

A (quick?) word about the songs we sing

If I surveyed 100 people at church to ask them about what ‘worship’ songs they love the most, and what songs they love to sing and church, my bet is that I would have 100 different answers and opinions.

And that makes sense in a number of ways. Music is one area of life that pretty much everyone agrees is of personal taste. Music and food are probably the two areas in life in our increasingly polarised world we happily agree to disagree on. But for some reason we’re not as happy to disagree when it comes to songs that we sing in church.

Since the explosion of the Christian music industry in the 1960’s the songs that are sung in churches have morphed and transformed like no other period in Christian history. The wave of new songs hit churches hard, and had a negative side effect: the worship wars. Churches struggled to work out what to do with these new songs and instrumentation, how much they should be sung, and what they would lose by singing these new songs.

However, the worship wars didn’t begin here. From what we have heard, anytime something new happened ‘worship wars’ were had. When the organ was introduced people fought over whether that was biblical or whether acapella was more acceptable worship. When hymn writers began flourishing people fought to keep Psalm-only singing. So, if you’re uncomfortable with song choices (whether you’re a hymn fan or a contemporary enthusiast) you’re “enjoying” an age-old Christian tradition!

But on a serious note, what should we do when we feel that angst of discomfort as we’re singing? First, let’s give thanks that there are so many different ways to express our praise and joy in song. We will spend billions of years singing new songs about Jesus, songs we will all love. So, let’s not get caught up in what we aren’t able to sing now. Next, let’s remember that singing serves the purpose of not only praising God but also teach and admonish each other (cf Col 3:16)- so let us sing joyfully and with gusto to encourage each other! Third, let’s grow our personal song repertoire—learning both older and newer songs—that we might encourage each other with the truths we sing together.

Finally, let’s share our favourite songs with each other. Why not share with someone older and younger your favourite hymn and contemporary song. Share why those songs move you, and then why not pray together in thanksgiving for the truths these songs proclaim about our beautiful Saviour!



17 March 2019 | Service Times: 9am & 11:30am

Welcome, we’re glad you’re here!

We are a church family committed to following Jesus Christ as Lord. We do this by getting to know him through his living Word, the Bible, which is why the sermon is the key part of our Sunday services. Find out more about us at www.slechurch.org.au.

This Week: Gospel of Mark— Kingdom Insiders and Outsiders

Jesus is making a new people to be in His kingdom. How we listen and respond determines whether we are insiders or outsiders. How will you listen today? And everyday? What will stop you from hearing and responding? God’s word today urges us to listen and keep listening.

Next Week: Gospel of Mark—Mark 4:35—6:6a



Today’s Service

- Welcome and Singing**
 - Your Words of Life
 - Show Us Christ
 - Hear the Call of the Kingdom
- Holy Communion**
- Offering**
- Community News**
- Bible Reading** Mark 3:7—4:20
- Sermon** By Pastor Ben Ho
- Song of Response** Speak O Lord

Stay Connected

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Check out slechurch.org.au/groups to find a group that you can join.

Say hello

Join us for morning tea at 10:30am.
We'd love to have a chat and get to know you better.

Our Pastors

PASTOR BEN HO

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Financial Update

Last Week	\$10,762.63
Weekly Required	\$5,750.00
Shortfall 2019	\$0.00

Giving by Electronic Funds Transfer

A/C Name: SLE Church
Bank: National Australia Bank
BSB: 084-424
A/C No: 396558544

SLE Church is a branch church of Chinese Christian Church Brisbane

Prayer Points

PRAISE GOD THAT JESUS IS OF INFINITE WORTH AND VALUE! Praise God that as we have been reading in the gospel of Mark the mercy, compassion, and teaching of Jesus commands our awe and worship. Pray that we would keep plumbing the depths of scripture to grow our awe and worship of Jesus for all that He is and has done.

PRAISE GOD THAT THE GREAT SOWER has come to sow the seeds of His Kingdom. Praise God that He has preserved these words in scripture through the work of the Apostles. Praise God that He speaks and can be known. Pray that we would not be those who hear the word and have it snatched away, or those for whom the cares of this world or hardship in this life choke and kill our faith. Pray that we would be the good soil, responding with faith and obedience.

PRAY FOR THE UPCOMING GRUNT AND BLOOM EVENTS. Pray that we would prioritise these events to hear from God's Word and encourage each other cross-generationally. Pray for the leaders of Grunt and Bloom to prepare well, and that God's Word will encourage us to live out our particular roles in life to the glory of God.

PRAY FOR OURSELVES IN THIS WORLD. The past few weeks have exploded with all sorts of sordid revelations. Pray that we would see this world truly, horribly stained by sin. Pray that we would remain a holy people in the midst of this all—relying on the grace of Jesus alone.

Community News

GRUNT SESSION #1—WHAT IS A MAN | 23 MARCH 2019 | SLE CHURCH NORTH HALL | 8AM BREAKFAST, 9:30AM START

The world is full of gender confusion at the moment. Not only confused about the number of genders but also confused about what is good and helpful masculinity. At Grunt #1 2019 we'll be exploring what the Bible teaches us about being a man, and how we can live that out. Register today at slechurch.org.au/grunt by 20 March 2019.

BLOOM 'TITUS 2 TIME' SMALL GROUP GATHERINGS | SATURDAY 30 MARCH | 2-4PM FOR AFTERNOON TEA | HELD AT VARIOUS HOMES

Please register via the online form at slechurch.org.au/bloom by 15 March. This is essential so we can allocate everyone to a small group and organize necessary transport.

EGG CARTONS WANTED FOR PRIMARY SUNDAY SCHOOL

Please donate your empty egg cartons for use in Easter craft this month. Drop them off downstairs in the box near the Primary Sunday School sign in table.

Serving

	Today	Next Week
Chair	Randy	Josh
Preach	Ps Ben	Ps Ben
Bible Read	Matthew <i>Alan</i>	Chi <i>Dan Lowe</i>
M.Tea	Eilen Amanda Teo	Cecilia Yee Lin
Wash Up	Saturday YF	Saturday YF
Welcome	Ken Steph Amy <i>Marcus</i> <i>Jabez</i> <i>Marilyn</i> <i>Mildred</i>	Ken Steph Amy <i>Marcus</i> <i>Jabez</i> <i>Marilyn</i> <i>Mildred</i>
Stewards	Richard Alvin Norman <i>Yong Seng</i> <i>Stanley</i> <i>Helen</i>	Richard Alvin Norman <i>Yong Seng</i> <i>Stanley</i> <i>Helen</i>
Piano	Joanna	Dan Lowe
Guitar	Shao Peng	
Bass	Ethan	Ivan
Drums	Ivan	John
Vocal	Sharne	Shaun
PA	Li Wei	Matt Tao <i>Daniel, Stanley Jowin</i>

The Gospel of Mark—Kingdom Insiders and Outsiders

[Mark 3:7–4:34]

1. Introduction: Should I bother to listen today?

2. The Crowds (3:7-12)

3. The Insiders (3:13-19)

4. The Outsiders (3:20-44)

A. Jesus' family—those who seek to 'control' Jesus (3:20-21, 31-32)

B. Religious leaders—those who seek to oppose Jesus (3:23-30)

5. Outsiders vs. Insiders (3:33-4:34)

A. Those who listen and respond (3:33-35)

B. 4 ways to listen and respond

Respond 1: The seed on a path, devoured by the birds

Respond 2: The seed on rocky ground, shallow soil

Respond 3: The seed among thorns

Respond 4: The seed on fertile soil

6. Application: 3 truths to live out (4:21-34)

A. You listen and keep listening (4:3, 9, 21-23, 24)

B. You listen with the greatest measure (24-25)

C. God causes the growth, massive growth (26-29, 30-32)