri 2
 Responsive Reading Psalm 135:1-14
 Holy Communion [Deacon Michael Lee, Deacon Adrian Cheng, Deacon Stephen Chia, Deacon Joel Wong, Robert Wong]
 Hymn **HOP 91** Rock of Ages
HOP 94 Alas! and Did My Saviour Bleed
 Presentation of Tithes & Offerings **HOP 40** And Can It Be that I Should Gain?
 *Doxology 3/Offertory Prayer
 Scripture Reading Ephesians 1:13-14
 Hymn **HOP 12** When All Thy Mercies, O My God
 Pastoral Prayer/Message Pastor Joseph Poon/Sonny Lim

Sealed With the Holy Spirit

*Hymn **HOP 133** O Breath of Life
 *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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|----------------------------------|-----------------|-------------------------------|
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PASTORAL LETTER

Praying for Other Churches

Dear BPCWAians, Each time I am in Singapore among the other churches, it never ceases to amaze me how many people whom I hardly know would come up to Sharon and I to greet us by name. And they seem to know so much about BPCWA as I converse with them. But what is most heart warming is how they speak with genuine care for God's ministry here. You can see it in their eyes and hear it in their voices. Some even bring their children to meet us and they too seem familiar with our church in Perth. Why is this so? I soon realised why this was so from a common topic they bring up - we have been praying for you all and BPCWA! It is so encouraging to hear that so many, though living almost 4000 km away, pray so regularly for us even though they have not seen many of our faces. And it also very convicting. It is needful for us to consider and learn this Biblical principle and habit of prayer for other churches.

The concern for other churches. We saw in 1 Corinthians 16:19, that the "churches of Asia" and the church in the house of Aquila and Priscilla (in Ephesus) saluted the Corinthian church. In fact, the warmth and care of the latter is expressed in Paul's expression that the salutation is *much* in the Lord. Travel by car today between Corinth and Ephesus would take more than 15 hours on the road. In those days, travelling between these 2 cities by sea would have taken about 8 days. These are important aspects not to be missed, because we must realise that the Corinth church (being in Greece) and the churches in Asia and Ephesus (being in Asia Minor) were not located in easy reach of each other. So it is likely that many in the Ephesian, Asia and Corinthian church had never met each other, and perhaps have only heard of each other through the Apostle Paul. Yet, there was a shared warmth and concern for the well-being of the other churches. This is also apparent in numerous other greetings in the New Testament. In fact, almost the whole of Rom 16 is written to convey greetings between people who were not in direct physical contact.

The reason for relations. If one were to look at these greetings, the reason for such care and relationship is evident. These greetings were exchanged between those who “labour in the Lord”, and those “approved in Christ”. Though apart, and though perhaps not having met many of them nor having been introduced face to face with them, they were “in the Lord”. These are those that work together with the churches for the same cause and same purpose. Ultimately, they were serving the same Lord, though in different harvest fields as the churches’ Head had determined and placed them.

The basis for closeness. This was because they were like minded. While there is evidence of much warmth between churches, it is important to also note that it wasn’t a case of wishing God speed simply to anyone. After the Apostle Paul encourages the Romans to “Salute one another with an holy kiss” and brings greetings with “The churches of Christ salute you” (Rom 16:16), he immediately follows in the next verse with a warning of disassociating and separating themselves from those that work contrary to them “Now I beseech you, brethren, mark them which cause divisions and offences contrary to the doctrine which ye have learned; and avoid them.” (Rom 16:17) The “elect lady” was also instructed that if anyone coming did not abide in the doctrine of Christ, she was to “receive him not into your house, neither bid him God speed” (1 Jn 1:9,10). No matter how “unkind” it may seem, let us not be lulled into thinking that it is “loving” to offer greetings and prayers for individuals and churches that sow discord in our midst, those that actively oppose our faith, and those who intentionally try to bring in divisive doctrines contrary to what we hold on to.

The best expression of care for others. Others pray for BPCWA. At every prayer meeting that I attended at Calvary Pandan BP Church during my FEBC days and on the occasions when I joined them after I came to BPCWA, I always saw BPCWA being printed on their prayer bulletin. Despite 31 years

having passed since CPBPC helped set up BPCWA, their concern for our church still continues to be expressed by their prayer support for us every week. When I visited Sydney BPC back in 2012, I noted that praying for BPCWA has been in their regular prayer weekly all the while. Bethel BP Church in Melbourne also prays for BPCWA. Gethsemane also prays for us. Even Calvary Jaya BP Fellowship in Kuala Lumpur prays for us. In our mission trip to Myanmar earlier this year, many told us that they had been praying for BPCWA. Besides this, I have on many occasions received emails and messages from Pastors of like-minded churches in Singapore assuring us of their prayer for BPCWA. While we have often prayed for BPCWA ourselves, perhaps many of us did not know that many who have never stepped foot into our church were also doing likewise. How it must have pleased our heavenly Father to graciously hear and answer the prayers of those near and far, the prayers and intercessions on behalf of BPCWA. We thank God for their love expressed for us in their prayers.

We must actively pray for other churches. What these churches do for us is a very Biblical practice as noted in the Epistles. Have we been following the Biblical example, let alone reciprocate? We must be concerned about those we see every week, in our own church. In addition, we must also be concerned about our fellow churches labouring in the Lord's work elsewhere as well. We must pray for their faithfulness to continue. We have benefited much from the teaching of these faithful churches and if so, these churches will also not be spared from the devil's desire to bring them down. We must pray for churches without Pastors that God may be pleased to call a faithful man of like faith to serve there. We must pray for the churches with Pastors, that their Pastors will have their hands strengthened to continue to labour zealously amidst their busy schedules, and to withstand attacks. We must pray for the unity from within and in between these churches. If we are to pray for those that persecute us (Matt 5:44), how much more should we pray for the churches that are fellow labourers together with us? BPCWA has received much blessing from them, through their books and resources, expertise and other means. Faithful churches are under attack in these last days, and we must pray for them to continue to stand strong. No

church is without its own struggles - whether big and small, whether better-endowed or those with more needs. The work of the church is spiritual, and all are dependent on God's help. So, every church needs prayer. May we support the work of God from Perth by upholding these ones in prayer. Let us pray that they will continue to hold fast the faithful word (Tit 1:9) and that they will all continue to stand together "for the word of God, and for the testimony of Jesus Christ." (Rev 1:9)

Yours in our Lord's service

Pastor

ANNOUNCEMENTS, PRAISE & PETITION

- 1. Husbands & Fathers Fellowship (Next Sunday, 13 August, 3:30 pm):** Eph 5:25 says "Husbands, love your wives..." Do you know how to love your wife as God has recorded in this verse? Pastor will continue to teach on this verse and all husbands and fathers are encouraged to come and study God's Word together.
- 2. Mandarin Care Group (Saturday, 19 August, 10:30 am):** The meeting will be held in Church. Pastor will continue to speak on "The Christian Armour" (Ephesians 6:10-18) series. As there will be lunch fellowship after the message, please kindly bring a dish to share. All are welcome to attend and learn God's Word together.
- 3. English Basic Bible Knowledge (Every Sunday, 9 am):** A new cycle of Basic Bible Knowledge Classes has just begun. Those who are seeking baptism or membership transfer to BPCWA should attend these classes, which are conducted in the Upper Level Sanctuary by Pastor. Anyone who is interested in learning more about the Christian faith is also welcome to attend as well.
- 4. Mandarin Choir (Next Sunday, 13 August, 12:30 pm):** Practices will resume next week.

5. **2017 Family Camp Polo T-Shirts:** There are limited number of church Polo T-Shirts available for sale at a discounted price of \$6 each. Please see either Eugene Leong (0401 155 386) or Kenny Chia (0425 568 918) to purchase.
6. **2018 BPCWA Family Camp:** Will be held from July 1 (Sunday) to 5 (Thursday) next year, at Orchard Glory Farm Resort. Advance notice is given so that worshippers can plan early to attend the camp by blocking out their family schedules and annual leave so that they are able to attend as a family. Enquiries can be directed to Eugene Leong or Kenny Chia.
7. **Thanksgiving and Prayer Items:**
 - Thank God for raising men and women to help in the interpretation and translation work to support the Sunday Worship Service, bulletins and other church activities and reports.
 - Thank God for the opportunities to sow the Gospel seed last Sunday during City Evangelism. Pray for the Word to bear fruit according to God's purpose, and that some of the contacts will come to BPCWA to learn more about God.
 - Thank God for the opportunity to invite students to church and preach the gospel at the recent Murdoch Orientation Day outreach. Thank God for the brethren who came to labour together at this outreach.
 - Pray for the preparation for the Annual Congregation Meeting, and that it will be a spiritually profitable meeting for God's work at BPCWA. Pray for spiritual preparation for the Triennial Elections.
 - Pray for Y180, CYPG, Regen and CYAF to help everyone grow in Christ-likeness through the study of God's Word, and for mutual encouragement and care one for another.
 - Pray for everyone in BPCWA to grow in truth and godliness and that we will all be careful to maintain a close daily walk with God in His Word and in closet prayer for one another and for BPCWA. Pray that God will use BPCWA to send out His light and truth as we sanctify ourselves for His service.

| SERVICE DUTY | 6/8 COMBINED - Holy Communion | 13/8 COMBINED |
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| Speaker/Interpreter | Pastor Joseph Poon/Sonny Lim | Pastor Joseph Poon/Kong Vui Yip |
| Worship Leader/Interpreter | Deacon Adrian Cheng/Deacon Joel Wong | Deacon Joel Wong/Sonny Lim |
| Preparatory Hymn | Claude Yiu | Allan Ang |
| Musician(s) | Sharon Poon | Karen Ee |
| Welcomers (Foyer) | Alex Luu, Grace Luu, Mark Heath | Eddie Foo, Carol Wee, Kenny Tan |
| Offering Stewards *To Help Count Offering | *Kenny Tan, *Claude Yiu, Yan Wei Pei Shion Chai, Benjamin Kan Eugene Leong | *Alex Luu, *Edward Ee, Allan Ang Caleb Cheng, Kenny Chia Deacon Adrian Cheng |
| Ushers (Sanctuary) | Caleb Cheng, Rowena Cheng, Lee Lee Yong | Claude Yiu, Esther Yiu, Cheryl Lin |
| P.A. System | Yi Choong Liew | Albert Ho |
| Kitchen Duties | Yi San Chieng, Lily Liow, May Chee Mak Edward Teng, Joanne Teng | Yi Min Chieng, Phyllis Voun Shuin Ning Jong, Yi Jye Chieng, Valerie Wan |
| Transport | Allan Ang (0433 032 709) / Eugene Leong (0401 155 386) | |

Nursing Home Ministry

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| Subiaco | Mark Heath (Benjamin Kan) | Edward Ee (Hannah Th'ng) |
| South Perth | A: Pastor Joseph Poon B: Caleb Cheng | A: Kenny Tan B: Allan Ang |
| Berrington | Mark Heath (Benjamin Kan) | Edward Ee (Hannah Th'ng) |
| Bull Creek | Pastor Joseph Poon | Kenny Tan |

APPOINTMENTS FOR TODAY AND THE WEEK

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| Tuesday | 8/8 | 7:30 pm | Prayer Meeting: Pastor Joseph Poon/Kong Vui Yip, Deacon Joel Wong, Yi Mey Tan |
| Wednesday | 9/8 | 7:30 pm | Far Eastern Bible College Online Courses: Deuteronomy |
| Friday | 11/8 | 7:30 pm | Fellowship Meeting: Regen/Youth 180°/CYAF/CYPG |
| Sunday | 13/8 | 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 |
| | | 12:30 pm | Teens Q and A |
| | | 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 Husbands & Fathers Fellowship |

ATTENDANCE & OFFERINGS (30/7)

Attendance: 193 (Combined-166; JSS-27); Combined Friday Fellowship: 91; Prayer Meeting: 81
Offerings in Total: \$6,597.60; General Fund: \$6,597.60
(#4281-\$557.75; #4282-\$176.40; #4283-Gospel Tracts-\$500.00)

SHORTER CATECHISM: Is any man able perfectly to keep the commandments of God? No mere man, since the fall, is able in this life perfectly to keep the commandments of God, but doth daily break them in thought, word, and deed. (Genesis 8:21; Romans 3:9, 23)