



COVENANT

Bible-Presbyterian Church

Preaching Christ for His Glory and His Kingdom

Order of Worship – 29 January 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	15 - <i>Brethren, We Have Met to Worship</i>
*Invocation & † <i>Gloria Patri</i>	
Scripture Reading	Ephesians 4:1-16
Hymn	TP 133
Tithes & Offering	
**† <i>Doxology</i> & Offertory Prayer	
Scripture Reading	Acts 4:32-37
Hymn	527 - <i>Thanks to God!</i>
Confession of Faith & Pastoral Prayer	
Sermon	"Early Church Unity"
*Closing Hymn	187 - <i>Blest Be the Tie That Binds</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

Myanmar Mission Trip Testimony

"The Lord watches over the sojourners... he upholds the widow and the fatherless..." Psalm 146:9

"A father of the fatherless, and a judge of the widows, is God in his holy habitation." Psalm 68:5

From 14 to 19 December 2016, we were blessed with the opportunity to minister at the Bible Presbyterian Church in Myanmar and the orphanage there. We are very thankful to have gone for this mission trip, especially as this was our family's first to Myanmar.

Initially, Nancy was a little apprehensive but the assurance that God was there to lead and care for us put her at ease. Throughout the journey, we were constantly reminded of God's wonderful grace and love through the work of Pastor Kima, his wife Mawite, the session and the helpers.

Our family arrived safely at Yangon International Airport at 7:00 pm where we were warmly welcomed by Pastor Kima and Mawite. We met up with Rev and Mrs Paauwe at Bo Bo Min Hotel and discussed the program and activities for the next few days. The mission team closed the evening in prayer.

Over the next few mornings after breakfast, Pastor Kima fetched us to the church. The adults' program was held upstairs, while the children's activities were on the ground floor. Pastor Ed taught on the Fruit of the Spirit to the adults, progressively working through the various fruits. Galatians 5:22-23, "...the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance: against such there is no law."

Following the morning message, Eugene provided CPR training in the afternoon of the first day. The church members felt that it was very beneficial for them to know how to utilise CPR during emergencies and requested for a second training session as some of the participants were not present.

Johnson shared with the adults on the topic, 'Labouring Together with God' based on 1 Corinthians 3:6-8, "I have planted, Apollos watered; but God gave the increase. So then neither is he that planteth any thing, neither he that watereth; but God that giveth the increase...rewards according to his own labour." God's Word teaches that each child of God will be rewarded according to his own labor and growth only comes from God.

On the Lord's Day, Pastor Ed preached twice in the morning with a Christmas message calling the people to come and believe in the Lord Jesus Christ. We were very encouraged by the good attendance at the Worship Hall and the eagerness of the congregation to listen and learn God's Word. We had a good time of fellowship with them.

Overall, we were very encouraged to see the growth in the church, not only in number but also in spiritual maturity. The church attendees were actively involved in all the activities and wanted to learn more.

For the children's program, Mrs Lehia Paauwe told the "Life story of Helen Cadbury and the beginning of the Pocket Testament League", and also delivered a message on 'Serve the Lord with Gladness' to the children.

She also conducted art & craft lessons on making gift boxes out of used Christian greeting cards. When the children were asked to write down something they learnt from Mrs Paauwe's messages, the children remembered the lesson points. This was very encouraging.

We also organised games and activities for the children to play and exercise. They greatly enjoyed the games such as Dog & Bone, Drop the Handkerchief and Musical Chairs. We also enjoyed seeing their energy and happiness.

In addition, Johnson also taught the Children's Sunday School on the topic,

“Jesus Helps Me Grow”. The children were reminded that they must do whatever it takes to give Christ first place in their life.

As Pastor Ed was speaking on the Fruit of the Spirit to the adults, Nancy prepared something similar for the children. She prepared lessons and activities on the fruit of the spirit. One lesson was about the edible fruits of the Bible and the edible and inedible fruits of Australia. The children enjoyed the art and craft. One craft they enjoyed making involved using gum nuts from Australia.

Nancy also taught the children some basic music theory and recorder playing. As the children were very keen to learn English, Nancy took the opportunity to teach them simple conversational English.

One incident really demonstrated how everything worked for the glory of God. Eugene had printed out an A0-size paper tree for the children’s art and craft. But since we had to carry heaps of stuff to the airport, we had inadvertently left the paper tree at home and were unable to retrieve it.

Most of our planned art and craft activities needed that tree so we felt kind of lost without the tree. However, on the first morning at the church in Myanmar, we noticed many trees around

the church. As such, we asked one of the church helpers to cut off a big tree branch in order to create an instant miniature tree, which was decorated by the children’s art and craft pieces.

Later, Pastor Kima’s wife expressed that they had wanted to buy a Christmas tree but it was too costly and the church could not afford it. Moreover, they were grateful for the very meaningful and special Christmas tree, as it was full of the children’s handiwork.

Upon reflection, we realised that this tree was far better than the paper tree that we had initially prepared. Through this, we learnt a lesson that God’s plan is better. God knew and provided that special Christmas tree for the Myanmar children. God is sovereign and He is Jehovah Jireh.

We visited the orphanage on the first and last day of our trip there, where we had the opportunity to witness firsthand the living conditions of the orphans. The new building is certainly a vast improvement from the previous, however there are still many areas for improvement. The orphans need our prayers and support.

The trip was fulfilling. We thank God for a very blessed, fruitful, and meaningful family holiday for us.

~ Johnson, Nancy and Eugene Lim



Westminster Larger Catechism

Q. 121. Why is the word “remember” set in the beginning of the fourth commandment?

A. The word “remember” is set in the beginning of the fourth commandment, partly, because of the great benefit of remembering it, we being thereby helped in our preparation to keep it, and, in keeping it, better to keep all the rest of the commandments, and to continue a thankful remembrance of the two great benefits of creation and redemption, which contain a short abridgment of religion; and partly, because we are ready to forget it, for that there is less light of nature for it, and yet it restraineth our natural liberty in things at other times lawful; that it cometh but once in seven days, and many worldly businesses come between, and too often take off our minds from thinking of it, either to prepare for it, or to sanctify it; and that Satan with his instruments much labour to blot out the glory, and even the memory of it, to bring in all irreligion and impiety.

Worship Service Roster

Service	This Week (29.1.17)	Next Week (5.2.17)
Speaker	Mark Chen	Mark Chen
Worship Leader	Mark Chen	Mark Chen
Pianist	Evelyn Lee	Elizabeth Huang
Welcomers	Ian & Merrill Read	Danny & Susie Tan
Offering Stewards	Ken Hong*, Paul Butler* Chris Budiman, David Lim	David Pang*, Ian Read* Rex Sriharan, Micah Chiang
Ushers	Jesslyn Leow, Eva Ng	Josephine Austin, Angela Yap
Kitchen Duties	Angela Yap*, Debbie Blake Aliza Chiu	Mary Loh*, Jemima Ng August Ng, Victor Poon
<i>Prayer Meeting</i>	<i>3 February 2017</i>	<i>10 February 2017</i>
Facilitator	Mark Chen	Mark Chen
Pianist	Ian Tay	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. We will be celebrating Lord's Supper next Lord's Day. Please bring a dish to share at the fellowship lunch.
3. Next week's message: "The Fiery Holiness of God" (Acts 5:1-11).
4. Next week's Junior Worship message: "The Unhappy Prophet" (Jonah 1:1-4).
Speaker: John Tan.
5. Retirees' Bible Study. Tuesday, 31 January 2017, 10am. Message by Pastor: "The ABC of Apologetics". Potluck lunch after meeting - bring a dish to share.
6. Myanmar mission team multimedia report. Friday, 3 Feb 2017, 7.45pm.
7. Adult Sunday School - new series on "Bible Survey" commencing today.
8. Bible Conference 2017. Dates: 18-21 April 2017. Theme: "Love One Another Fervently". Speaker: Dr Bob Jones III. Venue: Bayview Geographe 0413 274 407. Register ASAP with Ken and Jackie Hong. Those with early bird registration must pay by 31 January. Electronic payment option - CBPC General Fund: BSB: 036-031, A c c t : 316942, Ref: BC(Surname)(Initial). Please email Jackie (pihfong@gmail.com) the amount paid and attach the electronic transfer record.

Appointments for the Week	Last Lord's Day Tithes & Offering, & Attendance
TUE 10:00 am Retirees' Bible Study WED 10:00 am Craft Group FRI 7:45 pm Prayer Meeting SAT 4:30 pm JF & TF SUN 9:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Worship Service	<i>General Fund</i> - \$3,385.90 (#660 - \$400.00). <i>Missions Fund</i> - \$1,080.00 (#661 - \$100.00, #662 - \$800.00). <i>Building Fund</i> - \$5.00 (#511 - \$5.00). <i>Total Tithes & Offering</i> - \$4,470.90. Attendance - 146.

Building Fund to Date	
Available Building Fund	\$81,518.93
Last Week's Collection	\$5.00
Total	\$81,523.93
<i>Outstanding Loan</i>	- \$416,000.00
<i>Amount Still Needed</i>	\$334,476.07
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.

Early Church Unity Acts 4:32-37

Church unity is not about uniformity. The Bible portrays church unity as being very simple, but we often complicate it. Christian unity has already been given to us (1 Cor 12:13). We are given the duty to maintain and preserve it (Eph 4:3).

1. Unity Exists Because of the Gospel
 - a. A great number were unified
 - b. They were believers
2. The Evidence of Unity Is Seen in Generosity
 - a. Inclusive language
 - b. They shared all
 - c. Generosity based on the gospel
3. Unity Is Preserved Through Excessive Generosity
 - a. No one neglected
 - b. The purpose of riches
 - c. Example of generosity

The gospel is Christ who was rich became poor for our sakes that we through his poverty might be rich. This is how unity can be preserved - when we use our substance, time, effort to minister to others. If there is no unity, it means there is no generosity; when there is no generosity, it means that there is no understanding of the gospel.

Questions for Reflection:

1. What is an affluent church to do with her money, when there are few people with actual needs? Are there really only very few people with actual needs? How can unity be preserved through generosity in such a circumstance?
2. Why is it easier to preach law to get people to give/tithe than to preach the obligations under the gospel? Is it because we don't understand the gospel or because we take the gospel for granted?