



COVENANT

Bible-Presbyterian Church

Preaching Christ for His Glory and His Kingdom

Order of Worship — 6 December 2015

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

Choir	<i>The First Noel</i>
Call to Worship	
*Opening Hymn	TP 145:1-10
*Invocation & † <i>Gloria Patri</i>	
Scripture Reading	1 John 3:1-24
The Lord's Supper	
Hymn	311 - <i>We Would See Jesus</i>
Hymn	Insert - <i>You Will Press On</i>
Tithes & Offering	
*†† <i>Doxology</i> & Offertory Prayer	
Scripture Reading	Hebrews 12:18-29
Hymn	TP 65:1-5
Confession of Faith & Pastoral Prayer	
Sermon	"Responsibilities Under the New Covenant"
*Closing Hymn	514 - <i>We're Marching to Zion</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

Contact: pastor@covenantbpc.org.au

Gifts for Jesus

After Jesus was born, wise men from the east gave gifts to Jesus. In fact, they journeyed a long way just to find him.

And it took them about a year or so to reach him. By then, he was probably crawling or walking. He was a toddler.

These wise men were probably rulers and kings. They came in such a large group that even King Herod took notice. When they came to Judea, they told him they were searching for the King of the Jews.

And when they found him, they fell down and worshiped him. They had traveled many miles, they couldn't wait to meet him. They also brought wonderful gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

From these gifts, we can learn what kinds of gifts we can give to Christ.

Worshipping Christ

They gave unto Christ their worship. Gold was a gift that would be presented to a king. The gold that they brought would have been the finest gold - pure gold. They would have brought a lot of gold.

And here, as important men themselves, perhaps even kings, they saw someone greater than themselves.

But Jesus is the King of kings. Even though he was a toddler, they worshiped him. They bowed their knees and touched their heads to the ground. They gave him worship and their priority.

Many of us take worship lightly. We think it nothing to worship our leisure, work, and family. Is Jesus our king? Why do we not give him the worship that he deserves?

Obeying Christ

The wise men gave to Christ their obedience. This can be seen from the gift of frankincense. Frankincense, the hardened sap from a tree, was burned as incense in the worship of God in the temple.

It is white in color, it has a very wonderful smell. And it was used to symbolize holiness. In Exodus 30:35, Moses gave instructions on the use of frankincense - "*And thou shalt make it a perfume, a confection after the art of the apothecary, tempered together, pure and holy.*"

When frankincense burns, the smoke is colorless. It is not black or grey. It would not leave behind any marks or soot. It symbolized holiness and righteousness.

What do we give to Jesus? Are we living a holy life? Have we given ourselves to him and promise him to live a pure life? How are your words? How are your actions? How are your thoughts?

Thanking Christ

The wise men came with thanksgiving. This can be seen in the gift of myrrh. Now, myrrh would've been a strange gift to bring.

Myrrh was a gummy liquid. And it was used on dead people. When people died, in order to preserve the body, and prevent it from rotting, myrrh was used to embalm the body.

The soldiers tried to give Jesus wine mixed with myrrh to dull his pain (Mark 15:22-23). When he was buried, myrrh was involved (John 19:38-40).

Why did they bring embalming spices to a toddler as a gift? They did this because they recognized that this little baby was born to die.

Why did they come to Jesus with myrrh? They knew he was going to die. And they were thankful because they knew his purpose in life was to die for their sins.

Folks, what gifts would you bring to Christ? You may not have gold, frankincense, or myrrh.

But will you give Christ your worship? Will you give him your holiness and obedience? Will you give him your thankfulness? ~ *Pastor*

"You Will Press On"

The marks of grace upon our lives,
Are hating sin and loving Christ.
For all He lost for us that day,
We dare not Him forsake, betray.
The earthly voices strongly woo,
So we must them by faith subdue.
As countless saints have done before,
But we are heirs of so much more.

Christ speaks with God in Heav'n above,
And for my sake He pleads in love.
I cannot fail, nor fall from grace,
For He has run, for me, His race.
Although till death I've not endured,
My trials are hard; more are assured!
Yet God, to me, is good – I know,
Through flame and fire, my faith will grow.

But if enthralled by Satan's charm,
We sin and fall and do much harm.
So God, as Father, does delight,
To chide, in love, as is His right.
That we may learn not to reject,
His grace and love for His elect.
If you have sinned and gone astray,
Return to Christ – God's Only Way!

You stumble as you run this race,
And struggle hard to see His face.
The journey's long and filled with risk,
But run it steady, run it brisk.
The prize of Heav'n is just in reach,
To those who trust, Christ does beseech:
"The promise I have giv'n is true,
You will press on, I have saved you."

Lyrics: MC
Music: JH&EH
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Westminster Larger Catechism

Q. 29. What are the punishments of sin in the world to come?

A. The punishments of sin in the world to come, are everlasting separation from the comfortable presence of God, and most grievous torments in soul and body, without intermission, in hell-fire forever.

Worship Service Roster

Service	This Week (6.12.15)	Next Week (13.12.15)
Speaker	Mark Chen	Mark Chen
Worship Leader	Mark Chen	Terence Lee
Pianist	Elizabeth Huang	Evelyn Lee
Welcomers	Yen Fye & Angela Yap	Kim & Jesslyn Leow
Offering Stewards	David Lim*, Vincent Chiu*, Yen Fye Yap, Jansen Ng	Kim Leow*, Jacob Woo*, David Ong, Rex Sriharan
Usher	Jerome Ng	Jesslyn Leow
Kitchen Duties	Eileen Tay*, Jesslyn Leow, Jemima Ng, Vincent Chiu	Florence Orchard*, Grace Wang, Marilyn Woo
<i>Prayer Meeting</i>	<i>11 December 2015</i>	<i>18 December 2015</i>
Speaker	Mark Chen	Jimmy Orchard
Chairperson	Jansen Ng	Johnson Lim
Pianist	Jerome Ng	Nancy Lim

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" (Hebrews 13:1-19).
3. Sunday School teachers for the month of December are: Sandy Chua, Eileen Tay, Aliza Chiu, Lisa Lim; Dorcas Pang, Carmel Sriharan; Jerome Ng; Sandra Tan; David Lim; John Tan. Singspiration Leader: Jansen Ng. Pianist: Wendy Gong.
4. Bible Conference. Speaker: Mathews Abraham. Venue: Bayview Geographe Resort, Busselton. Date: 19-22 April 2016. Register with Rex & Carmel Sriharan.
5. Caroling. 15 December, 7 pm (Tues) and 20 December, 12 pm (Sun). Practice next Sunday. All welcome. Contact Eugene Lim for details (0477 314 789).
6. Sunday School Teachers meeting after service today.
7. Attadale Friendship Group. Year End Fellowship Lunch. 10 December 2015 (Thu), 12 pm at Kardinya Tavern. Contact Maureen Grady for details (9418 2849).
8. Ladies Conference at Perth Free Presbyterian Church, 12 December, at 10 am. Please contact Cherish Gardiner at 405 149 915.

Appointments for the Week	Last Lord's Day Tithes & Offering, & Attendance
<p>FRI 7:45 pm Prayer Meeting and JF</p> <p>SUN 9:00 am Adult Bible Class</p> <p>10:00 am Worship & Sunday School</p>	<p><i>General Fund - \$2,561.55. Missions Fund - \$690.00 (#506 - \$300.00, #507 - \$100.00). Building Fund - \$305.00 (#312 - \$100.00, #313 - \$205.00). Total Tithes & Offering - \$3,556.55. Attendance - 148.</i></p>

Building Fund to Date

Available Building Fund	\$46,789.58	Building Fund Account:
Outstanding Pledges	\$28,605.00	
Last Week's Collection	\$305.00	
Total	\$75,650.41	Covenant Bible-Presbyterian Church (Westpac Bank, Applecross)
<i>Outstanding Loan</i>	<i>- \$430,000.00</i>	BSB: 036-031 Acct: 316969
<i>Amount Still Needed</i>	<i>\$354,300.42</i>	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.

Responsibilities Under the New Covenant

Hebrews 12:18-29

God is the origin of both benefits and judgments, both eternal life and eternal condemnation. And the sin that God hates the most is apostasy - the willful sin of unbelief despite maximum knowledge. What is the duty of those who aren't apostates? It is to press on in faith.

1. The Old and New Covenants Compared.
 - a. The threatening nature of the Old Covenant.
 - i. Its threatening description
 - ii. Its threatening conditions
 - b. The assuring nature of the New Covenant.
 - i. It was welcoming
 - ii. It is a joyous community
 - iii. It is a holy community
 - iv. There is forgiveness
2. The Greater Duties of Those Living Under the New Covenant.
 - a. We have a duty to fear God even more (v 25)
 - b. We have a duty to consider what is more important in life (vv 26-27)
 - c. We have a duty to offer grateful service to God (vv 28-29)

Questions for Reflection:

1. How do you reconcile God as a judge and consuming fire toward his enemies with his mercy toward the humble and penitent? Is there even a tension?
2. What is the response of believers to the consuming fire of God toward his enemies? Can fear for them and anticipation of our deliverance be simultaneous?
3. How grateful are you to God for your salvation?