



COVENANT

Bible-Presbyterian Church

Preaching Christ for His Glory and His Kingdom

Order of Worship – 14 October 2018

Theme for the Year: "King Jesus Must Reign" (1 Corinthians 15:25)

Prelude	<i>The Lord Is in His Holy Temple</i>
Call to Worship	
*Opening Hymn	162 - <i>Thine Be the Glory</i>
*Invocation & † <i>Gloria Patri</i>	
Scripture Reading	Ephesians 4:1-16
Hymn	TP 133
Tithes & Offering	
**† <i>Doxology</i> & Offertory Prayer	
Scripture Reading	Ecclesiastes 10:1-20
Hymn	551 - <i>Take Thou Our Minds, Dear Lord</i>
Confession of Faith & Pastoral Prayer	
Sermon	"The Power of Foolishness"
*Closing Hymn	462 - <i>Be Thou My Vision</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

The Responsibilities of Members and the Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting of the church is coming up in 2 weeks' time and this is the business meeting of the church.

As members have covenanted to be members of the church and members of one another, it is thus timely to note what our responsibilities are.

The Importance of the Church and the Membership Covenant

At every reaffirmation of faith and transfer of membership, at least 2 vows are taken by those entering into a relationship with the church.

They are:

1. Do you covenant to participate faithfully in this Church's worship and service, by your regular attendance, prayer, service, and offerings, to the best of your ability?

2. Do you submit yourselves to the government and discipline of the Church, even if you should be found delinquent in doctrine or life; and do you promise to keep its purity and peace?

Why is there a covenant made with the church and a vow taken?

The reason why is because the church is important. She is the primary means through which God accomplishes his plan in the world (Matthew 28:18-20).

And the reason for that is because she has been given the Gospel. She is the pillar and the ground of truth (1 Timothy 3:15) and there is no ordinary salvation outside of her (WCF XXV.2) because of that.

Those who profess the true gospel are welcome into her fold and they grow through the preaching of the Word and the exercise of gifts by others on them.

So that is why there needs to be commitment from her members.

The church is a family - with each member playing an important role. When members play their role, there will be unity; but when members absent themselves, it can bring pain to the body (1 Corinthians 12:20-26).

Therefore it is important to know what are our duties.

Regular Attendance

A vow was made to participate faithfully in the church's worship and service by regular attendance, prayer, service, and offerings.

This means that we are to come to church to worship God. Hebrews 10:24-25 tells us not to neglect and forsake the coming together for worship - that we may hear the exhortation of the Word of Christ.

Hebrews was written to the covenant people of God. They were professing believers but some of them were tempted to leave Christ altogether. And the writer exhorted them to keep coming to church. If they kept coming, they would continue to hear the gospel.

Regular attendance leads to growth and leads to faith.

And this more needful as the Day of Christ nears. The Word of God informs us that things will progressively worsen. And unless we are faithful in making use of the means of grace in church, we may drift away from Christ.

Faithful Participation

It is not merely attendance - but it is also faithful participation. It is one thing to be present, but another to be a participant.

We are called to be worshipers - where we sing, listen, read, hear, pray, etc.

We are also called to be servants - where we are to use our gifts to serve one another.

Like a body, the church has many members. And if the church is to be healthy, each part must fulfill their roles. We have spiritual gifts and we ought to be using them.

And faithful participation is needful at the business meeting of the church - that we may come and understand how the Lord has been working in our midst, and how the church should move on in its mission.

But we are reminded in our vows, that it is in *this* church's worship and service that we are to participate faithfully.

This is the purpose of membership. It promises accountability.

Humble Submission

The second vow in the membership covenant speaks of the responsibility we have to submit to one another - but more specifically to the government of the church.

God has ordained a government to care for the spiritual needs of the people, to confront and correct sins, and to cause them to look to Christ their King.

Hebrews 13:17 speaks of the need to submit because the officers watch for the souls. There is a spiritual care.

Submission is always easy when we feel like it; but there are times when we don't.

But submission is beautiful to God - in the multitude of counselors there is safety. That is why there is a plurality of officers in the church.

This submission can only be done out of submission to God. As the vow states - submission is even in times when we have been found to be delinquent in doctrine or life.

But when those times come, it is very tempting simply to leave the church and refuse oversight. That is why no one should take a vow lightly; because when it is taken, it must be kept.

There is an agreement to follow through with due process. And to do so is part and parcel of keeping the purity and the peace of the church.

Annual General Meeting

As the church will have its annual meeting in 2 weeks' time, where we discuss the health of the church, it is important that all members be part of this meeting.

May God help us all to know how we ought to behave in "...the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth" 1 Timothy 3:15).

~ *Pastor*



Westminster Shorter Catechism

Q. 47. What is forbidden in the first commandment?

A. The first commandment forbiddeth the denying, or not worshiping and glorifying the true God as God, and our God; and the giving of that worship and glory to any other, which is due to him alone.

Q. 48. What are we especially taught by these words, "before me", in the first commandment?

A. These words, before me, in the first commandment teach us, that God, who seeth all things, taketh notice of, and is much displeased with, the sin of having any other God.

Worship Service Roster

Service	This Week (14.10.18)	Next Week (21.10.18)
Speaker	Mark Chen	Mark Chen
Worship Leader	Johnson Lim	Mark Chen
Pianist	Nancy Lim	Edward Lim
Welcomers	Danny & Susie Tan	Putri Harapan & Dolphin Wai
Offering Stewards	John Tan*, Yen Fye Yap* Jansen Ng, Ken Chong	Julian Poon*, Eugene Lim* Kim Leow, Johnny Orchard
Ushers	Faith Chiu, Jerome Ng	Wendy Gong, Jemima Ng
Kitchen Duties	Jenni Budiman*, Grace Wang Julian Poon	Sarah Siew*, Aliza Chiu Josephine Austin
PA Duty	Ian Tay	Jacob Woo
<i>Prayer Meeting</i>	<i>19 October 2018</i>	<i>26 October 2018</i>
Facilitator	Mark Chen	Mark Chen
Pianist	Jerome Ng	Ian Tay

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: "Practice Advice for Young People" (Ecclesiastes 11:1-10).
3. Next week's Junior Worship message: "Jesus Christ Maketh Thee Whole" (Acts 9:32-43). Speaker: Merylyn Woo.
4. Church Family BBQ. Sunday, 11 November 2018, 12pm at Bicton Quarantine Park. Cost: \$5/adult and \$3/child under 12. Please register with and pay Jacob or Merylyn by Sunday, 4 November.
5. **Notice of the 9th Annual General Meeting.** Date: Sunday, 28 October 2018. Time: 11:30 am sharp. Venue: 47 Davis Road, Attadale, WA 6156. Please collect your AGM papers from Jacob Woo.

Appointments for the Week	Last Lord's Day Tithes & Offering, & Attendance
WED 10:00 am Craft Group	General Fund - \$2,741.85 (*DD - \$200.00, #823 - \$100.00, #824 - \$500.00, #825 - \$15.00). Missions Fund - \$240.00 (*DD - 100.00). Building Fund - \$500.00 (*DD - \$300.00, #616 - \$200.00). Total Tithes & Offering - \$3,481.85. Attendance - 130. *DD: direct deposit
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	

Elders: **Mark Chen (Pastor)** 6114 4242, 0415 932 373. **Jimmy Orchard** 0413 274 407.
 Deacons: **Johnson Lim** 0402 145 682. **Jacob Woo** 0421 212 206. **Vincent Chiu** 0417 929 149.

The Power of Foolishness
Ecclesiastes 10:1-20

We expect people of high estate to be wise. But they too, in a moment of folly, can undo all the good they have done. Foolishness is more powerful than wisdom. It takes more effort to get things in order than it is to destroy things. Nitroglycerin is destructive even in small amounts. Where there is wisdom, there is foolishness and destruction.

1. Wisdom Is Vulnerable to Foolishness
 - a. Wisdom is an inclination to good
 - b. Folly can overcome wisdom
 - c. The overpowering evidence of folly
2. The Characteristics of Foolishness
 - a. It is unpredictable
 - b. It is relentless
 - c. It is indiscriminate

If foolishness and ungodliness seem to overcome so many things on earth, why be wise and godly? Being godly is not for the purpose of getting ahead in life. Being godly and wise should be the inclination of the heart of those saved by Christ. For even as Christ was godly and wise, he was overcome by folly and the ungodly in this life; but that became the very means for God to overcome folly and sin.

Questions for Reflection:

1. In what ways have you seen foolishness and ungodliness overpower your life despite your godly wisdom? What lesson do you think God has for you in this realization?
2. How relentless is foolishness and ungodliness? How have you seen it in your life?