

Worship on July 10, 2022 (CCLI: License Number #3156883)
(Welcoming Elder: Robert Revington)

Sunday Order of worship

We Gather

- Welcome and Announcements
- Call to worship
- Praise song – BOP 321 Praise to the Lord, the almighty
- Prayer for worship and Lord's Prayer
- Words of Assurance
- Time for our children and youth
- Praise song – BOP 648 I'm gonna live so God can use me

We Listen

- Prayer for illumination
- Scripture: Luke 10:25-37
- Sermon: Go and do likewise
- The Prayer for the people of God

We Respond

- Offering & Dedication
- Song for the Journey – BOP 637 Take my life, and let it be consecrated

We Serve

- Benediction

Announcements:

. Grace and peace to you all who are worshipping God with us today. This is Sunday, July 10th. God called us to enjoy him and glorify him. In his presence, fill your hearts with him, and show him through your daily lives.

. We need one more volunteer to set up, operate, and tear down for Audio visual department. Please let Rev. Soong know if you are interested.

. There will be Fellowship time in the Church Hall after Worship. Please stay and connect.

. Rev. Soong has his office hours on Wednesday from 9am-12pm.

. Bible Study (Christ-Centred Life) will begin on Wednesdays morning 10am from July 20th. All are welcome. Spread the word. It will be the time of connecting each other and praying for each other.

. Prayer is unseen, yet powerful. If you have prayer needs, please let us know.

Cheryl Daddis @ cheryl@pathcom.com or Soong @ revsoonghuh@hotmail.com

. Please help Ukraine with donation and prayer.

. Thank you for your continuing support with your gifts. As we offer our gifts to the Lord, let us give our hearts and our lives to the Lord as well. May God be in the centre of your hearts.

As we come into the presence of our God, let us open our hearts and minds,
and focus on our Lord and King.

Responsive Call to Worship

One: Turn to God with confidence and expectation.

All: In you, O God, we place our trust.

One: Ask God to show us the road to follow.

All: Lead us, O God, in your truth and teach us your way.

One: Seek hope in the Lord who is our salvation.

All: All day long we will put our hope in the God who saves us.

We will worship God in faith, hope and trust.

Praise song – BOP 321 Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

<u>Vs. 1</u> Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, who rules all creation: my soul, praise God who alone is your health and salvation. Come, all who hear, sisters and brothers draw near, joining in glad adoration.	<u>Vs. 2</u> Praise to the Lord, who in all things so wondrously reigning hides you with sheltering wings, ever gently sustaining. Have you not seen how your heart's wishes have been granted through God's kind ordaining?
<u>Vs. 3</u> Praise to the Lord, who will prosper your work, who defends you; surely God's merciful goodness here daily attends you; ponder anew what the Almighty can do, when in great love God befriends you.	<u>Vs. 4</u> Praise to the Lord, and with all that is in me adoring, all who have life and breath, come with glad praises outpouring! Let the amen sound from God's people again, now and forever adoring!

Prayer For Adoration and Confession

God of all beginnings, we come today with praise on our lips and in our hearts.

We stand in awe of all you have created: the vast expanse of a starry night and the tiny beauty of a raindrop together reflect your glory. You have blessed creation with life and meaning.

Your love makes a beginning in us, too, O God, in each new life born into the world, in each new friendship formed, in each kindling attraction, in each kind word and act for neighbour or stranger. We praise you, O God, for your love moving in the world around us, lived out in Jesus and by the Spirit at work in us. All praise and glory belong to you, Source, Saviour, and Spirit of Love, one God, now and always.

God of loving kindness, Jesus called us to love you above all else, and our neighbour as ourselves. Yet we often fail to act in loving ways. We are distracted by our own needs, forgetful of the needs of others. We let differences divide us and excuse ourselves from reaching out.

Forgive us, O God. Create in us new hearts so we can live and love faithfully in Jesus' name.

This time we come to you in prayer that you taught us how to pray: (The Lord's Prayer:)

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

Words of Assurance

Sisters and brothers in Christ, hear and believe the good news of the Gospel. In Jesus Christ, God's generous love reaches out to embrace us. In Christ, we are forgiven and set free to begin

again. Let us give thanks for God's mercy and be at peace with God, with ourselves and each other.

Peace of the Lord be with you. Let us take few moments to greet each other and share our peace.

Prayer for children and youth and prayer

Almighty God, thank you for gathering us here before your presence. Thank you for the gospel, good news you gave to us. Let this good news be in the hearts of our children and youth. Fill their hearts with your Holy Spirit, with your wisdom, and with your courage. Let them live their lives up to your calling. Bless their lives, make them become the light of the world shining your light to their surroundings. Fill their relationships with love and care, let them be immersed in your love first, so they can give out the love they have received. Protect them safely and guide their lives. In Jesus' precious name, we pray. Amen.

Praise Song: BOP 648 I'm gonna live so God can use me

<u>Vs. 1</u> I'm gonna live so God can use me Anywhere, Lord, anytime! I'm gonna live so God can use me Anywhere, Lord, anytime!	<u>Vs. 2</u> I'm gonna work so God can use me Anywhere, Lord, anytime! I'm gonna work so God can use me Anywhere, Lord, anytime!
<u>Vs. 3</u> I'm gonna pray so God can use me Anywhere, Lord, anytime! I'm gonna pray so God can use me Anywhere, Lord, anytime!	<u>Vs. 4</u> I'm gonna sing so God can use me Anywhere, Lord, anytime! I'm gonna sing so God can use me Anywhere, Lord, anytime!

Prayer for Illumination:

O God, our trustworthy teacher of truth, by your Spirit, reveal your will for us in the reading of your Word. Stir in our hearts and minds, and strengthen us to respond in faithfulness. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen

Scripture: Luke 10:25-37

25 An expert in the law stood up to test Jesus. "Teacher," he said, "what must I do to inherit eternal life?" 26 He said to him, "What is written in the law? What do you read there?" 27 He answered, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind and your neighbor as yourself." 28 And he said to him, "You have given the right answer; do this, and you will live." 29 But wanting to vindicate himself, he asked Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?" 30 Jesus replied, "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho and fell into the hands of robbers, who stripped him, beat him, and took off, leaving him half dead. 31 Now by chance a priest was going down that road, and when he saw him he passed by on the other side. 32 So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. 33 But a Samaritan while traveling came upon him, and when he saw him he was moved with compassion. 34 He went to him and bandaged his wounds, treating them with oil and wine. Then he put him on his own animal, brought him to an inn, and took care of him. 35 The next day he took out two denarii, gave them to the innkeeper, and said, 'Take care of him, and when I come back I will repay you whatever more you spend.' 36 Which of these three, do you think, was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of the robbers?" 37 He said, "The one who showed him mercy." Jesus said to him, "Go and do likewise." **"This is the word of the Lord / Thanks be to God."**

SERMON: Go and do likewise

Today's sermon title is "**Go and do likewise.**"

An expert in the law came to Jesus and asked question. He asked, "**What must I do to inherit eternal life?**" Instead of answering, Jesus asked him, "What is written in the law?" The law expert answered, "**You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind and your neighbor as yourself.**" Jesus said, "**You have given the right answer; do this, and you will live.**" So far, nothing is wrong. To love God and to love people is the way to inherit eternal life.

But his mind was filled with something else. He asked one more question, "**And who is my neighbor?**" His intention asking this question was not to gain knowledge, but he wanted to justify himself.

When the law expert asked this question, what did he have in his mind?

Pharisees, Bible teachers, law experts liked Jesus.

They wanted Jesus to be their friend exclusively. But, Jesus became friend with sinners and ate with sinners such as tax collectors, lepers, gentiles, and disabled people. So, probably, when he asked "who is my neighbour?" he wanted to set the range of his love. In his mind, his neighbours would be people from his group only. No gentiles, no blind, no lepers, not a single person out of his own standards.

My neighbour? Experts of laws, only.

Then, let us think about our spectrum of friends or neighbours.

How big and wide is the range of our neighbours and friends?

How well can we engage with people from different age groups? If they are too old, if they are too young? What about values? Recently Presbyterian Church in Canada accepted LGBTQI+ people as ordained ministers and elders. How can we engage meaningful relationships with the people who have different ideas? How do we respect others? With whom do we build relationships?

"WHO IS MY NEIGHBOUR" is, in other words, whom should I exclude?

These people who are expert in the law excluded many and they wanted to justify themselves.

Knowing their intention, Jesus told them a story. That is the famous Parable of the Good Samaritan.

There is a man who needs help. Falling into the hands of the robbers, he was beaten up, was naked, did not have anything, and was not able to take care of himself – The Bible states "half dead."

V31, "Now by chance a priest was going down that road" The Message paraphrase Bible states, "Luckily, a priest was on his way down the same road, but when he saw him he angled across to the other side."

The author of The Message paraphrase Bible included "**LUCKILY.**" This implies positive expectation. A priest. This is a pastor in today's language. A pastor saw a man who is half dead.

What would you expect a pastor to do when a half-dead man lying down on the street?

At least, come close to that person and find out what's going on.
But, this priest completely neglected the need.

Numbers 19:11-12, "Whoever touches the dead body of anyone will be unclean for seven days, He must purify himself with the water on the third day and on the seventh day; then he will be clean."

What happens if one becomes unclean? Then, the person cannot attend worship. Self-quarantine for seven days. They cannot come in the presence of God according to the law. What if this priest was on the way to lead the worship? He was not losing his one week, but two years. Back then, there were 24 priests and they took turns. So, what if this was the day he was to lead the worship? He was waiting for two years, but what if the person lying on the road is a dead person? He would miss his once in two years turn. It could be the very first chance in his life time, or the last.

The next person was a Levite. These people were in charge of worship. With the similar reason, he might have avoided being involved with a possibly dead person.

In today's scripture, when the Bible states LAW, this stands for the Bible. So, they were Bible experts. So, this means that the person who asked Jesus a question could be one of the Priests or Levites. What the priest and the Levite religious man did in the story probably made good sense to this person.

Jesus continued. The next person passing by was a Samaritan. What was so special about Samaritan? Samaritan was not a Jew. Jews had the special pride. They thought they alone were the people of God. So, they looked down other people. Non-Jews were called Gentiles and Jews did not talk to them. They completely ignored the Gentiles. A Samaritan was at the end of the relationship spectrum to the Jews. Jesus was comparing a priest and a Levite to a Samaritan. Two extreme ends of the relationship spectrum of the law expert.

Just mentioning Samaritan, this law expert would be ticked off by Jesus' teaching now. But, this Samaritan man helped the man with extra support and care. This law expert would think of the teaching of Jesus, Matthew 5:40-42, **40 and if anyone wants to sue you and take your shirt, give your coat as well, 41 and if anyone forces you to go one mile, go also the second mile. 42 Give to the one who asks of you, and do not refuse anyone who wants to borrow from you.** His kind of people avoided helping. What a shame, but this Samaritan man did exactly what Jesus taught to them when helping others.

And Jesus asked him, **v36 Which of these three, do you think, was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of the robbers?**

Can you answer to this question? **Was it priest? Was it a Levite? Or was it a Samaritan?**

We would say the Samaritan, but this law expert answered in v37. **He said, "The one who showed him mercy."**

I am sure that his pride was hurt. He did not want to say a Samaritan. That is why he said "the one who showed him mercy," not a Samaritan man.

Finally, Jesus concludes his teaching with a command. **Go and do likewise.**

Jesus was sending off the law experts, Bible teachers, priests, Pharisees. They already know what to do. They already know how to help others. But, they did not want to expand their range of neighbours. They only wanted to justify their ignorant attitude. But, Jesus did not accept that. Jesus challenged them directly. You guys overlooked this Samaritan man. But, he did what you could not. You know it, but you did not do what you are supposed to do. He may not know the teachings from the Bible, but he saved life. He did what God wanted. He lived better than you. So, now go and live like this Samaritan. So, now go and do what you know.

What a shame for the Jews. What about us? Can we look beyond our own territory? Can we go beyond our standards? Can we do the things we know that we should do?

I am saying this to all of us. Let us go and do likewise. Go and do what we know. May God's grace and mercy be poured upon all of us and may God help us live up to the teachings from the Bible. Let us long to live our lives up to our calling.

This is the word of the Lord for us today.

Prayer for the people of God

Gracious and loving Father God, thank you for your message today. We lost our sight from you. We want to justify what we are doing. We know the teachings from you, but we are selective. We only do what we like from your teaching. Thank you for challenging us today with the message. Help us keep this message in our hearts and follow your steps. Holy Spirit, give us wisdom to discern and courage to act out.

This time O God we come to you with humble hearts with our needs and wants. We remember how you loved us and how you worked in the lives of your people. In your presence, help us be still and know and see how you are working.

In our congregation, there are people who are suffering. They need your help. They need your healing. Touch their bodies and with your healing power, heal them. Be with them in their recovering process. Help them be confident because you are with them. Provide comfort and love to them and their family members.

Also, there are people who have difficulties in their hearts because of their situations, because of their relationships, or because of their weaknesses. Gracious Father God, Prince of Peace, Comforter and Teacher of our hearts, be with them. Hold their hands and comfort their hearts that you are with them in their pains, in their sighs, in their cries. Lord, Jesus, you are the Head of our lives. We are not the masters of our lives. Lead us in your ways and open our eyes to see where you are leading us.

We also pray for your precious church. This is your precious church that you purchased with your precious blood. We are your church and we are your precious. Lord Jesus, your life, your love, your blood is in our heart. Guide your church. Protect your church. Help your church become the light and the salt in this world. Strengthen your church so that we can stand firm in this world as your church. With your blood, with your life, and with your love, help us be confident in all we do. We are yours. Use us and be glorified through us.

In Jesus' precious and powerful and beautiful name, we pray Amen.

Invitation to the offering: This is the time for offering. God sent us Jesus Christ so that we would know God's great generosity and compassion for us. May the gifts we offer God bear witness to the saving power of this extravagant love in our lives. Let us pray for our offering.

Offering prayer:

God of the Samaritan's kindness, we offer our gifts in hope, trusting that you will bless them to bring such kindness to others in Jesus' name. Make of us 'good Samaritans' with the courage to be generous to neighbours and strangers for Christ's sake. Amen

Song for the Journey BOP 637 Take my life, and let it be consecrated

<u>Vs. 1</u> Take my life and let it be consecrated, Lord, to thee; take my moments and my days: let them flow in ceaseless praise.	<u>Vs. 2</u> Take my hands and let them move at the impulse of thy love; take my feet and let them be swift and beautiful for thee.
<u>Vs. 3</u> Take my voice and let me sing always, only for my King; take my lips and let them be filled with messages from thee.	<u>Vs. 4</u> Take my silver and my gold: not a mite would I withhold; take my intellect and use every power as thou shalt choose.

Now, it is the time for us to be sent to the world. God called us to live out his love. God gave us strength to live out his teachings. We are with him. We are enough. So, let us live up to his calling. God will hold your hands and lead your steps.

Benediction: May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, And the Love of God, And the intimate fellowship of the Holy Spirit, Be with us all, now and always. Amen.