



# BIBLE-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF W.A.

For the Testimony and Glory of Jesus Christ

September 16<sup>th</sup>, 2018

## 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 Sharon Poon/Deacon Eugene Leong

The Lord Is in His Holy Temple 1

Call to Worship Deacon Joel Wong/Kong Vui Yip

\*Hymn **HOP 360** We Praise Thee, O God

\*Invocation/Gloria Patri 2

Responsive Reading Proverbs 13:1-9

Hymn **HOP 290** Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us

Presentation of Tithes & Offerings **HOP 391** The Love of God

\*Doxology 3/Offertory Prayer

Scripture Reading Ephesians 5:16-17

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.

## It's About Time!

\*Hymn **HOP 241** Nothing Between

\*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 2018:

"...what doth the LORD thy God require of thee, but to fear the LORD thy God, to walk in all his ways, and to love him, and to serve the LORD thy God with all thy heart and with all thy soul," (Deuteronomy 10:12)

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# PASTORAL LETTER

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## The Church Is the House of Prayer

Dear BPCWAians, We learnt about the need for prayer last week. It brings protection and gives power for this spiritual but real battle on earth. God taught this clear object lesson to the children of Israel in their very first battle with their enemies. How does God view prayer in His church? What should we pray for His church here? How should we pray for His blood bought bride?

**How God views prayer in His church.** We were reminded last week that we should be “Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints” (Eph 6:18). It is no surprise then that Christ, while on earth, reminded the people “... It is written, My house shall be called the house of prayer; but ye have made it a den of thieves” (Matt 21:13). Christ was quoting Isaiah 56:7, “Even them will I bring to my holy mountain, and make them joyful in my house of prayer: their burnt offerings and their sacrifices shall be accepted upon mine altar; for mine house shall be called an house of prayer for all people.” God emphasized that His house is a house of prayer! That is how important God views prayer in His church – He gives it such a name. By this name, prayer must be found it, be an intrinsic part of its life, and prominent characteristic of BPCWA today. Prayer is not a good to have but must be a very present

activity. When BPCWA begins to neglect prayer or prayer becomes a mere activity focused on asking God for earthly gains, we will fall in time. If we fail in being a genuinely prayerful and praying church, then we are incomplete as a church. We fail to be what God calls us by. God wants the church to be a praying church for important reasons. The church rises or falls depending on the thermometer reading of its prayer life. Is it not little wonder that many churches have closed and their buildings have become restaurants, art houses, and shops in many countries today? We must always aim to be and to preserve the church as a house of prayer.

**What should we pray for God's church.** Having known the importance of prayer as a church, what should we be praying for BPCWA? God's Word is full of examples of prayer for His house of prayer. I have given out a printed list of prayer items in our prayer meeting. It is certainly not exhaustive but it is a place that we can use for a start. If you do not have the list, ask us, and we will print a copy for you.

**BPCWA:** First and foremost, give thanks to God for all His works among us every week (1 Thess 5:18)! We should not be ungrateful. Pray for BPCWA to be kept faithful as the pillar and ground of the truth (1 Tim 3:15) through all her years on earth till Christ returns and that it will preach, stand and defend the Truth courageously (Jud 1:3). Ask God to use BPCWA to feed His sheep well (Eph 1:17). Pray that God will always be in our midst to lead and guide BPCWA (Ps 32:8). Pray that BPCWA will always have God fearing leaders who are selfless and united for the

sake of God's work and His Truth and will protect His sheep with their lives (Acts 20:28-35). Ask God to grant much wisdom and discernment to Pastor and the Session members for God's work (Rom 15:30, 2 Thess 3:1-2). Very importantly too, pray for unity of hearts and minds in the faith (Eph 4:3-6), and unity in love which can be fragile. Pray that we will forgive one another (Eph 4:30-5:2). Pray that everyone will serve God zealously and with pure motives (Col 3:23-25, James 4:1-3). Do pray always that for the Lord's Day worship service, the key highlight of the week where we meet God to worship Him, receive His Truth (Jhn 4:23-24), and serve Him (Is 58:13), that God will grant the Pastor the message to feed His flock (Col 2:2-4, Eph 6:18-19).

Do also pray for the physical and spiritual protection of BPCWA every day. Next week, God willing, we will see more of what to pray for and how to we can pray for God's church, BPCWA, which He provided to us and our family.

Yours in our Lord's service

Pastor

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS, PRAISE & PETITION**

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- 1. Annual Congregational Meeting (Today, after Worship):** BPCWA members please reconvene in main sanctuary 15 minutes after the worship service for the ACM meeting, which is for members only. Lunch will be served after the ACM meeting.
- 2. Chinese Retreat Registration Closing (Today):** Please register with Kenny Tan by today if you have not done so. The \$5 for subsidised catered lunch will be collected. Retreat will be held at church next Monday, 24 September, 9 am-3 pm.
- 3. Church Combined Fellowship (This Friday, 21 September, 7:30 pm):** Are separatists causing schisms in Christianity? Would not my unbelieving friends and even believers be stumbled by the idea and practice of separation? How should I practice Biblical Separation in my day to day choices? In this final session, we will use Biblical principles to answer the many practical questions. Do come and learn. The audios and notes of previous sessions are available on our website.
- 4. Adelphe Bible Study (Next Sunday, 23 September, 3:30 pm):** Come join this Bible study as we discuss God's permissive will in the life of Joseph (Genesis 37-50), and the lessons we must learn about God's permissive will in our lives. All ladies are encouraged to come, ask questions and learn more about God's will.

5. **Busy Bee (Next Saturday, 29 September, 9:00 am):** We encourage as many as possible to come to clean the church and know the joy of serving God together in this area. Lunch will be provided.

6. **Thanksgiving and Prayer Items:**

- Thank God for His constant provision and protection over BPCWA and worshippers.
- Thank God for preserving Far Eastern Bible College so that we have a sound college to train workers for His work.
- Pray for the concluding session of the Church Combined Fellowship this Friday to build clarity and personal convictions of Biblical Separation for everyone in their daily lives and choices.
- Pray for discussions and decisions at the Session Meeting this Saturday to be directed by God's precepts in unity of mind, for His kingdom.
- Pray for all of us to desire to be holy witnesses for our God everywhere He places us, and to point unbelievers to trust and worship Him alone.

SERVICE DUTY	16/9 COMBINED - ACM	23/9 COMBINED
Speaker/Interpreter	Pastor Joseph Poon/Yew Jinn Chieng	Pastor Joseph Poon/Sonny Lim
Worship Leader/Interpreter	Deacon Joel Wong/Kong Vui Yip	Deacon Adrian Cheng/Kong Vui Yip
Preparatory Hymn	Deacon Eugene Leong	Deacon Joel Wong
Musician(s)	Sharon Poon	Sharon Poon
Welcomers	Claude Yiu, Esther Yiu, Lee Lian Yong	Wei Yan, Bei Li, Mark Heath
Offering Stewards	Kenny Chia, Alex Luu, Claude Yiu Jason Tey, Michael Lee, Mark Heath	Edward Ee, Colin Chng, Pei Shion Chai Stephen Chia, Wei Yan, Yi Choong Liew
Ushers	Caleb Cheng, Yung Tsing Mew, Yi Jye Chieng	Benjamin Kan, Cheryl Kan, Valerie Wan
Audio Visual	Albert Ho	Kenny Chia
Kitchen Duties	Yi San Chieng, Lily Liow, Edward Teng Joanne Teng	Lee Lian Yong, Yi Jye Chieng Christine Chia, Mable Soon, Lee Chin Yong

### APPOINTMENTS FOR TODAY AND THE WEEK

Sunday	16/9	11:00 am	Annual Congregational Meeting
Tuesday	18/9	10:00 am	Chinese Bible Study
		7:30 pm	Prayer Meeting: Pastor Joseph Poon/Yew Jinn Chieng, Deacon Joel Wong, Sharon Poon
Wednesday	19/9	7:30 pm	Far Eastern Bible College Online Courses: Old Testament History
Friday	21/9	10:00 am	Mothers Fellowship: Genesis
		7:30 pm	Church Combined Fellowship
Sunday	23/9	8:30 am	Pre-Service Prayer Meeting
		9:00 am	English Basic Bible Knowledge Class/Chinese Basic Bible Knowledge Class
		10:00 am	Sunday Combined Worship Service
		2:00 pm	Nursing Home: Concorde/Onslow Gardens
			Nursing Home: Berrington/Bull Creek
3:30 pm	Adelphe Bible Study		

### LAST WEEK'S ATTENDANCES & OFFERINGS

**Attendances** - Sunday Worship: 205 (Combined: 174; CSS: 31); Prayer Meeting: 77

**Tithes and Offerings** - Sunday Worship: \$7,039.75; Designated Love Gifts (Benjamin Kan: \$200.00; Piano Tuning: \$400.00)

**Building Fund** - Last Week: \$10,470; To Date: \$106,641.61; Gap: \$1,193,358.39

### WESTMINSTER CONFESSION OF FAITH - CHAPTER ONE: OF THE HOLY SCRIPTURES

7. All things in Scripture are not alike plain in themselves, nor alike clear unto all; yet those things which are necessary to be known, believed, and observed, for salvation, are so clearly propounded and opened in some place of Scripture or other, that not only the learned, but the unlearned, in a due use of the ordinary means, may attain unto a sufficient understanding of them.

