



BIBLE-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF W.A.

For the Testimony and Glory of Jesus Christ

November 6th, 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

Allan Ang

Prelude

Ruth Wong

Call to Worship

Dn Joel Wong/Sonny Lim

*Hymn

HOP 360 We Praise Thee, O God

*Invocation/Gloria Patri 1

Responsive Reading

Psalm 118:15-29

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

Hymn

HOP 185 According to Thy Gracious Word

HOP 140 Amazing Grace

Presentation of Tithes & Offerings

*Doxology 2/Offertory Prayer

Scripture Reading

1 Corinthians 13:5

Hymn

HOP 281 Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross

Pastoral Prayer/Message

Pastor Joseph Poon/Kong Vui Yip

Unloving Ways

*Hymn

HOP 7 Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

*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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PASTORAL LETTER

Dear BPCWAians, Thank God for the water baptisms and membership transfers last week! With that occasion still fresh in our hearts and minds, it is useful for us to revisit their importance and significance. Or else we would easily forget our own baptismal and membership commitments too.

Water Baptism and Membership. Did you notice last week that the baptismal candidates also took vows of membership to join us as members of BPCWA? Did you ever wonder why this were the case? Baptism is a public confession that you belong to Christ. It is a sign and seal of the Covenant of Grace, the significance of which we looked at last week. At the same time, baptism is also a Sacrament for the solemn admission into the visible church (Westminster Confession of Faith 28:1). Just as the people of God were marked out by their circumcision as part of being Israel, His visible witness in the Old Testament, baptism today marks out the people of God and joins them to the local church, His visible witness in the New Testament. So, when a person is water baptised in a particular church, they are joined to that church.

Membership and accountability. Hebrews 13:17 commands *Obey them that have the rule over you, and submit yourselves: for they watch for your souls, as they that must give account, that they may do it with joy, and not with grief: for that [is] unprofitable for you.* The church has an accountability to God for the baptised person and for every member that joins it. But how can its leaders be accountable for those who will not agree to submit to them? Because of this, included in membership declaration is the acknowledgement

of submission to God's ordained authorities. This is why we ask the candidate if he were willing to subject himself to be cared for and corrected, according the Word, by the authorities God has set over the church. You see, if there were no membership relationship established between believers and the church, the leaders of the church cannot be held accountable by God to watch for their souls, because that believer has chosen not to place himself under the care and authority of that church. Neither is there accountability of that person to the church. This is why without the public declaration and mutual accountability of membership, areas of service needed to be limited for example. Sadly, membership is held in low esteem today because submission to biblical authority is considered as "infringing on personal rights and private space" to modern minds.

Covenantal Membership. At the same time, the member is also accountable to that church and its members as well. It is about the mutual obligations between believers. Notice that a set of questions were asked and individuals were called upon to respond individually. These are not acts of legalism or formalities. At salvation, we become members of the body of Christ (1Cor 12:13), the universal Church. But just as the members of a body are joined to the body, so believers are joined to Christ's visible local body – His church. As we take our membership vows, we are in effect entering into a wonderful covenantal relationship with the local church. The key idea about membership is that it is a mutual pledge between the believer and the local church. It is a mutual vow to care and be responsible for other. This also means that we must respond to the church's correction. It implies that we must not reject others who try to reach out to help. It

reminds us that we must not get upset when other members seek you out to help encourage you to come to the church and its fellowships. This is a much forgotten or ignored understanding. But it does not mean that if you are not a member of BPCWA, we have no care for you. However, this blessed covenantal relationship and its benefits are not fully realised. Covenantal membership is actually a very meaningful commitment, a vow to care, look out for, and respond to one another. How does this look like practically? God willing we will see more from God's Word next week.

Yours in our Lord's service

Pastor

ANNOUNCEMENTS, PRAISE & PETITION

- 1. Seniors' Fellowship:** Our gathering is on this Saturday, 12th Nov at 10:30 am in church. Come and give thanks to God together before the year ends! Pastor Joseph will be speaking on "Giving Thanks To God". Following the meeting, we will have lunch together, so please kindly bring a dish to share. There will be Mandarin translation. All are warmly welcome.

- 2. Young Adults' Summer Camp:** If you are planning to attend the camp for a day trip, and require either lunch (\$10) or dinner (\$14) catered, please register by next Sunday (13 November) as the number of meals need to be finalised. Please be advised that camp briefing will be held next Sunday after the worship service. All campers are required to attend.

- 3. Infant Baptism (13th November):** Parents who have requested to have their infants (or young children) baptised will have a meeting after Service at 11:50 am today in the library.

- 4. Church works at rear of Jeremiah:** The asbestos fence next to Jeremiah house has been removed and a new fence has been installed. However the area is still taped off due to the piles of sand and debris which includes jagged metal sheets. We would ask parents to supervise their children in this area.

- 5. Thanksgiving and Prayer Items:**
 - Thank God for those who have taken their baptismal and membership vows last Sunday. Pray that they will be steadfast and kept strong in faith and earnest in zeal for our Lord.

- Pray for a blessed time of learning God's Word and mutual fellowship at this Saturday's Senior Fellowship.
- Pray for the parents who will be bringing their children for baptism that they will fulfil their covenantal vows to bring up their children in the way of the Lord.
- Pray that the Lord will grant the messages to Pr Joshua and Pastor for the YA Camp. Pray for the camp committee, the preparation of hearts, and also the building up of spiritual bonds in Christ between campers.
- Pray that the Lord will grant wisdom and foresight in the planning of 2017 BPCWA church activities and calendar.
- Pray for the editorial and design team of BPCWA's 30th Anniversary Thanksgiving magazine as they compile it for publication.
- Pray for the spiritual growth of all worshipers, that each will conform more to the image of Christ daily in walk at home, at work, and in schools.
- Pray for those seeking employment and the spiritually discouraged to find direction, grace and joy in our Lord and His Word.
- Pray for the physically unwell to find comfort in the Word and prayer.
- Pray for the FEBC online students at BPCWA, and all school students as they prepare for their examinations. Pray that they will lean on God and not neglect their walk at this time.
- Pray for brother Yew Jinn as he completes his FEBC assignments and takes his examinations this week.
- Pray that all fellowship groups and ministries will serve together in the bond of unity and singleness of purpose.
- Pray for continued unity of BPCWA as we move forward. Pray that God will call a full time resident Chinese Minister to BPCWA according to His will and timing.

SERVICE DUTY	6/11 COMBINED - Holy Communion	13/11 COMBINED
Speaker/Interpreter	Pastor Joseph Poon/Kong Vui Yip	Pastor Joseph Poon/Sonny Lim
Worship Leader/Interpreter	Dn Joel Wong/Sonny Lim	Dn Adrian Cheng/Kong Vui Yip
Prep Hymns	Allan Ang	Claude Yiu
Musician(s)	Ruth Wong	Winnie Lim
Welcomers (Foyer)	Claude Yiu, Esther Yiu, Mark Heath	Terry Chong, Lydia Chong, Yi San Chieng
Offering Stewards *To Help Count Offering	*Jonathan Woo, *Claude Yiu Eugene Leong, Yan Wei, Mark Heath Edward Ee	*Terry Chong, *Yi Choong Liew Mark Heath, Allan Ang, Dn Michael Lee Dn Stephen Chia
Ushers (Sanctuary)	Kenny Chia, Julia Chia, Lilian Cheo	Yi Choong Liew, Ellainne Cheng, Ruth Wong
P.A. System	Caleb Cheng	Albert Ho
Kitchen Duties	Lee Lian Yong, Victoria Lew Mew Yung Tsing, Julia Chia Ilhoa Ramachandran	Yi Min Chieng, Yi San Chieng Lily Liow, Shuin Ning Jong
Transport	Eugene Leong (0401 155 386) / Allan Ang (0433 032 709)	

Old Folks' Home Ministry

Subiaco	Mark Heath (Ruth Wong)	Allan Ang (Hannah Th'ng)
South Perth	Hall A: Caleb Cheng Hall B: Pastor Joseph Poon	Hall A: Mark Heath Hall B: Caleb Cheng
Berrington	Mark Heath	Allan Ang
Bull Creek	Pastor Joseph Poon	Mark Heath

APPOINTMENTS OF THE WEEK

Tuesday	8/11	7:30 pm	Prayer Meeting: Pastor Joseph Poon/Kong Vui Yip, Dn Joel Wong, Angeline Yong
Friday	11/11	7:30 pm	Fellowship Meeting: Regen/Youth 180°/CYAF/CYPG
Saturday	12/11	10:30 am	Seniors' Fellowship
Sunday	13/11	8:30 am	Pre-Service Prayer Meeting
		9:00 am	English & Mandarin Sunday School/English Basic Bible Knowledge Class
		10:00 am	Sunday Combined Worship Service
		12:00 pm	Mandarin Choir
		12:15 pm	Church Van Depart
		2:00 pm	Nursing Home: Concorde – 25 Anstey Street, South Perth Onslow Gardens – 39 Hamersley Road, Subiaco
		3:30 pm	Nursing Home: Berrington, Subiaco – 45 Bishop St, Jolimont Bull Creek – RAAFA Memorial Estate, 2 Bull Creek Drive, Bull Creek WA 6149

ATTENDANCE & OFFERINGS (30/10)

Attendance: 197 (Combined-166; JSS-31); Prayer Meeting: 67
Offerings in Total: \$5737.90; General Fund: \$5737.90
(#4128-\$149.70; #4129-\$185.00; #4130-\$157.00; #4131-Library-\$60.00; #4132-Youth Camp Fees-\$472.00)

SHORTER CATECHISM: What is the preface to the ten commandments? The preface to the ten commandments is in these words, I am the Lord thy God, which have brought thee out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage. (Exodus 20:2; Deuteronomy 5:6)