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. 30 No. 47 **LORD'S DAY 22 NOVEMBER 2026**

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Morning Service – 11am

Prelude	*The Lord Is in His Holy Temple*
Call to Worship	Psalm 105:1–7
Opening Hymn *	RHC 36 – *"High in the Heavens, Eternal God"*
Opening Prayer	Dn John Poh
Responsive Reading	Psalm 79
Second Hymn *	Psalm 79:1–8 *(To the tune of All Saints, RHC 562)*
Scriptural Text	Ephesians 5:1–21
Pastoral Prayer	Rev Brian Harper
Sermon Message	***"The Season for Singing"***
Closing Hymn *	RHC 60 – *"Ye Servants of God, Your Master Proclaim"*
Benediction/3-Fold Amen *	Rev Brian Harper
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.

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.

WESTMINSTER SHORTER CATECHISM QUESTION 32

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

Dear brethren, this week's article is written by Rev Harper especially for our congregation. May the Lord bless your reading and use this article to strengthen and encourage your faith.

The Season for Singing

Christmas is coming. The goose is getting fat.
Please put a penny in the old man's hat.
If you haven't got a penny, a ha'penny will do.
If you haven't got a ha'penny, God bless you.

Yes, Christmas is coming. In fact, it is just a matter of weeks away. Already the sounds of Christmas are heard as we enter the shops and stores.

Now, familiar carols and hymns are a vital part of Christmas. For, to put it simply, Christmas is profoundly musical. It is a season for singing unlike any other time of the year. Why is this?

One reason is that the Christmas story in the Bible is itself littered with songs. As has been said, "Christmas began as history set to music". You open the Gospel of Luke, and what do you find but four sacred songs surrounding the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ.

In Chapter One verse 46, we have recorded what is universally known as Mary's *Magnificat.* The title is applied because that verb, for emphasis' sake, is the first word in the Latin translation of the Bible: *"My soul magnifies the Lord".* Here is Mary, declaring her gratitude and wonder while pregnant with Jesus. It is a song full of the Old Testament, particularly the prayer of Hannah in 1 Samuel 2:1-10.

Then, in verse 68, we have what is traditionally known as the *Benedictus.* Again, that word was the first word in the Latin translation. It is of course the prophecy uttered by Zacharias: "*Blessed be the Lord God of Israel".* Zacharias saw that, with the birth of his son John, God had set in motion the process for fulfilling His promises made centuries earlier.

In Chapter Two verse 14, we have recorded the words of the angel of the Lord and a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying: *"Glory to God in the highest".* This hymn of praise is known to us as *"Gloria in Excelsis Deo".* This was the testimony of the supernatural world to the birth of Christ Jesus. It echoes with joy and honour at the outward manifestation of God's love and glory.

Finally, in Chapter Two verse 29, we have the wonderful response of Simeon to the coming of the Christ child in what we know as the *Nunc Dimittis.* Simeon's song focuses on Jesus as the bringer of God's peace, salvation and light. He declares that God is the Sovereign Lord whose plans will always be achieved.
Four songs or hymns therefore, recorded in Scripture, celebrate and acknowledge the birth of Jesus Christ. Surely, it points to the fact that there is something uniquely musical about the Christian faith and thus, Christian worship.

The music of the Christian narrative is a powerful witness to this history, that God indeed did enter the world as a babe to do for us what we could not do for ourselves. In the words of the great Apostle, "Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners" (1 Timothy 1:15).

Is that not something to sing about?

New Life Bible-Presbyterian Church
Morning Service Notes

"The Season for Singing"
Ephesians 5:1-21

Rev Brian D Harper
22nd November 2026

Introduction:

1. **Our singing must be doctrinal: vv18&19**

It must be spiritual.

It must be scriptural.

It must be sensible.

2. **Our singing must be directional: v19**

It is vertical.

It is horizontal.

3. **Our singing must be devotional: vv19-20**

We are to sing heartily.

We are to sing gratefully.

New Life Bible-Presbyterian Church
Bible Study Notes

"The Saviour's Seminar on Prayer (Part 4)"
Matthew 6:10

Rev Brian D Harper
22nd November 2026

1. **The absolute sovereignty of God's will:**

The sceptic's view.

The scriptural view.

2. **The heavenly splendour of God's will:**

It is done flawlessly.

It is done fervently.

It is done freely.

It is done faithfully.

3. **The earthly submission to God's will:**

Demonstrated for us.

Demanded of us.

A humble acceptance.

A holy awareness.

A happy assurance.

Desired by us.

WELCOME TO NEW LIFE B-P CHURCH LONDON

Our Lord's Day activities begin with the **Worship Service** at **11.00 am** followed by a **Bible Study & Children's Sunday School** at **1:30pm**. Do invite your friends to come to Church.

NEWS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dear Worshippers, we extend a warm welcome to you this Lord's Day. We hope that you have a blessed time worshipping with us today.

For those unable to attend Church in person, please join our Worship Service and Bible Study on our live-stream via YouTube - https://www.youtube.com/@NewLifeBPCLondon

We thank God for providing Rev Brian Harper to minister to us today.

Next Sunday, Dr David Allen will be ministering to us.

Tithes & Offerings – The offering box is located at the entrance to the Church Sanctuary.

Lunch Fellowship — Join us for lunch fellowship after the morning worship service. Please bring your own lunch as only drinks will be provided.

Afternoon Bible Study, 1:30pm – Rev Harper will continue the study on the "The Saviour's Seminar on Prayer" taken from Matthew 6:10.

Children's Sunday School, 1:30pm – held at side hall & manse after Lunch Fellowship.

MEMORY VERSE

This Week	Last Week
"Speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord;" **Ephesians 5:19**	*"Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in necessities, in persecutions, in distresses for Christ's sake: for when I am weak, then am I strong."* **2 Corinthians 12:10**

The Believer's Daily Remembrancer – 22nd November

(written by Rev James Smith)

"For I am with thee, saith the LORD, to save thee: though I make a full end of all nations whither I have scattered thee, yet will I not make a full end of thee: but I will correct thee in measure, and will not leave thee altogether unpunished." Jeremiah 30:11

SIN procures correction, and love sends it. Every child is chastened, because every child sins. But though we are corrected for sin, yet not according to the desert of sin. Our Father chastens us in measure, not in wrath, but in love; not to destroy, but to save us. There is no wrath in His heart, for He has sworn that He will not be wroth with us; yet He will visit our sins with the rod, and our iniquities with stripes. He is reconciled to our persons, but not to our follies; therefore He says, "As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten; be zealous therefore and repent." Let us not despise His chastening, nor faint when we are rebuked of Him; for it is the common lot of all His children, and if it drives us to Him, and humbles us at His feet, it is evidently sent in love. It is a painful blessing; a mercy sent to purify and cleanse us. If we sin and are not chastened, our sonship is questionable; for what son is he whom his father chasteneth not? But if we are chastened, God dealeth with us as with sons; and our sufferings are the fulfilment of His promise.

Though ten thousand ills beset thee, From without, and from within,
Jesus saith, He'll ne'er forget thee, But will save from hell and sin:
He is faithful, To perform His precious word.