



BIBLE-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF W.A.

For the Testimony and Glory of Jesus Christ

December 10th, 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 Winnie Lim/Jason Tey

The Lord Is in His Holy Temple 1

Call to Worship Deacon Eugene Leong/Deacon Joel Wong

*Hymn **HOP 17** All Creatures of Our God and King

*Invocation/Gloria Patri 2

Responsive Reading Psalm 148:1-14

Hymn **HOP 263** Thou My Everlasting Portion

Presentation of Tithes & Offerings **HOP 294** The Lord's My Shepherd

*Doxology 3/Offertory Prayer

Scripture Reading Ephesians 4:1-3

Hymn **HOP 125** Open My Eyes, That I May See

Pastoral Prayer/Message Pastor Joseph Poon/Yew Jinn Chieng

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.

How To Walk Worthy

*Hymn **HOP 291** Saviour, More Than Life To Me

*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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PASTORAL LETTER

Recapturing our 2017 church theme

Dear BPCWAians, As we come to the end of 2017, it is good for us to recapitulate our theme for the year taken from Philippians 1:27 “Only let your conversation be as it becometh the gospel of Christ: that whether I come and see you, or else be absent, I may hear of your affairs, that ye stand fast in one spirit, with one mind striving together for the faith of the gospel”.

What God desires for a church. “Only” emphasizes the bottom line principle that the Apostle Paul wanted to emphasize for the church in Philippi. “Conversation” alludes to the life of citizens who belong to a country or city and how they are conforming its laws as they enjoy citizen’s privileges. So, whether he was able to see them again, or even if he could never meet them in person ever again, the only thing he hoped to hear is that they, as members of the Philippi church with their heavenly citizenship, have been living lives befitting the gospel of Christ as a church. The reputation of every church on earth testifies for Christ. Very often, to those who do not read the Bible, what they know of gospel of Christ is what they hear about the church. A city has a reputation based upon what it stands for according to its laws and practices. Moreover, its citizens are its best ambassadors. In other words, what the church holds to and how its worshippers live testify for the gospel of Christ. BPCWA as a church and its worshippers must always remember the great honour placed upon us to uphold the message of Christ. The church and each one of us has a significant impression on what others think about the kingdom of God. Our stand and practices can also impact and influence other churches to stay true to the gospel of Christ. This is why the Apostle Paul put such a great emphasis upon and had such great concern about this “only” thing.

The affairs of the church and you. Paul had a concern to hear about the affairs of the Philippi church and its worshippers. Do they represent the gospel of Christ well? The gospel of Christ refers not to just being saved from hell. It is also about the life saved from the power of sin after salvation. It covers all aspects of the life of the believer as God expects, including our relationship with one another in the church we belong to. A church's leadership has the responsibility to ensure that the church's affairs are becoming of what Christ expects. Whether the church is reaching out to souls, sound in doctrines and practices, and upholds Biblical standards in what it allows into the church and into the worship, are the expected duties of the leadership. If it does not ensure that the church is worthy (the word "becometh" means worthy) of the Name of Christ, it fails in this key emphasis of God. These matters of the church are within the church leadership's view and control. And it must not falter.

However, as members and worshippers of BPCWA, you have your role to play to ensure that BPCWA is worthy of the Name of Christ. How you choose to live and behave in school, at work, at home and among your friends are within your control. Also, your relationship with each other in church testifies for Christ. All these aspects are within your control, but there is not much the church leadership can control in these aspects. The church can only faithfully teach, exhort, and encourage from God's Word. Whether you choose to obey the Lord is your part to play for the sake of the gospel of Christ as a believer. We must be motivated to "only let" our lives impact others positively towards the gospel of Christ.

The Church and the believers' existence on earth is to bring glory to God. Hence our "conversation", ie representation of Christ, is what truly matters. What do others hear about BPCWA and its worshippers? What goes through the heart and mind of visitors who come among us? What impression do they gather about Christ from our worship style, our fellowship groups, our outreaches, our websites, our behaviours - both within and outside the church? Do parents worry or are they glad to send their children from overseas to worship with us? Are you as an individual worshipper known to live a pure life, to fulfill your duties in an exemplary manner, and to conduct yourself in a godly way both inside and outside the church? Would someone, a friend or a relative, have cause to be turned off from the gospel of Christ because of you? At the end of 2017, we must ask, have we, as a church and as an individual, let our lives count for the gospel of Christ?

God willing, we shall look at what should we stand for and how should we stand together for the faith of the gospel.

Yours in our Lord's service
Pastor

ANNOUNCEMENTS, PRAISE & PETITION

1. **Men Fellowship and Ladies Fellowship (Tonight, Dinner 6 pm, Program 7 pm):** All are encouraged to join us in studying God's Word with Pastor speaking to the Men on "When a Man After God's Own Heart Repents" and Sharon Poon to the Ladies on "The Women at the first Christmas". There will be translation to Mandarin.
2. **Adelphie Bible Study (Next Sunday, 17 December, 3:30 pm):** Knowing that God continuously sustains and rules all His creation will greatly strengthen our faith in Him to see us through any stage in our lives. All ladies are encouraged to come and join this Bible study as Pastor continues to teach us about God's providence.
3. **Carols by Candlelight (Friday, 22 December, 7:30 pm):** There are English and Chinese invitations available at the foyer that you can use to invite your family and friends to the Carols by Candlelight Gospel Meeting. We especially encourage all worshippers to take some of these leaflets to invite unbelievers to come and hear the gospel at the Carols by Candlelight Gospel Meeting. The leaflets also contain information on the Christmas Day Service (25 December, 10 am).
4. **500th Anniversary Reformation Commemorative magazine:** Limited copies of the magazine entitled "The Reformation Revisited" are available in the foyer. Worshippers are welcome to take a copy for themselves from the table in the foyer on a first come first served basis.
5. **Far Eastern Bible College online courses:** Registration is now open for next semester's courses, which are: Systematic Theology, Eschatology (2 credits, \$80); Genesis (2 credits, \$80); and Ezra, Nehemiah and Esther (one credit, \$40). Close of registration is 24 December. Please hand your forms with the fees to either Mark Heath or Soo Jin Kang. Next semester will commence on 2 January 2018.

6. Thanksgiving and Prayer Items:

- Thank God for His help for students through their exams and the close of another semester.
- Thank God for the Media ministry which helps us to worship God effectively and enables BPCWA to reach out to others with the Word of God.
- Pray for the spiritual growth of all worshipers.
- Pray for the Session meeting to be used to plan for God's work for BPCWA and in finalising the activities for next year.
- Pray for preparation of lessons for the Children Holiday Bible Program to be able to reach out to children with the gospel and that it will encourage children to seek God daily in devotion.
- Pray for the Carols by Candlelight Gospel Service to sow the gospel of salvation into the hearts of unbelievers that they may be saved and worship with us.
- Pray for wisdom in discussions concerning Nehemiah Redevelopment to be directed according to God's will.

SERVICE DUTY	10/12 COMBINED	17/12 COMBINED
Speaker/Interpreter	Pastor Joseph Poon/Yew Jinn Chieng	Pastor Joseph Poon/Kong Vui Yip
Worship Leader/Interpreter	Deacon Eugene Leong/Deacon Joel Wong	Deacon Adrian Cheng/Yew Jinn Chieng
Preparatory Hymn	Jason Tey	Deacon Joel Wong
Musician(s)	Winnie Lim	Winnie Lim
Welcomers	Jonathan Woo, Bonnie Woo, Lily Liow	Alex Luu, Grace Luu, Mark Heath
Offering Stewards *To Help Count Offering	*Jonathan Woo, *Edward Ee, Michael Lee Caleb Cheng, Kenny Chia, Wei Yan	*Mark Heath, *Colin Chng, Pei Shion Chai Yi Choong Liew, Claude Yiu, Benjamin Kan
Ushers	Kenny Tan, Yi Mey Tan, Shie Tian Wong	Caleb Cheng, Rowena Cheng, Mable Soon
Audio Visual	Yi Choong Liew	Kenny Chia
Kitchen Duties	Yi San Chieng, Lily Liow, May Chee Tey Edward Teng, Joanne Teng	Yung Tsing Mew, Andy Ho, Lee Fung Fong Ming Ming Th'ng, Xuan Rui Yong
Transport	Allan Ang (0433 032 709) / Deacon Eugene Leong (0401 155 386)	

Nursing Home Ministry

Subiaco	Colin Tey (Benjamin Kan)	Yew Jinn Chieng (Hannah Th'ng)
South Perth	A: Kenny Tan B: Alex Luu	A: Mark Heath B: Jason Tey
Berrington	Edward Ee (Benjamin Kan)	Yew Jinn Chieng (Hannah Th'ng)
Bull Creek	Kenny Tan	Mark Heath

APPOINTMENTS FOR TODAY AND THE WEEK

Sunday	10/12	12:30 pm	Teens Q & A
		6:00 pm	Men Fellowship & Ladies Fellowship
Tuesday	12/12	10:00 am	Chinese Bible Study
		7:30 pm	Prayer Meeting: Pastor Joseph Poon/Yew Jinn Cheng, Deacon Joel Wong, Yi Mey Tan
Friday	15/12	7:30 pm	Fellowship Meeting: Regen/Youth 180°/CAF/CSF
Sunday	17/12	8:30 am	Pre-Service Prayer Meeting
		9:00 am	Chinese Adults 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 Adelphe Bible Study

ATTENDANCE & OFFERINGS (3/12)

Attendance: 203 (Combined-169; JSS-34); Prayer Meeting: 81

Tithes and Offerings: \$6,833.10 (#4357-\$120.00; #4358-\$124.60; #4359-\$653.95; #4360-\$25.70);

Designated Gifts: \$1,000.00 (Rev Hien Nguyen-\$500.00; Yew Jinn-\$500.00)

SHORTER CATECHISM: What doth the preface of the Lord's Prayer teach us? The preface of the Lord's Prayer, which is, *Our Father which art in heaven*, teacheth us to draw near to God with all holy reverence (Psalm 95:6) and confidence, (Ephesians 3:12) as children to a father, (Matthew 7:9-11; Luke 11:11-13; Romans 8:15) able and ready to help us; (Ephesians 3:20) and that we should pray with and for others. (Ephesians 6:18; 1 Timothy 2:1-2)