

## Word from A Pastor: Priesthood of Believers

Do you know the three main teachings of Martin Luther during the Reformation? They were: "sola fide" (justification by faith alone), "sola scriptura" (the Bible is the only, infallible rule of faith and practice), and the priesthood of all believers.

In Old Testament times the priesthood was hereditary; it was a special privilege that the Levites were born with. As mediators between God and His people, priests served both God and the people. But the New Testament teaches, "since we have a great high priest who has ascended into heaven, Jesus the Son of God..." (Hebrews 4:14), and "since we have confidence to enter the Most Holy Place by the blood of Jesus, by a new and living way opened for us through the curtain, that is, His body..." (Hebrews 10:19-20), the priesthood is different. From the time of the New Testament onward, all who have

joined with Christ Jesus through faith in him have become priests with him.

In other words, every Christian has the glorious privilege of priesthood. And since we are priests, every job, task or action we do is one that we're called by God to do. Every act of service that we do in faith and love is also given by God and done with His authority. In life, our mission is to bring the people in our workplace, families, school and social network to God, and also to bring God's blessings upon all people. This is such a glorious role! Shouldn't we take the initiative and be more active to fulfill this role?!

May God help us. "As you come to Him, the living Stone...you also, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ." (1 Peter 2:4-5)

-- Pastor Frances Kim

## Prayer Items

*"Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled. Blessed are the merciful for they will be shown mercy. Blessed are the pure in heart for they will see God." -- Matthew 5:6-8*

### Praise God for:

- Provision of VBS volunteers in so many areas: Crafts, Bible teaching, Music, Food preparation, the Block party, etc. This ministry is not possible without the service of these loving brothers and sisters.
- Beautiful weather throughout the VBS week which allowed the children to thoroughly enjoy all the activities.

### Pray for:

- The VBS children whose faith has grown or been renewed with a fresh love of God in their hearts.
- Those children who have a new relationship with Jesus. May their new faith be nurtured by coming to church.

- VBS new comers and their families to connect well with our VCBC brothers and sisters as they return to visit us in the near future.
- Physical and Spiritual healing for individuals, and families, of those who are in need due to illness or accidents.
- Safety and protection of brothers and sisters who are traveling during the summer break.
- Our small group fellowships and Homebuilders as we seek to discern God's will for their future leaders and direction.
- SYC and Tsawout leaders as they prepare for their ministries and mission focus purposes.
- The upcoming Summer Conference to be held at Cedar Springs and those planning to attend.

# Sunday Worship at VCBC

16 July 2017

9:30AM English  
Worship Service

[www.vcbc.bc.ca/English](http://www.vcbc.bc.ca/English)



Summer Conference 2016.  
Photo credit: Chris Cheung

## Order of Worship

Welcome

Call to Worship  
*Matthew 5:14-16*

Praise & Worship  
*Wired,  
My Strength,  
This Little Light of Mine*

Sharing of Community Life

Congregational Prayer

Tithes & Offering  
*We Are*

Scripture Passage &  
Message  
*Psalms 139:13-16; Matthew 5:14-16*  
**"God Made You to Shine... for Him!"**  
*Mr. Willis Wong*

Response  
*I Offer My Life*

Songs of Proclamation  
*Made for This,  
Rock This Planet*

Closing Prayer

Doxology

In the spirit of unity and family, please sit closer together towards the front and centre of the sanctuary. Feel free to stand or sit as we sing.

We welcome parents with infants, and parents of preschoolers and kindergarteners to sit in the classroom behind the sanctuary. Please pick up your children from their classes downstairs at 10:50.

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## Sermon Outline and Discussion Questions

Psalms 139:13-16; Matthew 5:14-16 | "God Made You to Shine... for Him!" | Mr. Willis Wong

### VBS Sunday Outline

Bible Point Day 1 - God made you.  
(Psalms 139:13-16)

Bible Point Day 2 - God made you to trust Him. (John 9)

Bible Point Day 3 - God made you to follow Jesus. (John 3:1-21)

Bible Point Day 4 - God made you to help others. (Luke 10:25-37)

Bible Point Day 5 - God made you to shine. (Matthew 5:13-16)

### Discussion Questions:

1. How does it feel to know that the same God who made you, also cares about you and has a plan for your life?
2. How does that change how you live your life?
3. How has God made you unique and special?
4. How can you use those gifts and talents to shine God's light in the world?

Pray and ask God to help you shine His light in the unique way He has made you.

## Events This Week For You To Be Involved

### **Sunday (today)**

1. Prayer Group at 8:45am; Contact Betty at [pcs@vcbc.bc.ca](mailto:pcs@vcbc.bc.ca)
2. Worship
3. Tsawout training at 11:30am

### **Wednesday**

1. Dayspring Ladies Bible Study; (1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Wed at 10:00am); VCBC Boardroom; Contact Cindy at [cindyso@vcbc.bc.ca](mailto:cindyso@vcbc.bc.ca)
2. Church-wide Prayer Meeting; Weekly at 7:30pm in VCBC basement; All welcome (primarily Cantonese but we'll translate as needed!)

### **Friday**

1. EDGe youth fellowships for grades 6-12; Oct-June from 7:30-9:30pm at VCBC; Contact Pastor Brian Lee at [vcbcedge@gmail.com](mailto:vcbcedge@gmail.com)
2. Prayer Group at 7:45pm (1<sup>st</sup> Friday); VCBC W2; Contact Winnie at [pcs@vcbc.bc.ca](mailto:pcs@vcbc.bc.ca)

### **Saturday**

1. Journey Young Adult Fellowship. 7:30pm in VCBC room B3-5. Please contact [ChrisChCheung@hotmail.com](mailto:ChrisChCheung@hotmail.com) or ask for a Journeyer to get introduced today!

\*Homebuilders small groups. For family & couples. Various times. Contact Cindy ([cindyso@vcbc.bc.ca](mailto:cindyso@vcbc.bc.ca))

## Announcements

1. On behalf of the WBA and the CNBC I want to express my thanks to VCBC for leading the recent CNBC Convention in worship. **Willis Wong and his team consisting of Michael Lew, Matt Chan, Charlotte Choi, Sabrina Li, Verna Leung, and Lisa Hsieh** did an outstanding job of leading the Convention participants to encounter God in worship. I so appreciated the work they put into preparing and leading. Their leadership was one of the reasons that made our Convention a great event. Thank you so much VCBC, Willis, and team. --With thanksgiving for all of you, Pastor Hamish
2. **VBS 2017** - This year's week-long Vacation Bible School came to a close last Friday amid children's laughter, renewed relationship with God, and friendship with peers and neighbours! For this we give thanks and praises to the Lord our God! We also thank everyone who had volunteered time and effort to make this all possible again this year! Thank you!
3. **Farewell Reception for Pastor & Mrs. Gardner** - Will be held Sunday, **July 30**, at 12:45 downstairs. There will be cake-cutting and light refreshment. Everyone is invited! Please join us in showing our appreciation for their faithful service in the Lord for the past three-and-a-half years, and leading us through the church's most difficult time. And please remember them in your prayers as they return to the States to wait upon the Lord. Note: Pastor Don will be away this Thursday until next Sunday.
4. **Summer Conference 2017. September 2-4** – Keep these dates free for **Summer Conference 2017!** Registration starts **today**. Our special guest speaker will be Connie Cavanaugh. Please see insert for more details.
5. **Aid to B.C. Wildfires Evacuees** - In view of the ongoing wildfires in the B.C. Interior and the devastating effect on local residents, the Charity Committee has decided to donate \$6,000 on behalf of the church to Canadian Global Response (<https://canadianglobalresponse.ca/b-c-forest-fires-over-10000-evacuated-in-state-of-emergency/>), an affiliation of CNBC, to be used in relief efforts. Please continue to pray for an early end to this devastating situation.
6. Are you curious about how the sound system works? Are you interested in making music sound good? Come learn about it at the **A/V Workshop on Sunday July 23, 1-3 pm in the sanctuary!** No prior experience required, but we hope you will consider serving with the A/V team in the future! Sign up at the church office, or send us an email: [ECchloe.chan.79@hotmail.com](mailto:ECchloe.chan.79@hotmail.com), [CCpetersjoh@shaw.ca](mailto:CCpetersjoh@shaw.ca)
7. **Registration for SYC (Summer Youth Celebration) has begun!** If you are between grades 7 and 12, join us from **August 27 to September 1** as we experience Jesus together at Gardom Lake Bible Camp. For Youths, the cost is \$330 until our registration deadline (July 23). For leaders, the cost is \$230. To register, please talk to Pastor Brian Lee or visit <http://sycbc.weebly.com> for more details.