



BIBLE-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF W.A.

For the Testimony and Glory of Jesus Christ

Vol. 31 No. 5
February 8th, 2015

SUNDAY COMBINED WORSHIP SERVICE

1 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.

Preparatory Hymn

Allan Ang

Prelude

Winnie Lim

Call to Worship

Robert Wong/Andy Yu

*Hymn

HOP 360 We Praise Thee, O God

*Invocation/Gloria Patri 1

Responsive Reading

Psalm 65

Hymn

HOP 176 Nothing But the Blood

Presentation of Tithes & Offerings

*Doxology 2/Offertory Prayer

Scripture Reading

Numbers 21:1-3

Hymn

HOP 284 All the Way My Saviour Leads Me

Pastoral Prayer/Message

Rev Joseph Poon/Kong Vui Yip

Seeking Deliverance

*Hymn

HOP 293 Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

*Benediction/Threefold Amen

Announcements

*The Lord Bless You and Keep You 3

*Congregation Standing

2 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.

3 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 2015: "WALK WORTHY OF THE LORD UNTO ALL PLEASING" (Colossians 1:10)

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WORDS FROM OUR FOUNDING PASTOR

My dear readers,

1. WHAT PROFIT IN LABOUR? (Ecclesiastes 1 & 2)

The mass of mankind revolts from the Preacher's judgment. He therefore throws down the challenge. "*What profit...?*" (Eccl 1:3). Oh yes, all labour brings its own pro-fit; all gathering its own harvest. On the other hand the slothful will come to poverty and grief. So the wise king said, "*Go to the ant, thou sluggard; consider her ways and be wise*" (Prov 6:6). Paul the Apostle testified how he "*wrought with labour and travail night and day... to make ourselves an ensample unto you to follow. . . that if any would not work, neither should he eat*" (2 Thess 3:8-10). Surely on this earth all men since Adam's day are born to a life of toil and labour. Had not the Lord Creator ruled that "*in the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread, till thou return unto the ground*" (Gen 3:19)?

There is dignity in manual labour. "*For even the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister...*" (Mark 10:45) His example blotted out any stain of meanness and elevated manual work to be worthy of the greatest of men. So, Singapore's first Prime Minister Mr Lee Kuan Yew did the country a good turn by his "Use Your Hands Campaign" in schools. Every young person should train his hands not merely for pen and keyboard, but brooms and brushes, mops and pails as well, to lasting profit for home and country.

When we consider the realities "beyond the sun" then the profits of our earthly labour amount to little. Whatever the success and profit, even the gaining of the whole world, everything that we have achieved stops on this side of the grave. Nothing of our earthly profit is carried beyond. Build yourself a mansion, a city, an empire, yet you cannot avoid meeting death in every street. To expect from the world that which is not in it, is surely to "*labour for that which satisfieth not*" (Isa 55:2).

To pursue wisdom, riches, honour and sensual indulgence is to chase after vanity, to see shadow for substance. "*Labour not for the meat which perisheth, but for the meat which endureth unto everlasting life...*" (John 6:27) so says the Lord of life.

2. TO EVERYTHING A SEASON (Ecclesiastes 3)

Everything around us is in a perpetual state of flux and change. We see one vast shifting scene. To the world the constant motion is part of fate and chance. Not so, says the Preacher. *“To every thing there is a season”* (Eccl 3:1); to every change an unseen Hand is in control. All events, whether the most casual or the most care-fully contrived, are over-ruled. To everything there is a time fixed and predeter-mined. Did you think that it was by your careful planning, fore-thought and ef-fort that it happened the way it did? Not so! God was in overall control!

Known unto God are all His works from the beginning of the world (Acts 15:18). It is He who sees the end from the beginning, who keeps His eyes on things great and small, even from everlasting to everlasting. Everything happens ac-cording to His good will and foreknowledge. Do you know this great God as your Saviour, Lord, and Master? In Him you may have absolute confidence and trust, for with Him there are no emergencies, no accidents, no surprises. He knows your entire life, every event from the cradle to the grave. Did you know, dear believer, He thought of you and included you in His plan long before you were born!

God has His TIME TABLE. Even the school child will understand this. We all function according to a time table -- more or less. But God’s TIME TABLE is better than ours! Infinitely better! He never needs alter it, or update it from year to year. He keeps His appointments “to the dot of the hour.” He is never late, never too early. Our God is always just on time! How marvellous! That’s why He is God -- He never makes a mistake, is never taken by surprise.

So there was a season for Israel to sojourn in Egypt and a season for Israel to be delivered. Moses tried 40 years before the time. He failed miserably. But when God’s time came, “on the self-same day,” the hosts of the Lord went out of Egypt, not a day late! (Exod 12:41). In the fulness of time, the Saviour came (Gal 4:4). Before the appointed time none could lay hands on Jesus, but when His time was come, He laid down His life. Soon He’s coming again -- when the time is fulfilled. Do you know the time and season?

3. REMEMBER NOW THY CREATOR (Ecclesiastes 12)

The Preacher opens this final chapter with an appeal to young people -- those in the flower of youth. With all his wisdom and experience, Solomon addresses you, my young reader! His words are "worth their weight in gold"!

But the world says, "Youth is for pleasure, old age for God! God can wait, there's time enough to consider religion another day. NOW is the time for enjoyment and fun." The Devil wants your prime time -- God can have you when you are bent and lame!

Not so, says Solomon. The best time to serve God is NOW! The pleasures and passions of youth lead on to a slippery path, the broad way *"that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat"* (Matt 7:13). The glitter of the world is an illusion. Its promise is sweet, its payment bitter. Christian reader, the world is vain -- worse than vanity. It must have no claim on you.

But there is One who owns us. He made us, then re-made us. He is our Creator and Redeemer, the Almighty. He made all things and He owns every-thing. He owns you! Rightfully, God claims you -- your time, your ability, your possessions, yourself. He is the great God who died for you to give you new life, eternal life. Is this not reason enough to remember Him? And what better time to show your gratitude than NOW when you are not too old!

But by nature we tend to forget, even to forget those who have done us the greatest good. Nature and habit detract from our needful duties. Alas! Do we not oftentimes neglect our loving God, the Heavenly Father, who is always giving and forgiving? Our hearts cannot deny it, our conscience rebukes us.

Hear then the words of wisdom and truth: *"Remember now thy Creator in the days of thy youth, while the evil days come not, nor the years draw nigh, when thou shalt say, I have no pleasure in them"* (Eccl 12:1). Remember Him! For, remembrance is the essence of gratitude. Think of Him first thing in the morning. Ponder His Almighty power and unspeakable love. Meditate on His Word all the day long. Serve Him with heart and soul and mind and strength. Give Him the strength of your youth.

Remember Him -- now!

God bless all readers.

Yours faithfully in the Saviour's Service,
Dr SH Tow

ANNOUNCEMENTS, PRAISE & PETITION

1. **Men's Fellowship & Ladies' Fellowship:** will be held next Sunday the 15th of February. Dinner at 6 pm and program starts at 7:15 pm. We encourage everyone to come and join us.
2. **University Orientation Day Outreach:** UWA will be on the 20th of February, and Curtin will be on the 24th of February. More details to come next week.
3. **Mandarin Choir:** Starts next Sunday.
4. **Thanksgiving and Prayer Items:**
 - For the safe return of Rev & Mrs. Poon to Perth.
 - The Orientation Day outreaches and for those coming from overseas to study in Perth.
 - For a safe start to the new primary and high school year.
 - A strong, faithful and united Session and church.
 - Program for February and throughout the year.
 - Those who are interested in going to the Mission trips in April.
 - Those who are travelling overseas and returning home for Chinese New Year. May they have a safe journey and be a good testimony to their family and friends.
 - Rebuilding of Nehemiah's place.
 - God's leading and timing to restarting the mandarin worship service once a month.
 - Those who are spiritually discouraged and physically unwell.
 - Security in and around the church and homes.

| SERVICE DUTY | 8/2 COMBINED | 15/2 COMBINED |
|--|--|---|
| Speaker/Interpreter | Rev Joseph Poon/Kong Vui Yip | Rev Joseph Poon/Sonny Lim |
| Worship Leader/Interpreter | Robert Wong/Andy Yu | Dn Michael Lee/Dn Joel Wong |
| Prep Hymns | Allan Ang | Kenny Tan |
| Musician | Winnie Lim | Sharon Poon |
| Welcomers | Eddie Foo, Carol Wee, Albert Ho | Lee Fung Fong, Andy Ho, Lily Liow |
| Offering Stewards *To Help Count Offering | *Eddie Foo, *Albert Ho, Allen Liew, Adrian Ng, Allan Ang, Alex Luu | *Allen Liew, *Edward Ee, Alex Luu Eugene Leong, Kenny Tan, Claude Yiu |
| Ushers | Allen Liew, Audrey Liow, Yi San Chieng | Edward Ee, Yi Jye Chieng, Yi Mey Tan |
| P.A. System | Caleb Cheng | Adrian Ng |
| Kitchen Duties | Lee Fung Fong, Andy Ho, Margaret Ng, Christine Chia | Yi Min Chieng, Yi San Chieng, Lily Liow, Shuin Ning Jong |
| JSS Singspiration | Camilia/Yi Mey | Karen/Yung/Rowena |
| Toddler Class Assistant | Yi Jye/An Ning | Mary/Yi Mey |
| Van Drivers | Eugene Leong (0401155386) / Allan Ang (0433032709) | |

| Old Folks' Home Ministry | | |
|--------------------------|--|--|
| Subiaco | Rev Joseph Poon (Sharon Poon) | Edward Ee (Karen Ee) |
| South Perth | Hall A: Dn Adrian Cheng Hall B: Jason Tey | Hall A: Rev Joseph Poon Hall B: Allan Ang |
| Bayswater | Allan Ang | Andy Yu |

| APPOINTMENTS OF THE WEEK | | | |
|--------------------------|------|---------|---|
| Tuesday | 10/2 | 7:30pm | Prayer Meeting: Rev Joseph Poon/Dn Joel Wong, Mark Heath, Karen Ee |
| Wednesday | 11/2 | 7:30pm | FEBC Night Class: Life of Christ |
| Friday | 13/2 | 7:30pm | Fellowship Meeting: Regen/Youth 180°/CYAF/CYPG |
| Sunday | 15/2 | 8.30am | Pre-Service Prayer Meeting |
| | | 9:00am | English & Mandarin Sunday School/ English & Mandarin Basic Bible Knowledge Class |
| | | 10:00am | Combined Sunday Worship Service |
| | | 12pm | Mandarin Choir |
| | | 12:15pm | Church Van Depart |
| | | 2:00pm | Nursing Home: Concorde – 25 Anstey Street, South Perth Onslow Gardens – 39 Hamersley Road, Subiaco |
| | | 3:30pm | Nursing Home: Ben Ritcher Lodge – 480 Guildford Road, Bayswater |
| | | 6pm | Men's Fellowship & Ladies' Fellowship |

ATTENDANCE & OFFERINGS (1/2)

Attendance: 177 (Combined-151; JSS-26); Prayer Meeting: 39
Offerings in Total: \$5437.95

General Fund: \$5437.95 (#3870-\$329; #3871-\$241)
Mission Fund: (10% of General Fund is set aside for missions)

SHORTER CATECHISM: Which is the Fourth Commandment? The Fourth Commandment is, *Remember the Sabbath-day, to keep it holy. Six days shalt thou labour, and do all thy work: But the seventh day is the sabbath of the LORD thy God: in it thou shalt not do any work, thou, nor thy son, nor thy daughter, thy manservant, nor thy maid-servant, nor thy cattle, nor thy stranger that is within thy gates: For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is, and rested the seventh day: wherefore the LORD blessed the sabbath day, and hallowed it* (Exo 20:8-11; Deu 5:12-15).