



COVENANT

Bible-Presbyterian Church

Preaching Christ for His Glory and His Kingdom

Order of Worship — 11 December 2016

Theme for the Year: "What Would Jesus Say About Your Church?" (Rev 3:22)

Prelude	<i>The Lord Is in His Holy Temple</i>
Call to Worship	
*Opening Hymn	6 - <i>Come Thou Almighty King</i>
*Invocation & † <i>Gloria Patri</i>	
Scripture Reading	Isaiah 40:1-17
Hymn	TP 23
Tithes & Offering	
**† <i>Doxology</i> & Offertory Prayer	
Scripture Reading	Luke 1:26-37
Hymn	470 - <i>Jesus Is All the World to Me</i>
Confession of Faith & Pastoral Prayer	
Sermon	"The Lord Is with You"
*Closing Hymn	93 - <i>Hark! The Herald Angels Sing</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

Christ Builds and Grows the Church in Unexpected Ways

Christ Grows the Church by the Spirit

We've been studying the book of Acts in our Lord's Day services. We have learned that Christ promised to build his church - and not even the gates of hell can prevail against her forward march.

How does Christ build the church? His Spirit empowers us to be witnesses.

We Do Not Build, We Are Built

1 Corinthians 3:9 says we are co-laborers together with Christ. We are builders. However fundamentally, we do not build the church; we are built by Christ as living stones.

That's why, after Christ's ascension, the disciples returned to the upper room to pray. They could not act without the Spirit's moving.

And when the Spirit did come, they were moved to be witnesses. In the building of God's kingdom, there has to be patience. God does not work according to our time table.

But while we wait, we must persistently and aggressively pray that God would reveal his will and that we would obey.

God's Provision for Growth Is Unexpected

When the Gentiles came to faith in Christ, it was not altogether unknown. Romans 9:25-26, in quoting Hosea, revealed that God would one day call the Gentiles his people and beloved.

Yet, when the Gentiles came to faith, and their children also joined the church, it was a surprise to the Jews, albeit pleasant.

Left to them, the Jews would never have invited the Gentiles - despite being commanded to preach to the ends of the earth. Even Peter had reservations

at certain points in his ministry towards the Gentiles!

Ethnicity and Unity

We are a very ethnic church. But the Lord has been graciously changing that. And may he be pleased to continue that work. After all, the uttermost parts of the earth are his desire.

And it so happens, the Lord is bringing them from the uttermost parts to WA - as he did with many of us. And perchance, he may bring them to our church.

There is neither Jew nor Greek, bond nor free. All are one in Christ. And it seem as if the Lord is leading us in that direction.

Brazilian Portuguese Bible Study

In June of this year, Pastor Julio Marcello dos Santos, a missionary of the Presbyterian Church of Brazil, requested to have his Bible study in our building.

He has a radio ministry called *Cada Dia*, where he preaches the Word in both Portuguese and Spanish.

Through this ministry, he has started an evangelistic Bible study with a group of mostly Brazilian immigrants. They are a mixed group of new believers, unbelievers, charismatics, Roman Catholics, and even spiritualists.

They have been meeting at 3 pm every Sunday afternoon since July.

His desire is to integrate them one day into an English-speaking church. And being comfortable with our doctrine, he wishes them to worship with us.

A great concern of his is the children, who speak English rather than Portuguese; and when they are older they might leave the church altogether, if they aren't ministered to in English.

The session has prayed and deliberated over this. We have decided to welcome them beginning next year, to join us in our services.

During our worship service, they will have their Portuguese language Bible study and their children will attend our Junior Worship.

Please pray for them. And also pray for ourselves. There will be some adjustment needed, of course, and lots of patience and love. Many of them are novices in the faith and will need our help.

This ministry door was opened to us - it was not something anticipated or expected. As we have prayed for local missions, the Lord has seemed to answer our prayer. Christ builds and grows his church. Perhaps this is how he is doing it in our midst. ~ Pastor

Here is a testimony/report written by Pastor Julio in 2014 and translated by Google:

Cada Dia, the radio program, completed 11 years on the air, on radio stations in Perth, the capital of WA.

During this period I received hundreds of messages, witnessing how much the gospel of Jesus has blessed lives and more lives through Cada Dia.

When we go out and find listeners who do not know me personally, they immediately recognize the voice and ask: Are you not Julio Marcello? I always listen to your program. Others say: I do not leave the house without first hearing Cada Dia. Julio you have no idea how many people I know listen to your program.

God knows how many lives have been transformed through our radio program. Thank God we have one of the largest audiences with Portuguese speakers.

At Fremantle Hospital, where I am chaplain, for many years, several patients recognize my voice because of the program. How do I thank God for so many blessings and people reached in these 11 years?

Special thanks to those who support us both with nothing in return. Most of all, my thanks and praise to the greater reason that we are here in Australia - Jesus Christ.



Westminster Larger Catechism

Q. 113. What are the sins forbidden in the third commandment?

A. The sins forbidden in the third commandment are, the not using of God's name as is required; and the abuse of it in an ignorant, vain, irreverent, profane, superstitious, or wicked mentioning or otherwise using his titles, attributes, ordinances, or works, by blasphemy, perjury; all sinful cursings, oaths, vows, and lots; violating of our oaths and vows, if lawful; and fulfilling them, if of things unlawful; murmuring and quarreling at, curious prying into, and misapplying of God's decrees and providences; misinterpreting, misapplying, or any way perverting the Word, or any part of it, to profane jests, curious or unprofitable questions, vain janglings, or the maintaining of false doctrines; abusing it, the creatures, or any thing contained under the name of God, to charms, or sinful lusts and practices; the maligning, scorning, reviling, or any wise opposing of God's truth, grace, and ways; making profession of religion in hypocrisy, or for sinister ends; being ashamed of it, or a shame to it, by unconformable, unwise, unfruitful, and offensive walking, or backsliding from it.

Worship Service Roster

Service	This Week (11.12.16)	Next Week (18.12.16)
Speaker	John MacRae	Glen Lock
Worship Leader	Jacob Woo	Ken Chong
Pianist	Elizabeth Huang	Marilyn Woo
Welcomers	Jacob & Marilyn Woo	Danny & Susie Tan
Offering Stewards	Micah Chiang*, Kim Leow* LH Chua, John Tan	Ian Read*, David Lim* Vincent Chiu, Chris Budiman
Usher	Eva Ng, Joyce Ng	Jesslyn Leow
Kitchen Duties	Adeline Ng*, Eileen Tay Vincent Chiu	Peggy Woo*, Lisa Lim Sarah Siew
<i>Prayer Meeting</i>	<i>16 December 2016</i>	<i>23 December 2016</i>
Facilitator	Mark Chen	Mark Chen
Pianist	Mark Chen	Mark Chen

Announcements

1. A warm welcome to all worshippers. May God richly bless you. Please stay behind after the service for fellowship and tea.
2. We welcome Dr John MacRae to our pulpit today. Pastor MacRae is a minister at Westminster Presbyterian Church in Maida Vale.
3. Messenger for next Lord's Day is Pastor Glen Lock.
4. Junior Worship is in recess from next week to 15 January 2017. Parents, please prepare your children to worship in the main service.
5. Adult Sunday School is in recess today and next Lord's Day. 25 December 2016's study will be on "Determining the Birthday of Jesus from the Bible."
6. Christmas Potluck Lunch. Sunday, 25 December 2016. Please contact Marilyn Woo at 0411 219 250 to inform her of what you will contribute.
7. Bible Conference 2017. Dates: 18-21 April 2017. Speaker: Dr Bob Jones III. Venue: Bayview Geographe Resort. Please register with Ken and Jackie Hong.

Appointments for the Week	Last Lord's Day Tithes & Offering, & Attendance
<p>WED 10:00 am Craft Group</p> <p>FRI 7:45 pm CBI & Prayer Meeting</p> <p>SUN 9:00 am Sunday School</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">10:00 am Worship Service</p>	<p><i>General Fund</i> - \$4,362.45 (#644 - \$1,000.00).</p> <p><i>Missions Fund</i> - \$730.00 (#645 - \$500.00).</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Total Tithes & Offering</i> - \$5,092.45</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Attendance - 148.</p>

Building Fund to Date	
Available Building Fund	\$79,988.93
Last Week's Collection	\$0.00
Total	\$79,988.93
<i>Outstanding Loan</i>	- \$416,000.00
<i>Amount Still Needed</i>	\$336,011.07
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. **Johnson Lim** 0402 145 682. **Jacob Woo** 0421 212 206.