



Chinese Methodist Church in Australia (CMCA), Camberwell
基督教華人衛理公會謝恩堂

Ref: CMC-20032020

20th March 2020

Updated Response to the **Coronavirus (COVID-19)** situation today:

Due to the new crowd restrictions, Bishop Dr. Albert Wong has asked all Chinese Methodist churches to worship online. So Camberwell Methodist Church will not conduct public worship (8:30am Chinese Service, 11:00 am Chinese and English Service, 2:30 Wyndham Preaching Point, 4:00pm Church on the Corner) starting from this Sunday 22nd March 2020 until further notice. We encourage all members to join us online on Sunday and worship with us at home. Only worship team (Liturgist, pianist, singspiration team, and media team) and pastors needed to be present in the church building to facilitate the whole worship service. There will be no fellowship and small group gathering at church or at home until further notice. We encourage all fellowships and small groups meet online. Prayer meeting will also be conducted through live streaming only.

For Camberwell Methodist Church Worship Services, this is our Facebook Link to our live Stream: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/209343070313026/>

For Wyndham Preaching Point, please check with your pastor and face book page.
For Church on the Corner, please check with your pastor and face book page.

Please check with our websites for the most updated news or church leaders, fellowship chairpersons and pastors. You can check it out at www.cmca-camberwell.org.au (Chinese) and www.camberwellmethodistchurch.org.au (English);

May the LORD our God have mercy on us, as we seek to walk with Him! May the LORD our God shine His face upon us, and lead us forward!

In Christ,
Rev. Elijah Chew
Minister in-Charge

Ps I also attached the appendix from Commission of Worship and music. Please read the document. Please see below!

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

In view of current development of COVID-19 in Australia, CMCA responded to stricter guidelines imposed by Government which was announced by Prime Minister Scott Morrison today (20th March 2020) by announcing a few measure and guidelines to be followed by all. Among them, all CMCA Church Members are urged to restrict mobilisation and stay home to participate the worship service from online services set up by respective churches. This is to commence from this coming Sunday (22/3/2020) until further notice. During the period, only the essential persons serving in Worship (Worship leader, Pianist, Worship team, PA & Multimedia team) and the preacher are required to be in the church to facilitate the service. Many of us could be new to the idea of “attending” Sunday services online. I believe this will trigger a new wave of further theological thought and reflection among our congregation. In the meantime, District South Commission on Worship and Music would like to take initiative to suggest some etiquette to be adhered to while “attending” the online Sunday service at home:

- **Be prepared.** Please be punctual and gather your family members and friends together prior to the planned time of streaming of online service. If this is the first time you use such online service, please allow more time for you to be familiar with the operations. Spend a moment before the commencement of online service to prepare your heart for the Sunday service. If you have children around with you please take a moment to explain the reason and purpose of Sunday Worship to them.
- **Be respectful.** Online service should be attended with the same attitude with physical service which we attend every week. The dress code expected when the congregation attending the online service would be similar to what you would wear for normal Sunday services. Despite In the comfort of home, we specially advised no Pyjamas to be worn when “attending” the online services. Throughout the service we also advised no food and drinks, no walk around unnecessarily, no chic-chatting, no other disruptive activities such as house chores and internet activities. Remember worship time is the time dedicated to God.
- **Be accountable.** We encourage brothers and sisters to be accountable for each other in the church community by checking up each other and support each other through works and prayers after the Sunday service.
- **Be faithful.** All things come of Thee, O Lord, and of Thine own have we given Thee. We encouraged brothers and sisters to continue be faithful in tithe and offering in this period. If your church has set up online bank transfer or online offering, please make full use of the facilities to fulfill your obligation in tithe and offering. If your church does not have such online facilities, please put aside your offering in a sealed envelope with marked date and purpose of offering , so you can bring it to church the next time you come to church.

In this unprecedented time, let us continue to find ways to strengthen our faith and support each other through prayers. Please continue to pray for our Bishop, Pastors and Church leaders for wisdom and courage. Many of them (if not all) have not pastored a church through a pandemic before and this is the time when prayers matter even more.

Commission on Worship and Music
District South

20/3/2020

親愛的主內弟兄姊妹,

綜看澳洲新型冠狀病毒的發展情勢, 澳洲基督教華人衛理公會回應了由澳洲總理 **Scott Morrison** 今天(20/3/2020)所宣布的更嚴格的標準, 並宣布了一系列的新措施和指導. 當中, 澳洲基督教華人衛理公會屬下的所有教會會友被呼籲要更嚴格的控管行動並在家參與由各教會設立的網上崇拜. 這項措施由來臨的主日開始(22/3/2020)一直到下一步的通知. 在這段期間, 只有崇拜的主要事奉人員(領會, 司琴, 敬拜團, 音響及媒體團)和證道講員需要到場協助崇拜的進行.

我們當中很多人可能對”參加”網上崇拜的概念很陌生. 我相信這也會在我們會友中引發新一波的神學思想和反思. 同時, 澳南崇拜與音樂執行會也要主動建議一些在家”參加”網上崇拜的禮儀守則:

- 要有準備. 請守時並在網上崇拜開始的時間之前把你的家人和朋友聚集在一起. 如果這是你第一次使用者網上崇拜請預留更多時間以讓你自己能更了解當中的操作. 在崇拜開始之前也請花一段時間來預備心. 如果你有小孩子和你一起請花一段時間與他們講解崇拜的理由和用意.
- 要尊重. 網上崇拜應該要用平時參加實體崇拜一樣的態度來參加. 會友們參加網上崇拜的時候我們期望你們能穿著和平時參加主日崇拜類似的服裝. 雖然是在家裡參加網上崇拜, 我們特別要求不要穿著睡衣來參加網上崇拜. 崇拜的當中我們也要求不要進食任何食物或飲料, 不要隨便走動, 不要談天, 也不要有其他會干擾崇拜的活動比如說作家務或上網. 請記得崇拜的時間是分別為聖給上主的時間.
- 要互相守望. 我們鼓勵弟兄姊妹在這段期間崇拜後互相守望並彼此關心和支持並代禱.
- 要忠心. 萬物都是從主而來, 我們把從主而來的獻給主. 我們鼓勵弟兄姊妹在這段期間繼續在奉獻的事上忠心. 如果你的教會有設立了網上奉獻的設備請善用這些設備來奉獻. 如果你的教會沒有這些網上設備, 請把你的奉獻用一個信封袋裝好並註明日期和奉獻目的, 在下一次來到教會的時候帶來.

在這史無前例的時刻, 讓我們繼續尋找方法堅定我們的信仰並用禱告彼此扶持. 請繼續為我們的會督, 牧者和教會領袖代禱讓他們有聰明智慧和勇氣. 他們當中很多人(如果不是全部) 都沒有帶領教會度過大宗傳播疫情的經驗, 這時候禱告就顯得更為重要.

崇拜與音樂執行會
澳南教區
20/3/2020