



# COVENANT

## Bible-Presbyterian Church

*Preaching Christ for His Glory and His Kingdom*

**Order of Worship – 27 August 2017**

**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	67 - <i>Come Christians, Join to Sing</i>
*Invocation & † <i>Gloria Patri</i>	
Scripture Reading	Matthew 6:22-34
Hymn	TP 128:1-6
Tithes & Offering	
**† <i>Doxology</i> & Offertory Prayer	
Scripture Reading	Ecclesiastes 2:1-26
Hymn	523 - <i>Trusting Jesus</i>
Confession of Faith & Pastoral Prayer	
Sermon	"The Failure of a Successful Life"
*Closing Hymn	471 - <i>Higher Ground</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)

## What Are My Responsibilities as a Member of the Church?

A month from now, we will be having our Annual General Meeting. And so leading up to that, it is good to remind ourselves of our responsibilities as members.

Since the church is the primary means through which God brings about his kingdom in the world, there is an expectation from God for us to fulfill our duties.

Our membership vows bind us to faithful worship, attendance, service, and giving of offerings. They also compel us to submit ourselves to the government and discipline of the church. Why? Because we are part of the church.

### *A Family Living According to the Truth*

Paul described the church in 1 Timothy 3:15 as the "*church of the living God.*" We are not merely individuals, but a family.

Furthermore, we are also the "*pillar and ground of truth.*" This means that we stand for and promote the truth of God's Word to a dying world.

God has ordained the church to live according to his truth and to help one another be built up according to that truth. That requires us to live out and perform our duties.

What are some of these duties as church members?

### *Faithful Attendance*

The first responsibility of a church member is to attend church faithfully. We are to keep the Lord's Day. There is no compromise.

Since the very beginning of time, God has reserved a day for his people to keep for his worship. He exemplified this by resting on the seventh day. When the nation of Israel was instituted, this day was enshrined in his laws to the people.

This day of rest found its fulfillment in Christ - who is the Lord of the Sabbath - who called men to find rest in him. Because of that, we keep the Lord's Day

- the Christian Sabbath - as a day to remember Christ and to worship him.

And this day serves as a reminder that this world is not our home - that we are looking forward to that final Day.

This is why the writer to the Hebrews exhorts the church to "*consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works: Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching*" (Hebrews 10:24-25).

Keeping the Lord's Day by meeting together - faithful attendance - is a duty of Christians especially when the Day of Christ's return nears.

While we have many different meetings throughout the week, the Lord's Day with the worship service and Christian education hour is the most important.

If you consider yourself part of God's people and kingdom, there is no sufficient willful or voluntary excuse to neglect this duty.

### *Loving Activeness*

The second responsibility of a church member is to be active in church. If faithful attendance is a duty, then activeness in worship is a duty.

If we understand Christ's redemption and are grateful to him for rescuing us, it goes without saying that we would worship him on the Lord's Day.

Worship is the most basic duty of the believer. We are to "*serve the LORD with gladness: come before his presence with singing*" (Psalm 100:2).

And it must be a heart-felt worship because without the heart it is in vain (cf Matthew 15:8).

But loving activeness extends beyond the worship service. It extends to engaging with other believers in Christian fellowship.

The early church met daily together to study, to eat with one another, and to rejoice in the Lord (cf Acts 2:46).

This mutual activity served to build them up. The church is like a human body - and each member is important and worth our time. (cf 1 Corinthians 12:12-27).

In order for the family of God to function well and be a witness, each member is to participate.

### *Willing Accountability*

The third responsibility of a church member is to be submissive.

We are by nature willful, but God commands us to be accountable to the officers whom he has appointed.

Hebrews 13:17 says, "*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.*"

Submission is a joy when one feels like submitting. However, there are times when we don't feel like submitting. We may not agree with a decision that has been made by the officers and the majority of the members. These decisions may jar with our preferences or like-convictions.

But provided they are not sin issues, our duty is to lay aside our preferences and submit to the rest of the church.

We are also accountable to the spiritual rule of the elders. If sin or spiritual imperfection has been identified in our lives by the elders, we should recognize that God may be speaking to us through their pastoral counsel.

The response should be repentance. This is not easy to do, but if the admonition is accurate, why should we not submit to their instruction to change?

That being said, church leaders are not perfect. They will be wrong at times. Paul had to rebuke Peter for his sin of discrimination (Galatians 2:11).

Some are so wrong that they are not to be obeyed at all! John called on Gaius not to obey Diotrephes, a church leader, because he was corrupt (3 John 9-11).

An elder must only uphold the teachings and instructions of the Word of God. And if he teaches anything contrary, he is not to be obeyed. We should obey God rather than man.

Because we know officers are weak and fallible men, prayers should be made for them. They are especially the target of Satan.

We pray that God would give all of us as members of the church the grace to fulfill our duties.

We need to know that there is a way that we ought to conduct ourselves in the church of the Living God - who is King Jesus (1 Timothy 3:15).

~ *Pastor*



## **Westminster Larger Catechism**

Q. 166. Unto whom is Baptism to be administered?

A. Baptism is not to be administered to any that are out of the visible Church, and so strangers from the covenant of promise, till they profess their faith in Christ, and obedience to him, but infants descending from parents, either both or but one of them professing faith in Christ, and obedience to him, are, in that respect, within the covenant, and are to be baptized.

## Worship Service Roster

Service	This Week (27.8.17)	Next Week (3.9.17)
Speaker	Allen Beardmore	Mark Chen
Worship Leader	Ken Chong	Mark Chen
Pianist	Eugene Lim	Elizabeth Huang
Welcomers	Danny & Susie Tan	Ian & Merrill Read
Offering Stewards	Micah Chiang*, Kim Leow* Ian Read, Chris Budiman	Rex Sriharan*, Jansen Ng* Vincent Chiu, David Lim
Ushers	Dolphin Wai, Jemima Ng	Wendy Gong, Putri Harapan
Kitchen Duties	Jesslyn Leow*, Lisa Lim Jackie Hong	Angela Yap*, Debbie Blake August Ng, Victor Poon
PA Duty	Joel Chua	Raymond Woo
Prayer Meeting	1 September 2017	8 September 2017
Facilitator	Mark Chen	Mark Chen
Pianist	Ian Tay	Nancy Lim

### 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 will be celebrating Lord's Supper next Lord's Day. Please bring a dish to share at the fellowship lunch.
3. We welcome Pastor Allen Beardmore of Emmanuel Reformed Baptist Church Plant to our pulpit. Pastor Mark is ministering at ERBCP this morning.
4. Next week's message: "The Called Do Respond" (Acts 13:42-52).
5. Next week's Junior Worship message: "Why We Don't Grow Spiritually" (Hebrews 5:11-6:3). Speaker: John Tan.
6. Retirees' Bible Study. Tuesday, 29 August 2017, 10am. Message by Pastor: "Continuing Well - Are You Growing in Knowledge?".
7. Worshiper's update form - please place filled forms in the blue box at the foyer.
8. Ministry reports for ACM 2017. Submit by this [Thursday](#) to jacob.woo@gmail.com.
9. Vacation Bible School. 2-4 October 2017. Volunteers needed - please see Ken Chong or Valerie.

Appointments for the Week	Last Lord's Day Tithes & Offering, & Attendance
TUE 10:00 am Retirees' Bible Study	General Fund - \$3,251.70 (*DD - \$200.00, #739 - \$11.00). Missions Fund - \$170.00. Building Fund - \$500.00 (*DD- \$300.00, #558 - \$200.00). Total Tithes & Offering - \$3,921.70. Attendance - 156. *DD: direct deposit
WED 10:00 am Craft Group	
FRI 7:30 pm CBI & Prayer Meeting	
SAT 4:00 pm YPG	
4:30 pm JF & TF	
SUN 9:00 am Sunday School	
10:00 am Worship Service	

### Building Fund to Date & Bank Account Details

Available Building Fund	\$72,307.45	General Fund:	
Last Week's Collection	\$500.00	BSB: 036-031	A/C: 316942
Total	\$72,807.45	Missions Fund:	
<i>Outstanding Loan</i>	<i>- \$396,000.00</i>	BSB: 036-031	A/C: 316950
<i>Amount Still Needed</i>	<i>\$323,192.55</i>	Building Fund:	
		BSB: 036-031	A/C: 316969

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.