



NEW LIFE BIBLE-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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“For the Word of God and for the testimony of Jesus Christ” (Rev 1:9)

Vol. 18 No. 37

LORD’S DAY 14 SEPTEMBER 2014

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Morning Service – 11am

Evening Service – 4pm

Prelude

The Lord Is in His Holy Temple

Call to Worship

Isaiah 12:1-2

Psalm 31:1-3

*Opening Hymn **

RHC 28 – “*The God of Abraham Praise*”

RHC 348 – “*Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah*”

*Opening Prayer **

John Poh

John Poh

*Gloria Patri **

Glory Be to the Father

Responsive Reading

Psalm 86

*Second Hymn **

Psalm 86 verses 1-4, 11-12
(to the tune of Martyrdom, RHC 194)

Announcements & Memory Verse

John Poh

John Poh

*Tithes & Offerings & Doxology **

RHC 294 – “*Grace! ‘Tis a Charming Sound*” *verses 1, 2, 5*

Scriptural Text

Amos 9:11-15

John 14:12-14

Pastoral Prayer

Dr Carl Martin

Dr Carl Martin

Sermon Message

A New Day of Opportunity

Greater Works

The Lord's Supper

Dr Carl Martin

*Closing Hymn **

RHC 187 – “*It Is A Thing Most Wonderful*”

RHC 358 – “*What a Friend We Have in Jesus*”

Benediction/3-Fold

Dr Carl Martin

Dr Carl Martin

*Amen **

Postlude

The Lord Bless You

* Congregation Stands

THE LORD IS IN HIS HOLY TEMPLE

The Lord is in His holy temple,
The Lord is in His holy temple:
Let all the earth keep silence,
Let all the earth keep silence before Him -
Keep silence, keep silence before Him. Amen.

DOXOLOGY

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heav’nly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

GLORIA PATRI

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, Amen.

THE LORD BLESS YOU

The Lord bless you and keep you;
The Lord lift His countenance upon you,
and give you peace, and give you peace;
The Lord make His face to shine upon you,
And be gracious unto you, be gracious,
The Lord be gracious, gracious unto you. Amen.

Church Theme 2014 – “Waiting for God” – Isaiah 30:18

SEASONS OF LIFE

My Dear Reader,

14-09-2014 As the shadows lengthen in this month and the hours of daylight diminish, we are reminded of the changes that come with regularity in our world. But those changes often happen in gradual, almost unexpected ways, when we realize that things that have been will no longer be. Take last Saturday as an example. In 2012 we were anticipating the arrival of a baby in the Poh home, sometime in September. Then she arrived, a girl named Elliora was born. Almost before we knew it, we were celebrating her second birthday. Then on Tuesday evening, after the sun had set, I was busy with research and reading at Tyndale House, Cambridge, right up until midnight when I retired for the night. Much to my surprise the following morning, I learned that the previous evening had had a Harvest Moon, and in my focus on study I had missed it altogether. While the newspaper photo of the previous evening's moon was attractive, it was not the same as being able to look upward in the evening sky and admire the beauty of God's handiwork in person. Why is that so? As one of my teachers pointed out years ago, a photograph, regardless of how carefully captured and developed, is frequently accompanied with a statement like, "The picture just does not do it justice. You would have to have been there to have seen it for yourself." Why? Because the photograph is missing a dimension in what it shows. Photos, even with 3-D capabilities, never convey the same thing that seeing something for yourself does. They are unable to communicate the presence of God in what they portray. Everything is in the presence of God, but His presence cannot be captured, packaged, or marketed.

In Genesis 1 we learn that on the fourth day of Creation, God made the lights: *And God said, Let there be lights in the firmament of the heaven to divide the day from the night; and let them be for signs, and for seasons, and for days, and years: And let them be for lights in the firmament of the heaven to give light upon the earth: and it was so* (Gen. 1:14-15). Notice that in addition to their function of giving light, they were to provide designations of signs, seasons, days, and years. They were to be reminders of the ongoing cycles of life in the world before the rebellion of humans. After the rebellion of humankind had developed on a massive scale, Genesis 6 – 8 records the destruction God brought in the great flood, where Noah and his family were protected from the devastation. Chapter 8 records the process of the human family starting again in their cultivation of the earth and their development of families. In the face of such upheaval, God provides a promise for the future in verse 22: *While the earth remaineth, seedtime and harvest, and cold and heat, and summer and winter, and day and night shall not cease.* Yes, the seasonal changes we are experiencing remind us of the faithfulness of our God to His promises for the world He created.

Yet, with the promise comes tremendous responsibility. During each season, each window of time, we have a responsibility to make the most of what the Lord has before us to accomplish at that time. This week as I returned to Cambridge, I found what had been lovely tall green tomato plants with large ripening tomatoes just two weeks ago, had been killed by an early frost. Evidently the owners of the plants had not placed any protective covering over them. I was reminded of Jeremiah, writing in a time of massive national upheaval and difficulty: *The harvest is past, the summer is ended, and we are not saved* (Jeremiah 8:20). The context of the chapter tells of an unending sequence of devastation coming upon them at the hand of the Babylonian invaders. There was no time to sorrow, because there was moment to reflect and mourn. The window of time for seeking the favor of God had passed. They faced the expression of His judgment at the hands of the Babylonians.

As the difficulties in Syria, Iraq, Gaza, and other regions have intensified in recent months, we have read of horrific things that have happened to Christians and non-Christians alike. The loss of life and humane considerations is hard to calculate. Yet for those dear ones who have met the sword or the bullet, there is no further opportunity to review or reflect. May we hear the words of Isaiah again: *Seek ye the Lord while he may be found, call ye upon him while he is near: Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the Lord, and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon* (Isaiah 55:6-7). The New Testament writer to the Hebrews pleaded with his hearers: *While it is said, Today if ye will hear his voice, harden not your hearts, as in the provocation* (Hebrews 3:15).

As the leaves turn from green to diverse colors, as the hours of daylight grow fewer, and as the warmth of summer fades into the chill of autumn, we are reminded that harvest season advances quickly. We look forward to the time when Jesus will return and establish righteousness on earth, but in the season where we now live and serve, let us redouble our efforts to live as those who belong to Him unreservedly. We are surrounded by people who may have no clue of who Jesus is and what it means to belong to Him. You and I are called to demonstrate those very things by the way we live and what we say. The night comes when man can work.

Hoping to point you to Jesus,

Carl T. Martin

WELCOME TO NEW LIFE B-P CHURCH LONDON

Our **worship services** begin promptly at **11.00 am and 4.00 pm.**

Please stay back for Bible Study and fellowship lunch after the morning worship and for tea after the evening service. Do invite your friends to come to Church.

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK		WELCOME
Tues 16 Sept	No Ladies Mid-Week Bible Study	We extend a warm welcome to all worshippers this Lord's Day. We like to welcome Cecilia & Clarissa, Wilma, Ruth and Andrew to our worship services last Lord's Day.
Fri 19 Sept	No Young Adults Fellowship	
Sat 20 Sept	Bible Study & Prayer Meeting	

Next Lord's Day	Morning Service	Evening Service	LORD'S DAY DUTIES
Preacher	Dr Carl Martin	Dr Carl Martin	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>TODAY: 14/09/2014</u></p> <p>Chairman: John</p> <p>Organist: Anthony</p> <p>Pianist: Jasmine</p> <p>Ushers: Tom / Yetta</p> <p>Sunday School: Hannah / Rachael</p> <p>Lunch: Maureen</p> <p>Washing Up: Volunteers</p> <p>PA Crew: Jonathan</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>NEXT WEEK: 21/09/2014</u></p> <p>Chairman: Jonathan</p> <p>Organist: Jasmine</p> <p>Pianist: Anthony</p> <p>Ushers: Daniel / Yetta</p> <p>Sunday School: Hannah / Rachael</p> <p>Lunch: Volunteers</p> <p>Washing Up: Volunteers</p> <p>PA Crew: Scott</p>
Message	Welcome to Colossae	The Evidence of Love	
Text	Colossians 1:1-8	John 14:15-24	

NEWS/ANNOUNCEMENTS	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pre-lunch Bible Study: Dr Martin will lead this week's study. • Pray for those who are sick: Douglas, Barbara, Prema, Margaret, May Chew, Constance, Deborah, Pastor & Mrs Ki, Susan, Dr Carl Martin, Dr Scott-Pearson, Nina, Helen, Eld Chew's mother, Rev Colin Wong, Patricia, Hannah, Shirley, Daniel, Dr Brian Green. • Pray for those seeking employment: Yetta, Magdalene. • Pray for those on travel: Margaret, Constance. • Pulpit Ministry: Please pray for the church's sponsorship application and Pr Mok Chee Cheong's visa. • Church Cleaning: There will be church cleaning next Sunday after lunch. 	

Worship Service Collections - Last Sunday: £736.10, Lunch: £41.00
Attendance - Morning: 28 (A) 4 (C), Evening: 19 (A) 4 (C)

SHORTER CATECHISM QUESTION 33

Q: What is justification?

*A: Justification is an act of God's free grace, wherein he pardoneth all our sins, and accepteth us as righteous in his sight, only for the **RIGHTEOUSNESS OF CHRIST** imputed to us, and received by faith alone.*

Comments:

Justification means pronouncing a person righteous; it is the opposite of *condemnation*. It is said to be an *act*, because it is done at once; and an act of God's *free grace*, because we can do nothing of ourselves to deserve it. It consists of two parts – *pardon* and *acceptance*; and we are taught also that the *cause* of it is not our own goodness, but *Christ's*, and that Christ's righteousness becomes ours through *faith*.

Scriptural Reference:

Romans 3:24, Ephesians 1:7, Romans 5:19, Galatians 2:16

MEMORY VERSE

Last Week	This Week	Next Week
<p>“Wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience:”</p> <p>Ephesians 2:2</p>	<p>“Among whom also we all had our conversation in times past in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind; and were by nature the children of wrath, even as others”</p> <p>Ephesians 2:3</p>	<p>“But God, who is rich in mercy, for his great love wherewith he loved us,”</p> <p>Ephesians 2:4</p>