



BIBLE-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF W.A.

For the Testimony and Glory of Jesus Christ

Vol. 32 No. 13
April 5th, 2015

EASTER 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 Karen Ee

Call to Worship Dn Adrian Cheng/Kong Vui Yip

*Hymn **HOP 108** Christ the Lord Is Risen Today

*Invocation/Gloria Patri 1

Responsive Reading Psalm 69:13-21

Hymn **HOP 364** Praise Him! Praise Him!

Presentation of Tithes & Offerings

*Doxology 2/Offertory Prayer

Choir Presentation **HOP 109** I Know that My Redeemer Liveth

Scripture Reading Luke 24:33-43

Hymn **HOP 152** Jesus Saves!

Pastoral Prayer/Message Rev Joseph Poon/Sonny Lim

Christ's Resurrection, Our Joy

*Hymn **HOP 110** I Serve a Risen Saviour

*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)

27 Ullapool Road
Mt Pleasant, WA 6153

P: (08) 9364 9898
W: <http://www.bpcwa.org.au>
E: bpcwa@bpcwa.org.au

Elder James Wong
Dn Adrian Cheng
Dn Michael Lee
Dn Stephen Chia
Dn Joel Wong
Rev Joseph Poon

M: 0438 392 242
M: 0402 036 430
M: 0403 002 368
M: 0433 502 981
M: 0423 862 392
M: 0406 241 032

E: jameslcwong@hotmail.com
E: ajcheng@inet.net.au
E: mtlee35@yahoo.com.au
E: stephenchia50@hotmail.com
E: yiing_yw@yahoo.com
E: josephpoonemail@gmail.com

WORDS FROM OUR FOUNDING PASTOR

My dear readers,

1. He is not here

Christianity stands — or falls — with the doctrine of the resurrection of Jesus Christ. Without the resurrection we have nothing to live for, nothing to believe in, no future to look forward to. As the Apostle Paul wrote in 1 Corinthians 15:14 and 17, *“And if Christ be not risen, then is our preaching vain, and your faith is also vain...ye are yet in your sins.”*

Men through the ages have attacked this vital and foundational doctrine. Scientific men especially are opposed to the miraculous elements in the Gospels. “Intellectual giants” like Huxley have declared with arrogant finality that “miracles do not happen”, while others try to evolve a non-miraculous Christianity. The Church of England bishop of Durham, Dr David Jenkins, dismisses the resurrection with the mischievous suggestion that the disciples of Jesus *“pinched His body away.”*

More honest men (like Frank Morrison, the brilliant London lawyer who wrote “Who Moved the Stone”) admit, after serious study that, purely from the evidence of the Gospel accounts, **the resurrection stands as an unassailable historic fact.** Morrison had started out to write a book to “debunk” the resurrection. He ended writing quite the opposite, being compelled by sheer force of evidence to uphold the Gospel’s authenticity.

In Luke’s account, we are presented with the evidence of at least six eye-witnesses. What evidence? (a) The stone had been rolled away when they arrived at the sepulchre very early in the morning. (b) The body of Jesus was not in the tomb. (c) The angel’s message: *“Why seek ye the living among the dead? He is not here, but is risen: remember how he spake unto you when he was yet in Galilee”* (Luke 24:5-6). Our Lord had risen, as He said!

But when these things were brought to the apostles, they “seemed to them as idle tales” (Luke 24:11)! How about you, my friend?

2. Walking and talking with Jesus

For the two disciples on the Emmaus road, life was never so sad and dreary. They had high hopes in the Lord, having *“trusted that it had been he which should have redeemed Israel”* (Luke 24:21). The crucifixion put an abrupt end to all their expectations. But that morning they had heard startling reports from certain of their womenfolk of an empty tomb and a vision of angels who said that Jesus was alive. Could it be that Jesus had risen from the dead, as the angels testified? If this were true, where was Jesus? No one had seen Him alive!

Doubt and gloom clouded the minds of the two disciples as they reasoned and debated along the way, until the risen Lord Himself joined them. *“But their eyes were holden that they should not know him”* (Luke 24:16). Jesus did not reveal Himself to them, for a purpose, in order that they might more freely express their innermost doubts and fears, and in order that He might expound the Scriptures as a detached “third person.” So He did, explaining to them all the things concerning Himself. And how their hearts did burn within them as He opened to them the Scriptures (Luke 24:32).

We too are, as it were, on the road to Emmaus. Until the risen Lord comes into our life, our walk will be dreary and sad, gloomy and purposeless. If the One on whom we had pinned our hopes is dead and gone, what future is there for us? Sadly, this is the state of many Christians. The risen Saviour has yet to come into their lives. To all true believers our Lord says, *“Go ye, therefore, and teach all nations...and lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen”* (Matt 28:19-20). When the risen Lord comes into your life, He will walk and talk with you, and your heart will also burn within you. Things will never be the same again!

3. The risen Lord ascends

In His post-Resurrection ministry among His disciples our Lord appeared ten times on record. At the end of forty days He visibly ascended up to heaven from

the Mount of Olives, bringing to a victorious conclusion His earthly ministry. Let us ask ourselves: what are the implications of our Lord's Ascension? We can think of four.

a) It was divine strategy. Before His death, Jesus told the disciples: *"It is expedient for you that I go away: for if I go not away, the Comforter will not come unto you; but if I depart, I will send him unto you"* (John 16:7). The coming of the Holy Spirit Comforter was to inaugurate the era of the presence of the Spirit in the Church, fulfilling our Lord's promise, *"Lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world"* (Matt 28:20).

b) It was to prepare us a place. *"In my Father's house are many mansions... I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also"* (John 14:2-3). Peter described this as *"an inheritance incorruptible... that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for you"* (1 Pet 1:4).

c) It was to intercede for us. Seated at the Father's right hand of glory, His atoning work completed (Heb 10:12), Jesus makes intercession for us (Rom 8:34; Heb 7:25), pleading with the Father on our behalf, looking after our interests. Nowhere in the New Testament is He said to be continually offering Himself in Heaven, for His one sacrifice of Himself was **complete** (Heb 10:12-14).

d) It was to await His return to earth. Soon, at a time appointed by the Father, when *"his enemies be made his footstool"* (Heb 10:13), our Lord shall return, *"this same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven"* (Acts 1:11). Then, *"every eye shall see him, and they also which pierced him"* (Rev. 1:7).

4. A crystal clear commission

By Rev Denis Shelton

Some years ago our family purchased a tent. When we brought it home, we found there were no instructions with it: we had great difficulty trying to put all the pieces together that would enable us to have a somewhat habitable piece of canvas over our heads on a holiday!

It is most fitting that our journey through Matthew should conclude with a crystal clear commission from our Lord. Various called “The Great Commission” or “The Christian’s Marching Orders”, our Lord leaves us in no doubt as to what our responsibilities are. We see firstly that our commission is Practical: “*Go ye therefore*”. It implies action; the Lord has commissioned people to teach all nations — an eminently practical activity.

Then we see that the Commission is Plenary — “*all nations.*” Revelation 5:9 reminds us that the redeemed come from “*out of every kindred and tongue and people and nation.*” Every Christian church should have a plenary missionary vision.

Furthermore the Commission is Purposeful in baptising the believers in the triune Name and instructing them in the whole counsel of God; no “flitting” here and there, but establishing churches for the care and instruction of believers.

Finally the Commission is Protected: and this in two ways. Firstly by Christ’s authority: “*All power is given unto me*”; secondly, by Christ’s action: “*Lo I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world.*” This promised protection comes from One whose promise is (as Livingstone puts it) “The word of a Gentleman.”

Who knows where this crystal clear commission will lead you and me? Dare we ignore it? Does your Church only pay lip-service to it, or worse still ignore it altogether? May our Lord’s parting words (the final ones in Matthew) ring in our ears, and may we work it out in obedience. Then, we shall enjoy His presence now and praise Him around the throne in Heaven!

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

Reflection BPCWA 29th anniversary

As I write this article about BPCWA's 29th anniversary, a couple of Bible verses immediately come to my mind from Psalm 103:1-2. Here the Psalmist David said, "Bless the Lord, O my soul and all that is within me, bless His holy name. Bless the Lord, O my soul and forget not all His benefits."

All thanks and praise to the Lord for His faithfulness and His wonderful work upon BPCWA all these years. As we come to celebrate this great joyous occasion of our 29th anniversary, we must remember it is only by the grace of God and of His great mercy that has enabled us to continue to be His witness in this part of the world.

Thank God for the past 29 years and how He has seen us through despite many challenges, difficulties, testings and ups and downs. 29 years of God's unfailing grace, through rough seas and smooth at times, yet our God is merciful and gracious in preserving and sustaining us with His almighty power.

Celebrating 29 eventful years of the Lord's wonderful grace to BPCWA, we can only said, Great is our God and greatly to be praised. While writing this article, I am reminded of the perilous time ahead of us and how much time that we have to serve our God with our lives. The world is certainly not looking better as we listen to the news. Intense persecution of Christians has increased in various parts of the world. How much time do we have to evangelise to our non-Christian friends, loved ones, relatives and others around us?

Can BPCWA continue to press on in spreading the gospel of Jesus Christ? Can each one of us continue to remain faithful and love our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ? May this 29th anniversary not only reminds us of God's blessings but also spur our hearts to serve Him until our Lord returns.

I am always reminded of this hymn, Must I go and empty handed?

Must I go and empty handed, thus my dear Redeemer meet?

Not one day of service give Him , Lay no trophy at His feet?

Must I go and empty handed? Must I meet my saviour so?

Not one soul with which to greet Him – Must I empty handed go?

The story was told of a young man who was about to die. This young man had been a Christian for only one month. Though thankful to the Lord for granting him salvation during his final hour, he was nevertheless grieved that he'd had no opportunity to serve the Lord nor to share Him with others. He explained, " I am not afraid to die; Jesus saves me now. But must I go empty handed? " This incident prompted the writing of the hymn.

Let us heed this hymn's counsel to stop wasting our years in the earthly things that will pass away one day and instead to give them to our Saviour, to strive for the salvation of souls while we still have breath. May we pray to be spiritually energized to take up the burden of sharing the gospel, so that rather than living a life of vanity to later be regretted, we may redeeming the time (Eph. 5:16) and gathered fruit unto life eternal (John 4:36).

Let this hymn provoke our hearts to introduce Jesus to someone while we still have the opportunity. One day the gospel door may not be opened and then we will have lost the opportunity to witness for Him. May the Lord help us and continue to use us in whatever role we have in order to shine for Him.

May all of us at BPCWA redouble our efforts to extend God's kingdom, wherever He calls, both on the home front and beyond our shores – for His coming is even at the door. Our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ said, " I must work the works of Him that sent me, while it is day: the night cometh when no man can work." John 9:4.

Blessed 29th anniversary!

In His service

Elder James

ANNOUNCEMENTS, PRAISE & PETITION

1. The Session wishes all members and worshippers a blessed Easter today.
2. **Church 29th Anniversary:** Today the church is also celebrating her 29th Anniversary. We would like to invite everyone to stay behind for a thanksgiving tea fellowship after the worship service. The thanksgiving dinner will be held 6pm tonight at the North Lake BBQ Chinese Restaurant (406 North Lake Road, Bibra Lake). For those who are yet to pay for the dinner, please see Sisters Yi San or Yi Min today.
3. **English Basic Bible Knowledge Classes:** A new cycle of classes conducted by Rev Joseph Poon will begin next Sunday the 12th of April at 9am in the upper sanctuary. Worshippers who are considering baptism or transfer of membership, or would like a refresher of the important doctrines of our faith are encouraged to attend these classes.
4. **BPCWA Family Camp:** Will be held from Sunday to Thursday 5th – 9th of July at Orchard Glory Resort. The camp speaker is Reverend Das Koshy from Gethsemane BP Church in Singapore. Remember to book your leave early to avoid disappointment.
5. Please mark in your calendar to attend and pray for the following programs held in the month of April:

DATE	DAY/TIME	PROGRAM
11/4	Saturday 9am - 12pm	Church Busy Bee
18/4	Saturday 11:00am	Mandarin Family Care Group Meeting
19/4	Sunday 7:15pm	Men's & Ladies' Fellowship
20-26/4	Monday - Sunday	Myanmar Mission Family Camp
27-3/5	Monday - Sunday	Cebu Mission Family Camp

6. Church Busy Bee: Will be held this Saturday the 11th of April from 9am - 12pm. Please come and serve with us in this activity to tidy up the church. Lunch will be provided. Please see Brother Mark Heath for details.

7. Thanksgiving and Prayer Items:

- For the Good Friday and Easter Sunrise Worship Services as we remember the crucifixion and celebrate the resurrection of Our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.
- God's protection to the brethren who participated in the City Evangelism Outreach last Sunday.
- Those unbelievers who had received the gospel tracts or who have been shared the gospel may come to know God.
- Preparation for the July Family Camp.
- Myanmar and Cebu Mission trips organised by Bethel BP Church in April. Spiritual and physical preparation for all the brethren who are participating in these mission family camps.
- Those who are travelling during the holiday season.
- Re-building of Nehemiah Place.
- God's leading and timing in re-starting the Mandarin Worship Service once a month.
- Those who are spiritually and physically unwell.
- Safety and security in and around church and homes.

SERVICE DUTY	5/4 COMBINED - 29th Anniversary	12/4 COMBINED
Speaker/Interpreter	Rev Joseph Poon/Sonny Lim	Rev Joseph Poon/Kong Vui Yip
Worship Leader/Interpreter	Dn Adrian Cheng/Kong Vui Yip	Dn Michael Lee/Dn Joel Wong
Prep Hymns	Claude Yiu	Allan Ang
Musician(s)	Karen Ee	Winnie Lim
Welcomers	Jonathan Woo, Dn Michael Lee, Bernie Clarke	Eddie Foo, Carol Wee, Albert Ho
Offering Stewards *To Help Count Offering	*Jonathan Woo, *Claude Yiu, Kenny Chia, Mark Heath, Dn Michael Lee, Dn Stephen Chia	*Eddie Foo, Albert Ho, Adrian Ng, Allan Ang, Allen Liew, Dn Adrian Cheng
Ushers	Kenny Chia, Audrey Liow, Yi San Chieng	Adrian Ng, Ruth Wong, Yi Jye Chieng
P.A. System	Adrian Ng	Caleb Cheng
Kitchen Duties	Lee Fung Fong, Andy Ho, Margaret Ng, Christine Chia	Lilian Cheo, Irene Yap, Yi Jye Chieng, Valerie Wan, Edward Ee
JSS Singspiration	Valerie/Yi Jye	Camilia/Terry
Toddler Class Assistant	Yi Mey/Ellainne	Mary/Lee Chin
Transport	Eugene Leong (0401 155 386) / Allan Ang (0433 032 709)	

Old Folks' Home Ministry

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

APPOINTMENTS OF THE WEEK

Tuesday	7/4	7:30pm	Prayer Meeting: Rev Joseph Poon/Dn Joel Wong, Mark Heath, Angeline Yong
Wednesday	8/4	7:30pm	FEBC: Life of Christ
Friday	10/4	10:00am	Mother's Fellowship Group
		7:30pm	Fellowship Meeting: Regen/Youth 180°/CYAF/CYPG
Saturday	11/4	9am-12pm	Busy Bee
Sunday	12/4	8:30am	Pre-Service Prayer Meeting
		9:00am	English & Mandarin Sunday School/English & Mandarin Basic Bible Knowledge Class
		10:00am	Sunday Combined Worship Service
		12:00pm	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

ATTENDANCE & OFFERINGS

29/3

Attendance: 224 (Combined-194; JSS-30); Prayer Meeting: 56
Offerings in Total: \$7803.00
General Fund: \$5373.00 (#3889-Anniversary Dinner-\$1105;
Mission Fund-\$2430.00 (Myanmar \$1210, Cebu \$1220))

3/4 Good Friday

Attendance: 161 (Combined-157; JSS-4)
Offerings in Total: \$2758.60
General Fund: \$2458.60
(Mission Fund-\$300 (Myanmar \$300))

SHORTER CATECHISM: What is forbidden in the fifth commandment? The fifth commandment forbiddeth the neglecting of, or doing anything against, the honor and duty which belongeth to everyone in their several places and relations. (Matt 15:4-6; Rom 13:8).