



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. 26 No. 02

LORD’S DAY 09 JANUARY 2022

ORDER OF WORSHIP

	<i>Morning Service – 11am</i>	<i>Afternoon Service – 3pm</i>
<i>Prelude</i>	<i>The Lord Is in His Holy Temple</i>	
<i>Call to Worship</i>	Micah 4:1-4	Psalm 111:1-3
<i>Opening Prayer</i>	Ps Timothy Poh	Pr Mok Chee Cheong
<i>Opening Hymn *</i>	RHC 27 – “Now Thank We All Our God”	---
<i>Responsive Reading</i>	Psalm 136	---
<i>Second Hymn</i>	<i>Psalm 136 1st version verses 1-8</i> (to the tune of Dominus Regit Me)	
<i>Scriptural Text</i>	Matthew 2:1-12	Nehemiah 2:12-16
<i>Pastoral Prayer</i>	Ps Timothy Poh	Pr Mok Chee Cheong
<i>Sermon Message</i>	<i>Rich Man, Poor Man – Part 2</i>	<i>Counting the Cost</i>
<i>The Lord’s Supper</i>	Ps Timothy Poh	---
<i>Closing Hymn *</i>	RHC 165 – “Thou Didst Leave Thy Throne”	---
<i>Benediction/3-Fold Amen *</i>	Ps Timothy Poh	Pr Mok Chee Cheong
<i>Postlude</i>	<i>The Lord Bless You</i>	---
<i>* Congregation Stands</i>		

SHORTER CATECHISM QUESTION 97

Q: What is required to the worthy receiving of the Lord’s Supper?

A: It is required of them that would worthily partake of the Lord’s Supper, that they examine themselves of their knowledge to discern the Lord’s body, of their faith to feed upon him, of their repentance, love, and new obedience; lest, coming unworthily, they eat and drink judgement to themselves.

Comments:

We are here taught the proper qualifications for receiving the Lord’s Supper. They are: 1. *Knowledge* sufficient to understand what is represented by it; 2. *Faith* sufficient to believe that as the bread which we eat sustains our bodies, so the Bread of Life which it represents will sustain our souls; 3. *Repentance* from all known sin; 4. *Love* to God and man; 5. A resolution henceforth to act up to every known *duty*.

Scriptural Reference:

1 Corinthians 11:28, 29, 2 Corinthians 13:5, 1 Corinthians 5:8

MEMORY VERSE

Last Week

“But if ye turn unto me, and keep my commandments, and do them; though there were of you cast out unto the uttermost part of the heaven, yet will I gather them from thence, and will bring them unto the place that I have chosen to set my name there.”

Nehemiah 1:9

This Week

“Blessed be God, even the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies, and the God of all comfort.”

2 Corinthians 1:3

Next Week

“Then answered I them, and said unto them, The God of heaven, he will prosper us: therefore we his servants will arise and build.”

Nehemiah 2:20a

THE MEANS OF GRACE

The apostle Paul declares, *“By grace are ye saved through faith, and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: not of works, lest any man should boast”* (Eph. 2:8–9). Where does this faith come from? How is this gift of God imparted? The answer of historic Christianity is that it comes from God and by the means of grace that Christ has appointed in His church. All the ordinances, or things commanded by Christ (Matt. 28:20), are in view in this answer, but the primary means is the Word of God, the Holy Scriptures, *“which are able to make thee wise unto salvation”* (2 Tim. 3:15). David extols the saving power of the Word, declaring that *“the law of the LORD is perfect, converting the soul”* (Ps. 19:7).

There is no conflict between faith in the sovereignty of God and use of His appointed means to obtain what He promises to us. As God, the Holy Spirit is free to work when, where, and how He pleases, with or without the use of means. Nevertheless, the means of grace are commended to us by the very fact that the sovereign God commands us to use them.

A distinction must be made between the kindness of God shown to all creatures, by which He showers good gifts upon all mankind, just and unjust alike, and that special or saving grace imparted only to God’s elect. The Bible affirms, *“The LORD is good to all: and his tender mercies are over all his works”* (Ps. 145:9). However, *“he sheweth his word unto Jacob, his statutes and his judgments unto Israel. He hath not dealt so with any nation: and as for his judgments, they have not known them”* (Ps. 147:19–20).

Scripture’s uniqueness as a means of grace lies in its very nature: *“The word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword... a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart”* (Heb. 4:12). However, because of the unbelief, ignorance, and darkness of our fallen, corrupted hearts, the Holy Spirit alone makes the reading and preaching of the Word effectual as a means of grace, using the Word to enlighten our darkness, working faith in our hearts, and enabling us to receive Christ as Saviour and to serve Him as Lord.

Other means of grace are subordinate to God’s Word. Holy baptism and the Lord’s Supper are the Word of God made visible to confirm the truth of God’s promises to us. Prayer is a means by which those promises are invoked by believers, to *“obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need”* (Heb. 4:16). Praise is a means by which God’s grace, the Word of Christ dwelling in our hearts, is poured forth in thanksgiving to God as we sing the *“psalms and hymns and spiritual songs”* included in the canon of Scripture at the direction of the Holy Spirit (Eph. 5:18–21; Col. 3:16).

We must never attribute efficacy to the means themselves and the bare use of them. The water of baptism cannot wash away sins. The bread and wine of the Lord’s Supper are not and cannot become the life-giving flesh and blood of Christ. A man’s Christianity is not to be measured by the number of sermons he has heard or prayers he has recited. It is possible to do all the right things without a believing heart: *“Whatsoever is not of faith is sin”* (Rom. 14:23). Even so, those who believe that God has instituted these means of grace make diligent use of them.

The church must give first place to the sound preaching of the Word. Her members should hear such preaching with faith and submission, desiring to know, believe, and obey the will of God revealed therein. The sacraments should be administered only in conjunction with such preaching, and must be received in faith by all who would profit from them. To pray effectively, our minds must be filled with the truth of God's Word. To praise acceptably, our hearts must be filled with the Word of Christ and with the Holy Spirit.

adapted and edited from The Reformation Heritage KJV Study Bible

NEWS / ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dear Worshippers, due to the increasing Covid infection rate within London the Afternoon Worship Service has been moved back to being held online at 3pm until further notice.

Morning Worship Service will still be held in the Church Premises. However, please note that there will be strict social distancing measures put in place.

Face coverings must be worn in the church at all times out of consideration for all worshippers.

For those unable to attend Church in person, we will continue to stream our services online.

If you require the link to our online zoom services, or have any questions or require further clarity, please call the church manse, or email us at admin 'at' newlifebpc.org.uk.

Tithes & Offerings – There will be an offering box at the entrance to the Church Sanctuary for you to place your offerings in.

Church Prayer Meeting will resume in the worship hall on Sunday mornings at 10:15am.

Church Maintenance Fund Total: £8,060.50

CHURCH NOTICE

Dear fellow worshippers and friends,

Due to the increasing Covid infection rate within London the Afternoon Worship Service has been moved back to being held online until further notice.

New Life Bible Presbyterian Church will continue to hold Morning Worship Service in the Church premise on Sunday.

The church activities will take place as follows:

- Sunday Morning Worship Service, 11am – Church Premises & Online
- Sunday Afternoon Worship Service, 3pm – Online

Provided that there is no worsening of the pandemic in London, we hope to start holding the Afternoon Worship Service and Fortnightly Bible Study within the church premises in the coming months.

Changes introduced to the Worship Services held at the church premises

In compliance with the current Government guidelines, the following changes have been introduced:

- No offering collection during the worship service. Offerings can be made at the offering box when entering or exiting the church.
- Adopt a 2-metre social distancing seating arrangement (household members may sit with each other).
- Face coverings to be worn in the church **at all times** out of consideration for all worshippers. For young children under the age of 11, the use of face covering is optional. **Please ensure you bring your own face covering.**
- No food and drinks will be made available (Fellowship Lunch has been temporarily suspended).
- After Morning Worship Service, you may gather for fellowship inside or outside of the Church premises, but please adhere to social distancing.
- No access to non-essential areas of the church – this includes the Fellowship Hall and kitchen.
- New movement arrangements to be adopted (please follow directions).
- Temperature measurements will be taken for every worshipper and visitor.
- Worshippers and visitors are required to complete the contact details slip for the NHS Test & Trace service. These details will be kept securely in church for 21 days and then destroyed. They will only be submitted to Test & Trace if a Covid-19 case occurs.
- Alternatively, please download the NHS COVID-19 Mobile App and scan one of the QR codes in the Church entrance to check-in.

To join our online services or to obtain further updates, please visit the church website (www.newlifebpc.org.uk) or call the church manse (020 73280869).

With the Lord's blessing,

John Poh & Jonathan Kim
Task Force Members