



BIBLE-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF W.A.

For the Testimony and Glory of Jesus Christ

November 5th, 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.

Prelude/Preparatory Hymn Karen Ee/Deacon Eugene Leong

The Lord Is in His Holy Temple 1

Call to Worship

Deacon Joel Wong/Kong Vui Yip

*Hymn

HOP 14 Come, Thou Almighty King

*Invocation/Gloria Patri 2

Responsive Reading

Psalm 145:1-9

Holy Communion

[Deacon Adrian Cheng, Deacon Eugene Leong,

Deacon Joel Wong]

Hymn

HOP 185 According to Thy Gracious Word

HOP 158 There Is a Fountain

Presentation of Tithes & Offerings

HOP 396 Give of Your Best to the Master

*Doxology 3/Offertory Prayer

Scripture Reading

Ephesians 3:8-12

Hymn

HOP 262 Teach Me Thy Way, O Lord

Pastoral Prayer/Message

Pastor Joseph Poon/Kong Vui Yip

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.

Our Great Privilege

*Hymn

HOP 337 We've a Story To Tell

*Benediction/Threefold Amen

Announcements

*The Lord Bless You and Keep You 4

*Congregation Standing

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.



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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The Reformation and Music: Music is Next to Theology

Dear BPCWAians, As we commemorate the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation this year, I have condensed and adapted an article which I was requested to write concerning “The Reformation and Music: Music Is Next To Theology” for a commemorative booklet produced by Calvary Pandan Bible-Presbyterian Church. I pray that this article will help all of us at BPCWA to be alert to prevent contemporary music creeping into our church.

The aims given for the article are twofold: 1) to discuss the emphasis the Reformers placed on music and worship, and 2) to discuss how have churches today have changed in their view of music and worship.

Reformers on music and worship

While the church was going through sweeping changes during the time of the Reformation, music – within and outside of the church – was also going through many changes. At that time, the songs in the church reached a point that it could not be understood by the people because firstly it was in a foreign language and secondly, the music was so elaborate that it overwhelmed the text. Furthermore, the congregation hardly sang in church. Only the church choir sang. Reformers wanted to correct these problems, and their changes influenced the church’s music in many areas. Martin Luther, a key Reformer, believed that music is God’s gift of creation, and that “music is next to theology because both accomplish similar results.” This is true in the sense that music does have significant impact on people and the church. Hence it is so critical that Ministers and the congregation understand this topic well, especially since Christian music has become such a major emphasis

in many ways. The following are some important contributions of the Reformers to music in worship.

1) Music proclaims Theology

Luther embraced a high view of music because of the theology embedded in the words of the song. As Colossians 3:16 emphasizes the didactic purpose of music, Luther used music to strengthen the teaching of God's Word, and an important role of hymnody was catechesis - in other words, for teaching and learning. To do this, he put the "Word of God into song," making them theological expressions in musical form, creating a strong link between hymnody and catechesis. Heretical texts were removed from the Roman Catholic hymns, and reformed liturgical chants were included in his new hymnals. The words of the song were to be fitting and pure, as theological statements. This is a lost emphasis today. Many modern Christian songs today are very lacking or at best shallow in theology. Words and phrases are repeated while the focus is on the tune instead. These are written more to entertain than to teach Scriptural truths.

2) Songs must be understood

In order to teach, songs sung must be understood by everyone. The Reformers did not promote music as an emotional tool, nor as a form of entertainment. For songs to be edifying, music must serve as an accompaniment to words, not overwhelm the words, and the words must be understood by the congregation. Hence, songs sung had to be in a common language understood by the congregation. Luther began to replace Latin hymns with German ones so that the congregation could sing together. John Calvin also encouraged congregational singing in a language that they could understand. Calvin taught that God's intent

was not to amuse the world but to instruct people. In *The Institutes of the Christian Religion* 3.20.31, Calvin greatly commends singing, “for in this way the thought of God is kept alive on our minds”, if the singing was accompanied with understanding.

3) Music is for the congregation to sing to

Pre-reformation music in the Papal Catholic church was mainly presented by the clergy and their trained musicians. Luther restored singing to the body of believers together as part of worship. Likewise, John Calvin’s hymnal preface encourages the reader to focus on the meaning of song. The high value that the Reformers put on congregational singing is important, because even in their hymn compositions, the music that they sought was not for the professional choir, but for the layman. The tunes they would use would be simple and easy for the congregation to remember, tunes that the congregation could sing together without much difficulty, beginning the use of metrical singing. The key point was that the Reformers moved the church away from a group of people “performing”. They included the congregation’s participation in worship. But Christian music today has moved back to artists and bands performing while the audience are enraptured by them.

We shall continue to see 3 more other areas of focus the Reformers brought to changes in Christian worship music next week. What we have seen in summary this week is their emphasis on the teaching aspect of songs, moving away from the elaborate performance of music. They also made the congregation participate in worship singing, instead of just being an audience to elaborate music performances. These are lessons we must learn today.

Yours in our Lord’s service
Pastor

ANNOUNCEMENTS, PRAISE & PETITION

- 1. Seniors Fellowship (This Saturday, 11 November, 10:30 am):**
will have an outing to Point Walter reserve. Pastor Joseph will be giving an exhortation on “Mutual Family Care”, followed by an outdoor lunch and fellowship. Please bring along a dish to share. Passenger pick-up from church to the outing spot will be available for the seniors. For those who are driving, maps are available at the foyer. All are warmly welcome.

- 2. Husbands & Fathers Fellowship (Next Sunday, 12 November, 3:30 pm):** Ephesians 5:26 says “That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word,”. Husbands, do you know your responsibilities as mentioned in this verse? Husbands and fathers who have not previously attended this fellowship are encouraged to come and join us as Pastor teaches us God’s Word.

- 3. Children Holiday Bible Program (18-20 December, mornings):**
Please mark your family calendars and plan to send your children for this year end program to help them grow spiritually. Do also invite your friends’ children as part of outreach as well. Program is for ages 4-11, but regular BPCWA Sunday School children currently aged 3 are welcome and encouraged to attend. More details will follow later.

4. Thanksgiving and Prayer Items:

- Thank God for the strengthening of Christian bonds to strive together for God's church during the Session Retreat held yesterday.
- Thank God for the young ones that attend the Teens Q&A regularly. Pray that this will be used to help build a Christian convictions and Biblical worldviews.
- Pray for the Seniors Fellowship to encourage Christian interaction and spiritual growth.
- Pray for Husbands and Fathers Fellowship to build God fearing leaders in every family.
- Pray for Yew Jinn as he continues his exams this week. Pray that these studies will prepare him for his future ministry. Pray for FEBC online students to also grow in the knowledge of God as they prepare for their exams too.
- Pray for students preparing for their exams to maintain their walk with God during their preparations. Pray that they will make godly life choices according to God's will.

SERVICE DUTY	5/11 COMBINED Holy Communion	12/11 COMBINED
Speaker/Interpreter	Pastor Joseph Poon/Kong Vui Yip	Pastor Joseph Poon/Kong Vui Yip
Worship Leader/Interpreter	Deacon Joel Wong/Kong Vui Yip	Deacon Eugene Leong/Deacon Joel Wong
Preparatory Hymn	Deacon Eugene Leong	Kenny Tan
Musician(s)	Karen Ee	Sharon Poon
Welcomers (Foyer)	Eddie Foo, Carol Wee, Albert Ho	Alex Luu, Grace Luu, Mark Heath
Offering Stewards *To Help Count Offering	*Kenny Tan, *Mark Heath, Alex Luu Wei Yan, Pei Shion Chai Stephen Chia	*Eddie Foo, *Claude Yiu, Allan Ang Jonathan Woo, Caleb Cheng Michael Lee
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	Lee Lian Yong, Victoria Lew Christine Chia, Ilhoa Ramachandran Mable Soon	Yi San Chieng, Lily Liow May Chee Tey, Edward Teng Joanne Teng
Transport	Allan Ang (0433 032 709) / Deacon Eugene Leong (0401 155 386)	

Nursing Home Ministry

Subiaco	Mark Heath (Benjamin Kan)	Allan Ang (Hannah Th'ng)
South Perth	A: Pastor Joseph Poon B: Jason Tey	A: Caleb Cheng B: Mark Heath
Berrington	Mark Heath (Benjamin Kan)	Allan Ang (Hannah Th'ng)
Bull Creek	Pastor Joseph Poon	Mark Heath

APPOINTMENTS FOR TODAY AND THE WEEK

Tuesday	7/11	10:00 am	Mandarin Bible Study
		7:30 pm	Prayer Meeting: Pastor Joseph Poon/Deacon Joel Wong, Deacon Adrian Cheng, Yung Tsing Mew
Friday	10/11	7:30 pm	Fellowship Meeting: Regen/Youth 180°/CYAF/CYPG
Saturday	11/11	10:30 am	Seniors Fellowship
Sunday	12/11	8:30 am	Pre-Service Prayer Meeting
		9:00 am	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 (29/10)

Attendance: 218 (Combined-182; JSS-36); Prayer Meeting: 76

Offerings in Total: \$7,656.50; General Fund: \$7,656.50

(#4335-\$786.40; #4336-\$131.25; #4337-\$70.00; #4338-Library-\$20.00; Men and Ladies Fellowship-\$218.00)

SHORTER CATECHISM: To whom is Baptism to be administered? Baptism is not to be administered to any that are out of the visible church, till they profess their faith in Christ, and obedience to him; (Acts 2:41; Acts 8:12, 36, 38; Acts 18:8) but the infants of such as are members of the visible church are to be baptized. (Genesis 17:7; Genesis 17:9-11; Acts 2:38-39; Acts 16:32-33; Colossians 2:11-12)