



# BIBLE-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF W.A.

For the Testimony and Glory of Jesus Christ

April 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2016

## 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.

### 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.

Preparatory Hymn

Claude Yiu

Prelude

Karen Ee

Call to Worship

Dn Adrian Cheng/Dn Joel Wong

\*Hymn

**HOP 4** Holy, Holy, Holy

\*Invocation/Gloria Patri 1

Responsive Reading

Psalm 101

Holy Communion [James, Michael, Adrian, Joel, Robert, Mark]

Hymn

**HOP 91** Rock of Ages

**HOP 101** At the Cross

Presentation of Tithes & Offerings

\*Doxology 2/Offertory Prayer

Scripture Reading

Philippians 3:7-14

Hymn

**HOP 232** Wonderful Peace

Pastoral Prayer/Message

Rev James Sun/Kong Vui Yip

## Questions about God's Goal For Your Life and Mine

\*Hymn

**HOP 259** Be Thou My Vision

\*Benediction/Threefold Amen

Announcements

\*The Lord Bless You and Keep You 3

\*Congregation Standing



Theme for 2016: "SANCTIFIED, AND MEET FOR THE MASTER'S USE" (2 Timothy 2:21)

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# WORDS FROM OUR FOUNDING PASTOR

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My dear readers,

*(Excerpts from Building Firm Foundations, Dr SH Tow)*

## **1. Nature and nurture**

The whole human race is fallen in sin, under condemnation. Before we came to Christ for salvation, we were children of disobedience and by nature the children of wrath (Eph 2:2, 3). Our children too from the time of birth already manifest the same fallen nature. Every child heralds its arrival into the world with a cry and soon (without having to learn) erupts into tantrums of self-will. To young and new parents their newborn child is the loveliest thing in all the world, and to this we all heartily agree. Nevertheless, as enlightened believers we also agree with the old preacher who setting eyes on the baby exclaimed: “What a beautiful bundle of iniquity!”

We have said enough about the need to discipline a child. A further word about the method of discipline by Christian parents. Discipline must be administered with love and parental concern. It must be firm and never frivolous or in a fit of temper. While the intention is to correct errant behaviour or cure some bad habit, there must always be the encouragement towards the positive. At all costs, avoid empty threats, punishments which cannot be enforced, an appearance or spirit of vindictiveness, resentment or vengeance.

Never make the sentence something which the child ought to do anyhow, and should love to do, e.g. “Now for being disobedient to Mother, you will read your Bible for half an hour,” or “You must attend Youth Fellowship meetings for one month.” These activities must never be made punitive sentences. Rather our children and youths should be encouraged by spiritual instruction and parental example to love God’s Word, to love the Church and its activities.

In this day and age, the nurture and upbringing of children is full of pitfalls and difficulties. Parents have to pray for and pray with their children and spend time with them consistently from infancy through their childhood

days. Those times spent doing useful and constructive things with them are precious beyond price. Once lost they can never be recalled, for children advancing into their teenage years are already leaving the parental nest.

Childhood years are years to nurture. It is now or never!

## **2. When parents apologise**

One of the hardest lessons for parents to learn is that they are not infallible. There are times when they are unfair or unkind to their children, perhaps unintentionally or even unconsciously. Nevertheless, in the weakness of the flesh, they have wronged their son or daughter. The child has been obviously hurt. Has this ever happened in your home? If we think back honestly, many parents will discover, to their surprise, that they are not free from this fault.

God's Word admonishes Christian fathers: Fathers, provoke not your children to anger, lest they be discouraged. Fathers are usually the disciplinarians in the home. In the exercise of their authority, it is possible for them to exceed their bounds and become unduly rigorous or severe. It may be a hasty conclusion or a one-sided judgment based on incomplete evidence. As a result, the child has been unjustly reprimanded or unfairly punished. A wrong has been done which even a little child senses.

Children may say nothing, but deep in their hearts a reaction begins to set in. There is a feeling of hurt, possibly anger, resentment, and even rebellion. Of course, the individual psychological and emotional make-up varies, and some children react more than others. Nevertheless, parents should recognise that children do have personalities and feelings and hurt feelings may leave mental wounds and scars. It is well also for parents to remember that, before they realise it, children will grow into adolescents and soon into young adulthood. What kind of parent-child relationships should we be building *now* that will make for a stable, loving and lasting bond in the years to come?

Prevention is better than cure. Let all Christian parents take stock, how they treat their children. Let authority be exercised with love and fairness. One good tip is to put yourself in the place of the child, and the issue becomes a lot clearer. Is this how I would like to be treated by my father?

“In everything by prayer” is another good rule to go by. Constant prayerful communion with God gives wisdom for every situation. But when a child has been wronged, father or mother should have the courage to admit it and say, “Son I’m sorry, my judgement was wrong. Please forgive me.” Then, lovingly, parent and child will be reconciled, and God’s peace in the home restored.

Parents are human – and fallible. O God, teach us when we are wrong to ask for forgiveness.

### **3. What mean ye by this service?**

Children are by nature curious and parents do well to always have a ready and reasonable answer to their questions. Many parents help their children in their school-work. Some even study for them. Their zeal and ambition for their children’s success in worldly learning is to be commended.

Can this same zeal and ambition be applied to the things of God’s Kingdom? Indeed it can, and it should. Remember, God’s plan is for every believing parent to be the spiritual guide and teacher to the children. It is therefore very essential for all parents to equip themselves adequately, at least in Basic Bible Knowledge concerning the main doctrines of our faith. How else can parents instruct their children?

Of course we are not asking all parents to become theologians! But parents must know the basics, the essential minimum. The historic event of the Exodus is one of the essentials every believer ought to know, and know well. God commanded that His great act of deliverance be observed forever by the congregation of Israel. Naturally the children of future generations will ask, “*What do you mean by this service?*” They are curious to know. Then the parents ought to be able to tell them, “It is the sacrifice of the Lord’s Passover, who passed over the houses of the children of Israel in Egypt, when he killed the Egyptians, but spared our houses.”

Today we no longer observe the Passover. Its place has been taken by the Sacrament of the Lord’s Supper. In our church we observe this once a month. In other churches more often, in some it are the may be less. Nevertheless, the elements are the same: bread and wine. Only communicant members

of the church participate while the others are excluded or simply sit as observers. Now the children want to know. "What is it you are eating, Mom? Why am I not allowed to eat?" And so they come with their questions.

Christian parents, Are you able and ready to answer their questions? Do you know the answers? Are you quite clear in your own minds what Holy Communion is? What is the meaning of the bread and the wine? Do you know the difference from the Roman Mass?

*"What mean ye by this service?"* Be sure of your answer before your child confronts you with the question.

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

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS, PRAISE & PETITION**

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- 1. Gratitude:** Thank God for the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration, a blessed Mandarin Family Camp last week and for His precious Word that was preached by Rev James Sun. Rev James will be leaving tomorrow morning. May God grant him journey mercy and continue to bless his pastoral ministry in New York.
- 2. Church Photo Session:** We will be taking a church photo this morning. Everyone, please gather at the front of the church immediately after the worship service.
- 3. Mandarin Family Care Group Meeting:** Tonight at the home of Xiang Yu Wang and Lu Zhang. Address: 46 Parkside Avenue, Mount Pleasant. Rev James Sun will be preaching. Dinner begins at 6pm with meeting starting at 7pm. Please bring a dish to share. We warmly welcome brethren and friends who can understand Mandarin to join. Children will be supervised.

**4. Please mark in your calendar, pray and participate in the programs planned for April:**

DATE	TIME	PROGRAM
16 <sup>th</sup> April Saturday	9:00am – 12pm	Church Busy Bee (Lunch will be provided)
17 <sup>th</sup> April Sunday	6:00pm	Men's Fellowship & Ladies' Fellowship
22 <sup>nd</sup> April Friday	7:30pm	Combined Fellowship Series 1
29 <sup>th</sup> April Friday	7:30pm	Combined Fellowship Series 2

**5. Mission to Myanmar (26-29 May):** As a continuing part of BPCWA's missions support we will be co-labouring with Bethel BPC at the Myanmar BPC churches once again this year. Do come along on this mission trip to get to know the churches and ministries there. This is a great opportunity to experience personally how we can support and encourage them. Please see Rev Joseph for further details.

**6. Thanksgiving and Prayer Items:**

- Thank God for the ministry of Rev James Sun at BPCWA.
- Thank God for seeing us through all the activities in March.
- Pray for the Mandarin Family Care Group Meeting this evening.
- Pray for Rev James Sun's journey back to New York.
- Pray for the program planned for April.
- Pray for the re-development of Nehemiah Place.
- Pray for God's will and leading in re-starting the Mandarin Sunday Worship Service once a month.
- Pray for those who are searching for a job, working away from home, or travelling.
- Pray for the health of all the brethren so that they may serve God. Keep in prayer those who are sick and weak or who may be struggling spiritually.
- Pray for safety in and around the church and in the homes of worshippers.

SERVICE DUTY	3/4 COMBINED - Holy Communion	10/4 COMBINED
Speaker/Interpreter	Rev James Sun/Kong Vui Yip	Rev Joseph Poon/Sonny Lim
Worship Leader/Interpreter	Dn Adrian Cheng/Dn Joel Wong	Elder James Wong/Dn Joel Wong
Prep Hymns	Claude Yiu	Allan Ang
Musician(s)	Karen Ee	Ruth Wong
Welcomers	Jonathan Woo, Bonnie Woo, Mark Heath	Eddie Foo, Carol Wee, Albert Ho
Offering Stewards *To Help Count Offering	*Jonathan Woo, *Claude Yiu, Kenny Chia Yan Wei, Alex Luu, Kenny Tan	*Eddie Foo, *Albert Ho, Adrian Ng Allan Ang, Mark Heath, Dn Adrian Cheng
Ushers	Kenny Chia, Yi San Chieng, Ruth Wong	Adrian Ng, Lilian Cheo, Ellainne Cheng
P.A. System	Yi Choong Liew	Caleb Cheng
Kitchen Duties	Lilian Cheo, Irene Yap, Yi Jye Chieng Valerie Wan, Edward Ee	Yi Min Chieng, Yi San Chieng Lily Liow, Shuin Ning Jong
JSS Singspiration	Holy Communion	Valerie/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	Mark Heath (Ruth Wong)	Edward Ee (Karen Ee)
South Perth	Hall A: Caleb Cheng Hall B: Kenny Tan	Hall A: Allan Ang Hall B: Jason Tey
Bayswater	-	-
Berrington	Mark Heath	Edward Ee

### APPOINTMENTS OF THE WEEK

Tuesday	5/4	7:30pm	Prayer Meeting: Rev Joseph Poon/Kong Vui Yip, Kenny Tan, Yi Mey Tan
Wednesday	6/4	7:30pm	FEBC Online Course Screening: Revelation
Friday	8/4	7:30pm	Fellowship Meeting: Regen/Youth 180°/CYAF/CYPG
Sunday	10/4	8:30am	Pre-Service Prayer Meeting
		9:00am	English & Mandarin Sunday School/English 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 (Recess) Berrington, Subiaco – 45 Bishop St, Jolimont

### ATTENDANCE & OFFERINGS (27/3)

Attendance: 249 (Combined-211; JSS-38); Prayer Meeting: 48; Sunrise Service: 104; Church Combined Fellowship Meeting: 101  
Offerings in Total: \$6976.60; General Fund: \$6976.60; Good Friday: \$4421.35  
(#4016-Mandarin Church Family Camp-\$1000.00; #4017-Library-\$40.00; #4018-Anniversary Dinner-\$1395.00)

**SHORTER CATECHISM: What special act of providence did God exercise towards man in the estate wherein he was created?** When God had created man, he entered into a covenant of life with him, upon condition of perfect obedience; forbidding him to eat of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, upon the pain of death (Genesis 2:16-17; James 2:10).