



BIBLE-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF W.A.

For the Testimony and Glory of Jesus Christ

Vol. 32 No. 12
March 29th, 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

Claude Yiu

Prelude

Sharon Poon

Call to Worship

Dn Joel Wong/Sonny Lim

*Hymn

HOP 2 To God Be the Glory

*Invocation/Gloria Patri 1

Responsive Reading

Psalm 69:1-12

Hymn

HOP 216 The Solid Rock

Presentation of Tithes & Offerings

*Doxology 2/Offertory Prayer

Scripture Reading

Numbers 25:1-9

Hymn

HOP 125 Open My Eyes, That I May See

Pastoral Prayer/Message

Rev Joseph Poon/Andy Yu

Who Is Your Greatest Enemy?

*Hymn

HOP 312 My Soul, Be on Thy Guard

*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. Garden of Agony

Let us follow in our dear Saviour's steps up the Mount of Olives to a garden called Gethsemane, a quiet retreat much loved by the Lord. There He resorted with the twelve for the final contest with the forces of darkness. Let us pray for spiritual eyesight to picture in our mind's eye the garden scene.

The Saviour praying. There He was, first on His knees, then on His face, wrestling in the prayer of His life. More than any time before, the Son of man needed the strengthening of the Father. We see Jesus *"in the likeness of sinful flesh"* (Rom 8:3), who *"was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin"* (Heb 4:15). In the flesh, He must needs engage in prayer: *"the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak"* (Matt 26: 41).

With sweat and tears as our High Priest, Jesus prepared to offer up Himself, our perfect sacrifice for sins. In His flesh, He *"offered up prayers and supplications with strong crying and tears unto him that was able to save him from death"* (Heb 5:7). As the burden of the whole world's sin bore down on His sinless body, the sweat fell from Him to the ground like great drops of blood.

"If Thou be willing." Our Lord's one consuming passion was to finish the work which the Father had committed to Him. At the same time He shuddered at the awesome task. Hence His prayer, ***"Father, if thou be willing, remove this cup from me: nevertheless not my will, but thine, be done."*** (Luke 22:42). In this prayer Jesus sealed His perfect submission to the Father.

The disciples sleeping. They were yet in the days of their carnal weakness, before the Holy Ghost came upon them. Their spirit was willing but their flesh was weak. To watch and pray proved too much for their tired bodies. Our Lord's pleading made no impression on their weary frames. Their spirit was overcome by the flesh. While Christ wrestled in prayer, they nestled in sleep.

2. The drama of redemption

The Jews. And the whole multitude of them arose, and led him to Pilate, and they began to accuse him: These were the chief priests, the scribes and all the council. They brought false charges against Jesus, and false witnesses (Matt 26:60), but Pilate found no fault in Him, nothing worthy of death (Matt 27:18, 23, 24). But each time the Jews obstructed the process of justice by their loud clamour: *“Crucify him, crucify him!”* And the voices of them and the chief priests prevailed.

The Governor. Pilate was corrupt and weak. He saw that Jesus was innocent and should be released. But he was more concerned with safeguarding his own position than seeing justice done. When he showed that he would release Jesus, the Jews cried out, *“If thou let this man go, thou art not Caesar’s friend”* (John 19:12). He bowed to their pressure and delivered Jesus unto them to be crucified. After all, who was Jesus? His life was dispensable but Pilate’s position was not.

The Prisoner, Man of Sorrows! What a name for the innocent, spotless Son of God. *“He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth”* (Isa 53:7). Helpless He stood in our place that our hopeless estate might be helped. Let us pause a moment in silent contemplation, and see our Saviour bearing all the insult and injury for us, enduring the *“contradiction of sinners”* (Heb 12:3). Surely He has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows!

The Almighty. In all the drama, we see God the Father in overall control, directing events from His throne in every detail. It was the wisdom and power of God that sent Jesus to suffer (1 Cor 1:23-24), a mystery *“which God ordained before the world unto our glory: Which none of the princes of the world knew: for had they known it, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory”* (1 Cor 2:7-8). In all the suffering, God the Father had a part, for *“God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto himself”* (2 Cor 5:19).

3. The mystery of the Cross

Foreordained of God. The world will never understand the crucifixion, for *“the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness, but unto us which are called it is the power of God ... and the wisdom of God”* (1 Cor 1:18, 24). By God’s wise design *“foreordained before the foundation of the world”* (1 Pet 1:20), God the Father predetermined how, where and when His eternal Son should die. It was God who “programmed the event” in every detail: that Christ should suffer at the hands of the Romans who introduced the utterly cruel and gruesome form of execution. At His direction events converged, human agents moved and circumstances fell into place, fulfilling His eternal purposes perfectly.

Foreshadowed in History. In the fullness of time God moved to redeem His people Israel from Egypt. One fateful night, the passover lamb in each Israelite household was killed, and under the protection of its blood God’s people were freed from the bondage of Pharaoh. In all subsequent years Israel commemorated the event by the Passover Feast — all these pointing then to the coming sacrifice of our Passover, the spotless Lamb of God, our one perfect sacrifice which alone takes away our sins (Heb 10). Therefore our Lord determined that the Last Supper should be on the night of the Passover. Do you not see, dear reader, the hand of God?

Foretold by Jesus Himself. To Nicodemus who came to Him by night, our Lord described His coming death: *“And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of man be lifted up: That whosoever believeth in him should not perish ...”* (John 3:14-15). God sent fiery serpents to punish the rebellious and ungrateful Israelites. To save them from their pain and death God commanded Moses to raise a brazen serpent, and as many as beheld the serpent of brass lived (Num 21:9). Even so, our Lord Jesus was lifted up on the cross that as many as looked to Him in faith should be healed from the fatal serpent bite of Satan.

Dear reader, have you looked to the crucified Saviour for salvation?

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS, PRAISE & PETITION

- 1. City Evangelism:** If you are interested in the evangelism outreach in the city, please meet at 1:45pm at church for a briefing and prayer. The prayer team will remain at church and the outreach will conclude at 5pm with testimonies and encouragement from the day.
- 2. Rededication forms/Church service survey:** Please drop your forms into the box provided in the foyer by the end of today.
- 3. Lunch Fellowship:** Please stay behind after the Worship Service for fellowship over lunch. All are welcome!
- 4. Good Friday and Easter Worship Service:** as we remember the crucifixion, and celebrate the resurrection of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, please note the following services will be held. The Lord's Supper will be conducted on the Good Friday Worship Service. Please come with prepared hearts.

DATE/TIME	SERVICE
3/4 Friday 7:30pm	Good Friday Combined Worship Service Lord's Supper
5/4 Sunday 7:30am	Easter Sunrise Service Venue: Outdoor Amphitheatre, City of Melville. Breakfast at church after the Sunrise Service
5/4 Sunday 10:00am	Easter Sunday Combined Worship Service

- 5. Church 29th Anniversary:** Next Sunday we will be celebrating BPCWA's 29th Anniversary. Please bring a plate of finger food to share after the worship service as we celebrate this milestone. A thanksgiving dinner will be held next Sunday evening at 6pm. Registration for the dinner closes today. Please register with sisters Yi San or Yi Min.

- 6. English Basic Bible Knowledge classes:** A new cycle of classes conducted by Rev Joseph Poon will begin on the 12th April (the Sunday after Easter) at 9am in the upper level sanctuary. Worshippers who are considering baptism or transfer of membership, or would like a refresher of important doctrines of our faith are encouraged to attend these classes.
- 7. BPCWA Family Camp:** will be held from Sunday to Thursday 5th – 9th July at Orchard Glory Resort. The camp speaker is Reverend Koshy.
- 8. Item collection for Myanmar and Cebu Mission:** Thank God for all those who have given to the Myanmar and Cebu missions. Due to baggage allowance limits, we are unable to accept anymore clothing. However, if you have a used laptop or mobile phone to give, please see Sister Choon Fang Wong by next week.
- 9. Thanksgiving and Prayer Items:**
- A blessed Mandarin Family Care Group Meeting last Sunday.
 - Learning of God's will in last Friday's Combined Fellowship Meeting.
 - City Evangelism – God's protection to the brethren who are participating in the outreach. Pray for those who will receive the gospel tracts to have receptive hearts to the Gospel.
 - Good Friday and Easter Services.
 - Rebuilding of Nehemiah Place.
 - God's leading and timing to restarting the Mandarin Worship Service once a month.
 - Those who are unwell physically.
 - Safety and security in and around church and home.

SERVICE DUTY	29/3 COMBINED - Lunch Fellowship	5/4 COMBINED - 29th Anniversary
Speaker/Interpreter	Rev Joseph Poon/Andy Yu	Rev Joseph Poon/Sonny Lim
Worship Leader/Interpreter	Dn Joel Wong/Sonny Lim	Dn Adrian Cheng/Kong Vui Yip
Prep Hymns	Claude Yiu	Claude Yiu
Musician(s)	Sharon Poon	Karen Ee
Welcomers	Allen Liew, Fiona Liew, Claude Yiu	Jonathan Woo, Dn Michael Lee, Bernie Clarke
Offering Stewards *To Help Count Offering	*Adrian Cheng, *Allen Liew, Alex Luu, Yi Choong Liew, Claude Yiu, Dn Stephen Chia	*Jonathan Woo, *Claude Yiu, Kenny Chia, Mark Heath, Dn Michael Lee, Dn Stephen Chia
Ushers	Yi Choong Liew, Ellainne Cheng, Lee Lee Yong	Kenny Chia, Audrey Liow, Yi San Chieng
P.A. System	Adrian Ng	Adrian Ng
Kitchen Duties	Lilian Yong, Victoria Lew, Mew YungTsing, Julia Sun	Lee Fung Fong, Andy Ho, Margaret Ng, Christine Chia
JSS Singspiration	Esther/Kenny Chia	Valerie/Yi Jye
Toddler Class Assistant	Lee Lee/Mary	Yi Mey/Ellainne
Transport	Eugene Leong (0401 155 386) / Allan Ang (0433 032 709)	

Old Folks' Home Ministry

Subiaco	Edward Ee (Karen Ee)	Edward Ee (Karen Ee)
South Perth	Hall A: Mark Heath Hall B: Rev Joseph Poon	Hall A: Mark Heath Hall B: Caleb Cheng
Bayswater	Kenny Tan	Caleb Cheng

SERVICE DUTY	3/4 Good Friday (7:30pm) Holy Communion	5/4 Sunrise Service (7:30am) Amphitheatre, City of Melville
Speaker/Interpreter	Rev Joseph Poon/Kong Vui Yip	Rev Joseph Poon/Dn Joel Wong
Worship Leader/Interpreter	Robert Wong/Dn Joel Wong	Mark Heath/Dn Joel Wong
Prep Hymns	Allan Ang	N/A
Musician(s)	Sharon Poon	Sharon Poon
Holy Communion Helpers	Michael, Stephen, Adrian, Joel, Robert, Mark	N/A
Welcomers	Eddie Foo, Lilian Yong, Lee Chin Yong	Kenny & Yi Mey Tan, Shie Tian Wong, Rowena Cheng
Offering Stewards *To Help Count Offering	*Edward Ee, *Allen Liew, Caleb Cheng, Eugene Leong, Yi Choong Liew, Eddie Foo	N/A
Ushers	Caleb Cheng, Lee Lee Yong, Angeline Yong	N/A
P.A. System	Albert Ho	Caleb Cheng & Adrian Ng
Kitchen Duties	Yi San & Team	Breakfast in church after Sunrise Service Lilian Yong & Team

