



COVENANT

Bible-Presbyterian Church

Preaching Christ for His Glory and His Kingdom

Order of Worship — 2 August 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	23 - <i>Come, We That Love the Lord</i>
*Invocation & † <i>Gloria Patri</i>	
Responsive Reading	Psalm 120
The Lord's Supper	
Hymn	321 - <i>Nothing Between</i>
Hymn	483 - <i>O How I Love Jesus</i>
Tithes & Offering	
*† <i>Doxology</i> & Offertory Prayer	
Scripture Reading	Hebrews 6:13-20
Hymn	TP 25:4-6
Confession of Faith & Pastoral Prayer	
Sermon	"Hoping In God's Promises and Oaths"
*Closing Hymn	272 - <i>The Solid Rock</i>
*Benediction & † <i>Threefold Amen</i>	
Silent Prayer & Postlude	<i>The Lord Bless You and Keep You</i>
Announcements	† <i>Inside cover of hymnal</i> * <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 3:00 pm
at 47 Davis Road, Attadale, Western Australia

Website: www.covenantbpc.org.au

Email: pastor@covenantbpc.org.au

The Cautious Use of the Internet for Christian Edification

The Use of the Internet in Christian Edification

Ten or twenty years ago, many of the technological advances we have today weren't available.

Today, we are overwhelmed by them - almost every part of our lives utilizes some sort of technology.

Many of these things are helpful and it's God's providence to us, especially in Christian edification.

The internet has become a great place to obtain sound sermons and biblical research.

I frequently use the internet to look up sources - it certainly saves money having to buy books.

However, with every advance in technology, there are also dangers. There are countless sermon podcasts and videos and websites that feature countless theological topics.

While there is good cause to celebrate the diverse availability of the Word, there are many dangers that we need to take note of and oppose.

The Internet Is Good But...

I am not calling for a stop to internet activity. Spiritual growth can be greatly aided by the internet - online resources can be very helpful.

However, there can be harm if they are not used correctly. Internet resources can especially be harmful if we use them to replace church and instruction in the church.

God has specially instituted the church to be the pillar and ground of truth - there, the teachers of the church are specially called to disseminate truth.

The church is also a place where Christians are to have fellowship and

accountability. Online resources cannot supply accountability.

The Church, not the Internet, Is the Primary Place of Instruction

Many people resort to the internet for supplementary instruction. This is not wrong. This is very good.

All of us are to grow in our knowledge of God's Word, and we supplement our Christian instruction in church through books, our own Bible study, and audio sermons.

What becomes a matter of concern is when Christians rely on the internet as their *main* source of instruction.

Pastors have the responsibility of knowing their flock and applying God's Word to them.

But let's be honest, many pastors are not like John MacArthur or RC Sproul. We don't preach as eloquently or insightfully.

And Christians who don't work at being fed at church, or don't feel they are being fed at church, but yearn to obtain more "meat" resort to the internet.

Anyone who has a smartphone, a personal computer, or a library card can access the best preaching and teaching in the world.

But recorded sermons do not provide an adequate substitute for pastoral preaching.

Making the internet one's primary source of instruction can lead to church members despising their teachers. And it can cause them to focus on things they are not ready for.

The Internet Satisfies "Issue" Junkies

While it is a great place to research the Bible and to find opinions and commentaries on various issues in Christianity, it can be overwhelming.

There are virtually thousands of websites and teachers and articles and videos that focus on issues of Calvinism, Eschatology, Charismaticism, KJV-onlyism,, etc.

And those who have an interest in these things can find a limitless goldmine of these topics.

The internet can satisfy the desire of many Christians to feast on the fantastical, the controversial, and the obscure to the neglect of more important Christian responsibilities.

Danger of Imbalance and the Need for Accountability

This can lead to an imbalanced Christianity. The goal of Christian instruction is to build up believers so that they are not like children, tossed to and fro; but to grow them up into Christ in all things (Eph 4:15).

But if it is not in the safety of the church, believers may be "*carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive*" (Eph 4:14).

And if the web surfer has no filter, many of these things can adversely affect him or her. It can also affect the church.

One Bible-Presbyterian elder was excommunicated and deposed because he was taken in by the Hebrew Roots movement he imbibed from the internet. He was an elder!

Many other Christians have abandoned their confessional and Bible-believing heritage because of their predilection for obscure teachings on the end-times.

Many Muslims have become radicalized through receiving instructions from the internet to the neglect of family and important things in life.

This is no different for many Christians who obsess about these fables and neglect the weightier issues of life.

It is unfortunate when Christians do not have the caution or sense to discern what is truth and error, and to temper their thirst for such issues.

Therefore, it is important that while we use the internet and benefit from it; there is a need to have Christian accountability in the church.

Dialogue with others and interaction with the office bearers over these topics are important to develop balance. Let us learn to use the internet wisely.

~ Pastor



Westminster Confession of Faith XXXII - Of the State of Men after Death, and of the Resurrection of the Dead

1. The bodies of men, after death, return to dust, and see corruption:¹ but their souls, which neither die nor sleep, having an immortal subsistence, immediately return to God who gave them:² the souls of the righteous, being then made perfect in holiness, are received into the highest heavens, where they behold the face of God, in light and glory, waiting for the full redemption of their bodies.³ And the souls of the wicked are cast into hell, where they remain in torments and utter darkness, reserved to the judgment of the great day.⁴ Beside these two places, for souls separated from their bodies, the Scripture acknowledges none.

1. Genesis 3:19; Acts 13:36.

2. Luke 23:43; Ecclesiastes 12:7.

3. Hebrews 12:23; 2 Corinthians 5:1, 6, 8; Philippians 1:23; Acts 3:21; Ephesians 4:10.

4. Luke 16:23-24; Acts 1:25; Jude 6-7; 1 Peter 3:19.

Worship Service Roster

Service	This Week (2.8.15)	Next Week (9.8.15)
Speaker	Mark Chen	Mark Chen
Worship Leader	Mark Chen	Terence Lee
Pianist	Ian Tay	Valerie Ong
Welcomers	John & Adeline Ng	Micah & Hannah Chiang
Offering Stewards	Paul Butler, David Ong	Ian Read, Jacob Woo
Usher	Joyce Ng	Hannah Chiang
Kitchen Duties	Adeline Ng*, Jesslyn Leow, Jemima Ng, Chris Budiman	Mary-Anne Chan*, Helen Wong, Vincent Chiu
<i>Prayer Meeting</i>	<i>7 August 2015</i>	<i>14 August 2015</i>
Speaker	Mark Chen	Mark Chen
Chairperson	Jacob Woo	David Pang
Pianist	Eugene Lim	Valerie Ong

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: "The Greater Melchizedek" (Hebrews 7:1-10).
3. Sunday School teachers for the month of August are: Aliza Chiu, Lisa Lim, Sandy Chua, Eileen Tay, Stephanie Lim, Jenni Budiman; Dorcas Pang, Evelyn Lee, Carmel Sriharan; Jerome Ng; Mary-Anne Chan; David Lim; Jacob & Merilyn Woo; David Pang. Singspiration Leader: Alvar Ongkowidjaja. Pianist: Ian Tay.
4. Good Samaritans has placed a Good Sammy Donation/Recycling bin at the corner of the church carpark. You may donate your old or used items by placing them in the bin.

Appointments for the Week

FRI	7:45 pm	Prayer Meeting & JF
SAT	8:00 pm	Men's Bible Study
SUN	2:00 pm	Adult Bible & Catechism Class
	3:00 pm	Worship & Sunday School

Last Lord's Day Tithes & Offering, & Attendance

General Fund - \$2,918.50 (#483 - \$400.00).
Missions Fund - \$330.00. *Building Fund* - \$2,155.00 (#268 - \$2,000.00, #269 - \$155.00).
Total Tithes & Offering - \$5,403.50.
 Attendance - 126.

Building Fund to Date

Starting Fund	\$54,185.68
Pledges Collected	\$240,980.00
Non-Pledged Gifts	\$156,239.82
Loans Received	\$380,000.00
<i>Subtotal Building Fund</i>	<i>\$831,405.50</i>
<i>Outstanding Pledges</i>	<i>\$50,740.00</i>
<i>Grand Total</i>	<i>\$882,145.50</i>

Building Fund Account:

Covenant Bible-Presbyterian Church
 (Westpac Bank, Applecross)
 BSB: 036-031 Acct: 316969
 SWIFT: WPACAU25

Elders: **Mark Chen (Pastor)** 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. **SK Loh** 9386 1660.