

# COVENANT

## Evangelical Reformed Church

Website: [www.cerc.org.sg](http://www.cerc.org.sg) Email: [cercbulletin@yahoo.com.sg](mailto:cercbulletin@yahoo.com.sg)

Lord's Day 21

May 21, 2017

Church Theme 2017

† Be Ye Holy †

1 Peter 1: 13 - 16

### WELCOME TO COVENANT ERC

We are a Reformed Church that holds to the doctrines of the Reformation as they are expressed in the Belgic Confession, the Heidelberg Catechism and the Canons of Dordt. If you would like to know more about our beliefs, or engage us to help you in any crisis in life, kindly contact any of our leaders:

Rev. Andy Lanning

Elder Chan Chee Seng

Elder Lee Kong Wee

Elder Leong Fai Chong

Elder Wee Gim Theng

Deacon Cornelius Boon

Deacon Paul Liu

Deacon Tang Yoon Chuan

### Propriety in Worship

Worship is a sacred and holy experience. The people of God meet in public worship to seek God. Our focus in worship is to exalt God, to praise Him, and to listen to the preaching of His Holy Word. As such, the Bible expects all worshippers to:

Be punctual for worship service – *Psalm 63: 1*

Be reverent in behaviour – *Exodus 3: 5*

Be sincere in worship – *John 4: 24*

Be silent in worship when God speaks in the preaching – *Habakkuk 2: 20*

Be active in praise and prayer – *Psalm 66: 1- 2*

### Verse of the Week

“What shall I render unto the LORD for all his benefits toward me? I will take the cup of salvation, and call upon the name of the LORD.”

*(Psalm 116 : 12 - 13)*

### Announcements

#### Coming Church Programmes 2017

12-15 June 2017	Church Camp 2017
24 June 2017	30 <sup>th</sup> ACM
26 June 2017	Family Seminar
02 July 2017	Lord's Supper
09 Aug 2017	Fellowship Outing
03 Sep 2017	Lord's Supper

#### Church Name when Issuing Cheques

We have updated our church's bank account name as follow:

1. Covenant Evangelical Reformed Church - General Fund
2. CERC - General Fund
3. CERC - Student Aid Fund
4. CERC - Benevolence Fund

When making contribution to any of the Church Funds using cheque, please write the respective payable Fund Name clearly on the cheque. The above names are accepted by the bank.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

**Morning**

Prelude

Reading Belgic Confession

Article 11

Call to Worship

Votum

Opening Doxology\*

Song 1 – P129

Reading of the Law

Song 2 – P58

Congregational Prayer

Song 3 – P302

Scripture Reading

Sermon

Offering

Offertory Song† & Prayer

Song 4 – P183

Benediction

Doxology (P197)

\*Opening Doxology

*Praise God from Whom all  
blessings flow,*

*Praise Him all creatures here  
below,*

*Praise Him above ye heavenly  
hosts,*

*Praise Father, Son and Holy  
Ghost. Amen*

†Offertory Song

*O Lord accept our offering  
Receive and bless the gifts we  
bring,*

*To Thee as Prophet, Priest and  
King,*

*I yield my heart, my offering.*

**Afternoon**

Prelude

Call to Worship

Votum

Opening Doxology\*

Song 1 – P27

Congregational Prayer

Song 2 – P166

Scripture Reading

Sermon

Offering

Offertory Song† & Prayer

Song 3 – P71

Benediction

Doxology (P197)

**THOU HAST ASCENDED ON HIGH**

*AM*

**(Ascension Day)**

*Rev. Lanning*

Scripture Reading: **Psalm 68**

Text: **Psalm 68: 18**

**I. Jesus' Ascension**

**II. Jesus' Victory**

**III. Jesus' Gifts**

*PM*

**LEAD US NOT INTO TEMPTATION**

*Rev. Lanning*

Scripture Reading: **I Thessalonians 5**

Text: **Lord's Day 52**

**I. The Saints' Battle**

**II. The Saints' Petition**

**III. The Saint's Victory**

Dearly beloved saints of CERC,

This morning we consider the ascension of our Lord Jesus Christ into heaven. On the church calendar, this Thursday, 25 May, is Ascension Day. Although we do not mark the day itself with a worship service, we will consider Jesus' ascension today, and the great benefits His ascension holds for us, His church.

We rejoice this week with Daniel and Isa, who will be united in the covenant of marriage this Saturday, 27 May. May God grant the couple His blessing, that they may live in marriage in a way that glorifies God. We pray that we in CERC may also be an example to each other in our marriages, so that the perfect union of Christ and His church is clearly reflected in us.

CERC is approaching that time of year when we go through a transition in our Covenant Instruction classes. The new "season" begins in June and runs through the end of August. Catechism classes will resume in September. The Sec 1-4 students have already finished their Saturday catechism classes, and will not have catechism this Saturday, 27 May, for the sake of the wedding. The Pri 1-6 students will have catechism today and next Sunday, 28 May. Their CI classes will begin on 4 June. Belgic Confession Class for the older youth and adults will begin on 4 June as well. We pray that God will bless the instruction that has been given to our covenant children and youth, and that He will continue to train them up in the fear of the Lord.

Your servant in Christ's love,  
Pastor Lanning

#### **Catechism Class**

P1 - 3 (Sun, 28 May, 11:30am): Memorize the answers and verse for Lesson 12.

P4 - 6 (Sun, 28 May, 11:30am): Memorize the verse for Lesson 20.

S1 - 2 (Sat, 27 May, 1pm): No Catechism (wedding).

S3 - 4 (Sat, 27 May, 2pm): No Catechism (wedding).

#### **Pre-Confession Class**

21 May Meeting at 3:30pm

28 May Meeting at 3:30pm

04 June Meeting at 3:30pm

11 June No Meeting

18 June Meeting at 3:30pm

25 June Meeting at 3:30pm

#### **Fire Evacuation Plan**

The fire evacuation plan has been pinned up on the Notice Board on the pillar near the partition door of multi-purpose hall. Do familiarise yourself with the fire evacuation route/exit.

#### Assembly Area

Assembly area is located at the cul-de-sac road (road end) of Jalan Mesin, at the extreme left side of Standard Industrial Building.

#### Action to be taken – All members and visitors

1. When evacuation is declared, all members and visitors are to immediately evacuate.
2. When evacuating, do not panic but quickly walk down the staircase by the nearest exit and proceed to the assembly point. **Do Not Use Lifts**
3. Do not bring your belongings during evacuation.

#### Safety Precaution

1. **Do not** rush, walk to the assembly area in an orderly manner.
2. Walk along the path way. **Do Not Walk on the Road.**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Today

9:30am	Morning Worship Service
11:30am	FSM
12:30pm	Lunch Fellowship
2:00pm	Afternoon Worship Service

### Translator's Schedule

	Today	Next week
AM :	Suet Wan / William	Suet Wan / William
PM :	Lap Meng / Angela	Lap Meng / Angela

### CK / CKS Schedule

May		June	
06	Workshop: Stewards of Our Time	03	Genesis BS
13	Outing	10	Workshop: Stewards of Our Money - Saving
20	Genesis BS	17	Free
27	Free	24	Church ACM

### Prayer Items

1. Pray for the coming activities: Church Camp (12 - 15 June)

### Pastoral Visitation

30 May	Chan Yoke Mui, Sheryl	Rev Lanning, Deacon Tang
20 June	Toh Siew Chin	Rev Lanning, Deacon Boon
27 June	Gim Theng & Family	Rev Lanning, Elder Chan

### CK / CKS June Retreat 2017

Venue	: Changi Cottage
Date	: 22nd June (Thurs) to 24th June (Sat)
Speaker	: Rev. Lanning
Theme	: The God of Zion's Youth (Psalms 48:14)

Registration closes TODAY. Please approach the registration IC, Yang Zhi, if you have any queries. Hope to see you there!

### FSM Update

FSM shall have another book study today at 11.30, Lord willing. The discussions will be based on the following questions. May the Lord grant unto us a blessed time of discussions and fellowship.

- 1) Discuss the spiritual meaning and significance behind the vows in the Marriage Form.
- 2) What is the one essential ingredient for a truly happy marriage? Why?
- 3) What does it mean that a husband and wife become 'one flesh'? Is it immediately at the wedding, or gradually through the years?
- 4) "Til death do you part" – do you think such words uttered by the Minister during a wedding occasion is a good way to remind couples of God's commandment for husbands and wives to remain together for life.

### Collections for

Fund	Apr 07	May 14
General:	\$6,483.95	\$3,939.50
Benevolent:	\$1,160.40	no collection
Student Aid:	no collection	\$1,380.40

### Counting Offerings

	Today	Next week
AM:	Boon Siok, Kah Pik	Michelle, Serene
PM:	Angela, Ah Moi	Eunice, Foong Ngee

### Washing Duty

- 21 May : Joseph, Angela Ng, Kuang, Zi En, Stanley  
 28 May : Ruth, Melina, Marcus Boon, Rachel

### Bible Study Groups

**Bread of Life:** Elder Lee's residence. Every 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday at 8pm. Study on "Zechariah"

I/C: Elder Chan

**Beulah:** Church. Every 2nd and 4th Friday at 8pm. Study on "Galatians."

I/C: Bro Meng Hsien

**Shalom:** Robert / Grace's residence. Every 1<sup>st</sup> & 3rd Friday at 8pm. Study on "Revelation."

I/C: Bro Robert Lee

**Gethsemane:** Church. 3rd Friday of month at 8pm. Study on "1<sup>st</sup> Peter."

I/C: Bro William Ow

**Ebenezer:** Please contact Sis. Daisy on venue. One Saturday a month (pls confirm with Daisy on the actual date). Study on "Major Prophets."

I/C: Sis Daisy Lim

**Glowing Candles:** Stephanie's residence. Every 1st & 3rd Wednesday at 10.30am. Study on "Women of the Bible."

I/C: Sis Stephanie, Coordinator: Sis Jee Fung

### Next Week Preaching Schedule:

AM: Rev. Lanning                      PM: Rev. Lanning

All notices for publication must reach cercbulletin@yahoo.com.sg by Friday, 2pm

## *Announcements (Cont'd)*

### **Office Bearer Nomination Schedule**

Session is asking for the congregation's help in suggesting to Session brothers who are willing to stand for nomination for the office of elder and deacon. God willing, session would like to nominate two elders and one deacon.

- 02 Apr - Session requests the congregation to suggest nominees
- 23 Apr - Deadline for congregation to suggest nominees to Session
- SM or ESM - Session nominates men for office
- 30 Apr - Session informs nominees to consider the office
- 14 May - Deadline for nominees to reply to Session
- 11 Jun - Names of candidates willing to stand for election are placed under approbation
- 24 Jun - Election of Elders and Deacons at ACM

### **Update of 03<sup>rd</sup> Extra Session Meeting 2017**

Dearly beloved saints of CERC,

Session met for its 3<sup>rd</sup> Extra Session Meeting (ESM) on Wednesday, 17 May. Just a reminder that during an ESM, Session skips some of the monthly routine work of Session, such as pastoral visitation reports, pastoral concern reports, and the pastor's report, in order to focus on matters that could not be completed at the regular Session meetings.

The first matter that Session handled was a second round of officebearer nominations. The first round was held a few weeks ago, and Session has now heard back from all of the men who were nominated. In order to fill one slot yet, Session had to hold this second round of nominations. After Session has heard back from those nominated, the names will be published to the congregation for our consideration. We will vote for our officebearers at the Annual Congregational Meeting at the end of June. The precise schedule can be found elsewhere in the bulletin.

The next matter that Session dealt with was the Foreign Mission Committee (FMC) Report regarding the work in Kolkata. This report took most of our time and was very weighty. Our missionary, Rev. Singh, joined us for this portion of the meeting via Skype. He began by presenting his monthly report to Session, giving an update of his labors and the activities within the group in Kolkata. Session unanimously voted to approve his work. Following this, the FMC presented its report, which included recommendations for the future of our work in Kolkata. Session adopted decisions having to do with the timeline for the institution and organization of the CERC Kolkata Fellowship as a church, membership classes, membership status of the saints in Kolkata, and more. Because of the significance of these decisions, Session will be giving a presentation on Kolkata to the congregation on Sunday, 25 June, at 11:30am. The brief summary of the plans is that Session sees evidence that the Fellowship in Kolkata is getting closer to the time when they can be organized as a church. Session has identified the remaining steps to be taken before they could be organized, and has set a goal of completing these steps in one year's time. Details of these plans will be presented to the congregation at the meeting on 25 June. Let us pray for the saints in Kolkata, and for CERC's Session, as we seek to be faithful to our Lord in overseeing the work in India.

There were some other administrative matters Session dealt with at the meeting as well. One item of note was that our committee has submitted a request to the government to extend our exemption from complying with building usage rules that took effect a few years ago. Currently, CERC has written permission from the government to continue our status quo with regard to the usage of the building, with this permission extending through June 2018. The least disruptive plan for all involved would be simply to continue this status quo, which is the route we are currently seeking to take. We have no word on when we might receive an answer, but Session will keep the congregation updated when we do.

Continue to pray for the Session. It is humbling for the officebearers to face decisions that affect the life and worship of the saints here in CERC, as well as those in Kolkata. The officebearers are deeply aware that we are insufficient for the task in ourselves. Pray for us, that God would use us to bring honor to His name and peace to His people.

Your servants in Christ's love,  
Session of CERC