



# COVENANT

## Bible-Presbyterian Church

*Preaching Christ for His Glory and His Kingdom*

### Order of Worship — 20 December 2015

**Theme for the Year: "Out of Myself and into the Savior" (Ezekiel 14:4-6)**

Prelude	<i>The Lord Is in His Holy Temple</i>
Call to Worship	
*Opening Hymn	93 - <i>Hark! The Herald Angels Sing</i>
*Invocation & † <i>Gloria Patri</i>	
Scripture Reading	Luke 2:1-12
Hymn	100 - <i>O Come All Ye Faithful</i>
Tithes & Offering	
*†† <i>Doxology</i> & Offertory Prayer	
Scripture Reading	Jeremiah 23:1- 8
Hymn	90 - <i>It Came Upon The Midnight Clear</i>
Confession of Faith & Pastoral Prayer	
Sermon	The Promised King
*Closing Hymn	87 - <i>Joy To The World</i>
*Benediction & <i>Threefold Amen</i>	
Silent Prayer & Postlude	
Announcements	<i>*Congregation standing</i>

† 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.

†† Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise him, all creatures here below;  
Praise him above, ye heavenly host;  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.  
Amen.

Covenant Bible-Presbyterian Church meets every Sunday at 10:00 am  
at 47 Davis Road, Attadale, Western Australia

Website: [www.covenantbpc.org.au](http://www.covenantbpc.org.au)

Contact: [pastor@covenantbpc.org.au](mailto:pastor@covenantbpc.org.au)

## **"Had I a Thousand Lives, a Thousand Souls" ~ John Fawcett**

*John Fawcett is best known for his hymn "Blest Be the Tie that Binds." Not long after he was saved and married, he accepted a call to pastor a flock of believers in the town of Wainsgate, England.*

*It was a small chapel with poor furnishings. In the first few years of ministry, there was no parsonage, so he and his wife were forced to "board around" with his congregation. Despite the lack of privacy, they bore 4 children in 5 years!*

*After they moved to their own home, it became increasingly hard for them to support themselves on £100 a year. The congregation offered him a 25% raise if he would take it in wool and potatoes.*

*Around that time, a call came from London from a very rich and influential church whose pastor, Dr John Gill, was retiring. He accepted the call.*

*When the announcement was made in his home that he was taking up the call, his congregation was filled with consternation.*

*On the day of his leaving, after filling 7 wagons full, he and his family made their way to the edge of the town.*

*His whole congregation was there weeping, saying their goodbyes. Finally overcome with grief, Fawcett and wife wept bitterly. They decided to stay.*

*Weeping turned to laughter, and pastor and congregation were bound together with stronger ties than ever. The next Lord's Day, he wrote "Blest Be the Tie that Binds" for his congregation to sing. He was a pastor who loved his flock.*

*But more than that, he was a pastor who loved the glory and loveliness of Christ more than anything.*

*In his sermon entitled "Christ Precious to Those Who Believe," he uttered these*

*words, "Had I a thousand lives, a thousand souls they would all be devoted to Him!" May this be our desire.*

*Here is a portion of that sermon, and I pray that it would excite your heart to desire Christ more. ~ Pastor*

*"My meditation of him shall be sweet: I will be glad in the LORD." Psalm 104:34*

*It is the tendency of love to excite in the mind, many thoughts about the beloved object.*

*A right knowledge of the Lord Jesus Christ, will fill the mind with thoughts and meditations concerning Him - so as to excite the affections to cleave to Him with delight.*

*A discovery of the glory of His person, of the perfection of His atoning sacrifice, and of the fullness of His grace—must inspire the heart with love to Him! "Yes, He is very precious to you who believe!" 1 Peter 2:7.*

*It is much to be lamented that those who profess a sincere attachment to the Redeemer, should have their thoughts so little employed about Him.*

*Where a multitude of worldly cares, desires, fears and hopes prevail in the mind they cumber and perplex it so as to bring on a great disinclination to spiritual meditation.*

*The advice of the apostle Paul is of great importance in this case, "If you then are risen with Christ seek those things which are above, where Christ sits at the right hand of God. Set your affection (your mind, your thoughts,) on things above, not on things on the earth."*

*But earthly and sensual affections fill the hearts and heads of men, with multitudes of thoughts concerning those objects on which they are fixed, so as to*

leave no room, nor any inclination for spiritual and heavenly thoughts.

"Shall not my thoughts," says the believer, "be frequently employed in meditating on the love of that infinitely glorious person, to whom I am indebted for deliverance from the greatest misery and for all the hope I have of being one day advanced to everlasting glory and felicity! He poured out His holy soul in agonies, under the curse of the avenging law to make me a partaker of eternal blessedness! He perfectly fulfilled the precepts of that holy law, that I, by His obedience, might be made righteous!"

This glorious and adorable Redeemer, thought upon us long before the foundations of the world were laid.

He bore us on His heart when He hung on the cross; when He was torn with wounds, and racked with pain; when He poured out His dying groans, and spilt His blood.

He remembers us now, when He is exalted at the right hand of the Majesty in the heavens; and will never, never forget us, through all the ages of eternity! Surely, then, we ought to think of Him!

Impressed with a sense of His everlasting kindness we should be ready to say, as the captives in Babylon,

concerning their beloved city Jerusalem, "If I forget You, O blessed Jesus - let my right hand forget its skill. May my tongue stick to the roof of my mouth if I fail to remember You, if I don't make You my highest joy!"

What holy transports of soul, what divine delights have many Christians experienced, in meditating on the glories of the Redeemer!

They have also considered their own unworthiness. Can such a wretch as I be the object of His love? So vile a worm, so unprofitable a creature, so great a sinner, one so deserving of his everlasting abhorrence!

Has He loved me, so as to give Himself for me? O what marvelous kindness is this! Is my worthless name written in His book of life? O wonder of wonders!

Can I withhold my choicest affections from Him? Ah no! Had I a thousand lives, a thousand souls, they would all be devoted to Him!

Jesus is my all! He is my light, my life, my unfailling treasure, my everlasting portion! Nothing below the skies, is deserving of my love!

Precious Redeemer, in You the boundless wishes of my soul are filled! I long to leave this tenement of clay, and to rest in the bosom of Your love forever! ~ John Fawcett



### **Westminster Larger Catechism**

Q. 31. With whom was the covenant of grace made?

A. The covenant of grace was made with Christ as the second Adam, and in him with all the elect as his seed.

Q. 32. How is the grace of God manifested in the second covenant?

A. The grace of God is manifested in the second covenant, in that he freely provideth and offereth to sinners a Mediator, and life and salvation by him; and requiring faith as the condition to interest them in him, promiseth and giveth his Holy Spirit to all his elect, to work in them that faith, with all other saving graces; and to enable them unto all holy obedience, as the evidence of the truth of their faith and thankfulness to God, and as the way which he hath appointed them to salvation.

# Worship Service Roster

Service	This Week (20.12.15)	Next Week (27.12.15)
Speaker	Keith Morris	Mark Chen
Worship Leader	Jimmy Orchard	Johnson Lim
Pianist	Valerie Ong	Nancy Lim
Welcomers	Jacob & Marilyn Woo	Danny & Susie Tan
Offering Stewards	Ian Read*, Paul Butler*	David Pang*, David Lim*
Usher	Joyce Ng	Angela Yap
Kitchen Duties	Adeline Ng*, Mary Loh, Ken Hong	Angela Yap*, Marilyn Woo, Eva Chiu
<i>Prayer Meeting</i>	<i>25 December 2015</i>	<i>31 December 2015</i>
Speaker	No Prayer Meeting	No Prayer Meeting
Chairperson		
Pianist		

## Announcements

1. A warm welcome to all worshipers. May God richly bless you. Please stay behind after the service for fellowship and tea.
2. Next week's message: "Life Under the New Covenant II" (Hebrews 13:1-19).
3. Bible Conference. Speaker: Mathews Abraham. Venue: Bayview Geographe Resort, Busselton. Date: 19-22 April 2016. Register with Rex & Carmel Sriharan.
4. Caroling. Today after the service. All welcome. Contact Eugene Lim for details (0477 314 789).
5. Christmas Service. Friday, 25 December 2015, 10 am. Speaker: Pastor Ron Nugent. Worship Leader: Ken Chong. Pianist: Eugene Lim. Welcomers: Josephine Austin & Maureen Grady.
6. Watch Night Service and Potluck Dinner. Thursday, 31 December 2015, 6:30 pm (dinner) and 8-9 pm (praise and testimony).

Appointments for the Week	Last Lord's Day Tithes & Offering, & Attendance
FRI 10:00 am Christmas Service SUN 10:00 am Worship & Sunday School	<i>General Fund - \$3,666.85 (#514 - \$200.00, #515 - \$30.00). Missions Fund - \$730.00 (#512 - \$220.00, #513 - \$100.00). Building Fund - \$200.00 (#316 - \$100.00, #317 - \$100.00). Total Tithes &amp; Offering - \$4,596.85. Attendance - 148.</i>

Building Fund to Date	
Available Building Fund	\$52,471.03
Outstanding Pledges	\$27,975.00
Last Week's Collection	\$200.00
Total	\$80,646.03
<i>Outstanding Loan</i>	<i>- \$430,000.00</i>
<i>Amount Still Needed</i>	<i>\$349,353.97</i>
Building Fund Account:	
Covenant Bible-Presbyterian Church (Westpac Bank, Applecross)	
BSB: 036-031 Acct: 316969	
SWIFT: WPACAU2S	

Elders: **Mark Chen (Pastor)** 6114 4242, 0415 932 373. **Jimmy Orchard** 0413 274 407.  
 Deacons: **Ken Chong** 0402 553 313. **LH Chua** 0435 601 373. **Terence Lee** 0418 845 617. **Johnson Lim** 0402 145 682. **Jacob Woo** 0421 212 206.