

BETHANY

INDEPENDENT- PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

God's Kind of Church...

Where God is touching lives...

And people care for people.

Bethany IV ... 5 February 2023 ... Holy Communion Sunday!

MEDITATION

REV DR CHARLES TAN

Text: John 10

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Meditation	1
Announcements	3
Worship	7
Bible Memory Work	8
Poetry Corner	9
Order of Worship	13

“THEREFORE MY FATHER LOVES ME”

THE LOVE OF GOD THE FATHER

The love of God is not to be taken for granted in any way. The Lord Jesus commented on the love that the Father had for Him in this text.

(Continued on page 2)

MEDITATION

(Continued from page 1)

¹⁴ I am the good shepherd; and I know My *sheep*, and am known by My own.

¹⁵ As the Father knows Me, even so I know the Father; and I lay down My life for the sheep.

¹⁶ And other sheep I have which are not of this fold; them also I must bring, and they will hear My voice; and there will be one flock *and* one shepherd.

¹⁷ "Therefore My Father loves Me, because I lay down My life that I may take it again.

¹⁸ No one takes it from Me, but I lay it down of Myself. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it again. This command I have received from My Father." John 10:14-18

1. I am the Good Shepherd

a) This was the work that was entrusted to the Lord Jesus

b) He was indeed the good shepherd!

i) He was faithful

ii) He was caring

iii) He was prepared to lay down His life for the sheep

2. The love of God for the Good Shepherd

a) There was a deep and profound relationship between the Father and the Son

b) This is expressed in the word "know"

c) The Father knew the heart and mind of the Good Shepherd

(Continued on page 3)

MEDITATION

(Continued from page 2)

- d) He knew that the Lord Jesus was prepared to give His life for the sheep. Hence there was this deep love for the Son.

OUR CHALLENGE

Let us not take for granted the love of God the Father. May the Lord God see our hearts and approve.

1. There is deep knowledge of God
2. There is love for the flock of God
3. There is preparedness to sacrifice our life for the sake of the Lord!

Write to me at: charlestan@bethanyipc.sg

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WELCOME TO BETHANY

We are glad that you have chosen to worship the Lord Jesus Christ with us today. May your heart be uplifted through worship and fellowship!



HOLY COMMUNION

²⁶ *And as they were eating, Jesus took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to the disciples and said, "Take, eat; this is My body."*

²⁷ *Then He took the cup, and gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you."*

²⁸ *For this is My blood of the new covenant, which is shed for many for the remission of sins.*

Matthew 26:26-28



ANNOUNCEMENTS

MINISTRY IN BETHANY THIS WEEK (6-12 February 2023)

1. Seniors Program
 - a) Tuesday, 7 February 2023 | 9.30am- 11.30am
 - b) Thursday, 9 February 2023 | 9.30am- 11.30am
2. Saturday, 11 February 2023
 - a) YPG/YAG | 2.00pm
 - b) Youth Worship | 3.15pm
3. Sunday, 12 February 2023
 - a) Sunday School | 8.30am
 - b) Morning Worship Service | 10.30am
 - c) Chinese Worship Service | Holy Communion | 10.30am
 - d) Children's Worship I | 10.30am
 - e) Children's Worship II | 10.30am
 - f) Crèche | 10.30am
 - g) Catechism Class | 1.30pm



CHURCH FAMILY CAMP

12-17 March 2023

"To live is Christ and to die is gain" Philippians 1:21

Plan to sign up as soon as possible.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

A WORD FROM DEACONS GEORGE AND KC

*Family Camp 2023 –
A word of Encouragement from the Camp Commandants*

Dear Brethren,

A word of Encouragement

How amazing and wonderful that after 4 long years (our last Family Camp was in March 2019) we can look forward to our Family Camp 2023! We thank God for the privilege to gather as a church family to study God's Word once again.

"To live is Christ and to die is gain"- Philippians 1:21

This year's camp theme is "To live is Christ and to die is gain." Pastor will help us to better understand what the Scriptures teach (the theology) about life and death and how that knowledge must impact the way we live (the testimony) our lives today. Let us come prepared to consider how we are living today and what we are seeking in our lives. Are we seeking the Lord or are we spending most of our time chasing after things of the world?

We pray that you will set aside time for this Family Camp and that your lives will be enriched and encouraged to live for Christ.

Family Camp Costing and Sponsorship

We would like to provide a brief update on the cost of running the Family Camp. The hotel, Le Grandeur has faced significant inflationary pressures (especially for food, labour and materials) in the last two years, and this has resulted in an increase in the hotel room charges. We thank God that we are able to maintain the camp fees for majority of the campers but for some categories, there will be an increase of 15 to 35%. If you face any challenges with the camp fees, do speak with us for sponsorship.

Regarding sponsorship, actually all campers are sponsored for the camp

ANNOUNCEMENTS

as there are additional costs (for example, the bus transport and the tea breaks) that are not computed into the camp fees. We are grateful for church ministries and individuals who have supported the Family Camp ministry in the past, either in the form of special equipment or financial support to offset the overall cost of the Family Camp. If you would like to support our Family Camp this year, please direct your gifts to the church and indicate that the gift is in support of the Family Camp.

As we prepare ourselves for the Family Camp, let us find the sense of oneness and togetherness that we can minister to one and all in Bethany for the glory of God's Kingdom. Indeed, let the name of Jesus be praised and honoured by our lives.

In Prayer
George and KC



ACM FOR CHURCH AND BTS

26 February 2023

1.00pm

Members are requested to attend.



CONDOLENCES

1. Heartfelt condolences to Gladys, Andrew and Bernard Thio on the demise of their father. The late Mr. John Thio Kheng Huat was called home to be with the Lord Jesus on Thursday, 2 February 2023. He was 91 years old.
2. Heartfelt condolences to Puay Khim, Janel and Kreston on the home calling of Mr. Jerry Ang Kim San on Friday, 3 February 2023. He was 60 years old.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

GIVING OF FELLOWSHIP MEALS

BREAKFAST: JEREMY & FEDORA

LUNCH: JOANNA YAM; PATRICIA LIM; EDWARD KOH & FAMILY



WORSHIP IN SPIRIT AND TRUTH

Psalm 130:5-6

⁵ I wait for the LORD, my soul waits,

And in His word I do hope.

⁶ My soul waits for the Lord

More than those who watch for the morning—

Yes, more than those who watch for the morning.

1. Waiting for the LORD

- a) An important spiritual discipline
- b) This is a discipline worth learning

2. Waiting with Hope in the heart

- a) Waiting in faith
- b) Waiting in anticipation of God's answer

BIBLE MEMORY WORK

TODAY: 5 February 2023

Text: "I will be a Father to you"

I will be a Father to you,

And you shall be My sons and daughters,

Says the LORD Almighty.

2 Corinthians 6:18

1. This is a glorious promise of God
2. That He would receive all believers as His sons and daughters
3. Our adoption as children of God is to be deeply treasured

NEXT SUNDAY: 12 February 2023

Text: "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ"

***Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us
with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ.***

Ephesians 1:3

POETRY CORNER

1

THEREFORE, MY FATHER LOVES ME

The love of God is a major Biblical Theme;
It is the inspiration behind many hymns.
The love of God is deep and profound;
And through faith it may be found.

The Lord Jesus bore important testimony;
He said, "Therefore, My Father loves Me."
Their relationship was deep and strong;
This love was carefully guarded all along.

The Son lived to fulfil His Father's commandments.
He was the classic example of total obedience.
He was prepared to down His life for His flock;
This supreme sacrifice must not be mocked.

The Father knew and honoured the Lord Jesus;
His was a life of absolute righteousness.
May our hearts be moved by His example!
Let us seek to live by godly principles.

Charles Tan
Inspiration: John 10:14-18

POETRY CORNER

2

THE REFINING PROCESS

When trials in life become too much to bear;
We feel that God is seemingly absent and wonder if He really cares.
We long for deliverance as we go through these nightmares;
Our hearts yearn for more of the Lord even as we pain and despair.

When silver is purified through fire in the refining process;
The silversmith watches and ensures it is not done in excess.
The Lord similarly watches us as we go through life's tests;
We will not be tested beyond our limits as He knows us best.

When the silversmith can see his own reflection in the silver, no less;
Only then is he satisfied with the refining process.
We are purified and refined too as we undergo stress;
To one day reflect God's image in our lives, the ultimate quest.

Let us remember God's faithfulness and His infinite mercy;
For He does not forsake or abandon, He will show sympathy.
He will not destroy us although sometimes He deals with us harshly;
Let us repent and return to the Father in earnestness and humility.

Dr. Sng Li Wah

Inspiration: Psalm 66:10; Malachi 3:3; Hosea 11:8-11

POETRY CORNER

3

PRAYING TO OUR HEAVENLY FATHER

Jesus taught His Disciples to commune in prayer with God
It is not an exercise of merely bowing our heads and uttering vain repetitions
In prayer we are in the process of communicating and worshipping the Lord
Old Testament worship involved the sacrifice of unblemished animals

Withdraw from life's daily activities and in solitude plan to be with the Lord
Approach Him in humility as we enter into His presence in prayer
Like Isaiah appeal to His heart and plead the Fatherhood of God
Ask that we yield to Him like clay in the hands of a potter

We can establish intimacy and fellowship with God through prayer
It is a joyful experience to spend time regularly with the Lord
The disciples watched Jesus and witnessed the power of His prayer
Prayer is our spiritual lifeline connecting us to the grace and mercy of God

The Lord is long suffering putting up with backsliding children
His heart is stirred with love and He will not give them up
To the children who did not know, such tender love by the Father was given
May we do out utmost to seek Him out and repent our sins owning up

Jessie Quek

Inspiration: (Hosea 11:7; Luke 11:1-13; Isaiah 63:16; Matthew 6:5-7)

ORDER OF WORSHIP



PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

Deacon Dr. Quek Li Wei

Mr. Quek Li Yen

PRAYER

HYMN

HWC 494 | Like a River Glorious

HWC 445 | Something for Thee

MESSAGE

“Abba, Father”

Text: Galatians 4-5

Rev Dr. Charles Tan

COMMUNION HYMN

CP 363 | God Will Take Care of You

CLOSING HYMN

CP 53 | Great is Thy Faithfulness

BENEDICTION

OFFERING

POSTLUDE



HYMNS

HWC 494 LIKE A RIVER GLORIOUS

FRANCES RIDLEY HAVERGAL

1. Like a river glorious is God's perfect peace,
Over all victorious in its bright increase;
Perfect, yet it floweth fuller ev'ry day,
Perfect, yet it growth deeper all the way.

Refrain

Stayed upon Jehovah, Hearts are fully blest –
Finding as He promised, Perfect peace and rest.

2. Hidden in the hollow of His blessed hand,
Never foe can follow, never traitor stand;
Not a surge of worry, not a shade of care,
Not a blast of hurry touch the spirit there.

Refrain

3. Ev'ry joy or trial falleth from above,
Traced upon our dial by the sun of love;
We may trust Him fully all for us to do –
They who trust him wholly find Him wholly true.

Refrain



HYMNS

HWC 445 SOMETHING FOR THEE

SYLVANUS D. PHELPS

1. Saviour, Thy dying love, Thou gavest me,
Nor should I ought withhold, dear Lord, from Thee:
In love my soul would bow, my heart fulfill its vow,
Some off'ring bring Thee now, something for Thee.

2. At the blest Mercy Seat, pleading for me,
My feeble faith looks up, Jesus, to Thee:
Help me the cross to bear, Thy wondrous love declare,
Some song to raise, or pray'r, something for Thee.

3. Give me a faithful heart, likeness to Thee,
That each departing day henceforth may see
Some work of love begun, some deed of kindness done,
Some wand'rer sought and won, something for Thee.

4. All that I am and have, Thy gifts so free,
In joy, in grief, through life, dear Lord, for Thee!
And when Thy face I see, my ransom'd soul shall be,
Through all eternity, something for Thee.



HYMNS

CP 363 GOD WILL TAKE CARE OF YOU

CIVILLA D. MARTIN

1. Be not dismayed whate'er betide,
God will take care of you;
Beneath His wings of love abide,
God will take care of you.

Refrain

God will take care of you,
Through ev'ry day, o'er all the way;
He will take care of you,
God will take care of you.

2. Through days of toil when heart doth fail,
God will take care of you;
When dangers fierce your path assail,
God will take care of you.

Refrain

3. All you may need He will provide,
God will take care of you;
Nothing you ask will be denied,
God will take care of you.

Refrain

4. No matter what may be the test,
God will take care of you;
Lean, weary one, upon His breast,
God will take care of you.

Refrain



HYMNS

CP 53 GREAT IS THY FAITHFULNESS

THOMAS O. CHISHOLM

1. Great is Thy faithfulness, O God my Father,
There is no shadow of turning with Thee;
Thou changest not, Thy compassions, they fail not;
As Thou hast been Thou forever wilt be.

Refrain

Great is Thy faithfulness! Great is Thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see;
All I have needed Thy hand hath provided,
Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

2. Summer and winter, and spring time and harvest,
Sun, moon and stars in their courses above,
Join with all nature in manifold witness
To Thy great faithfulness, mercy and love.

Refrain

3. Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
Thy own dear presence to cheer and to guide;
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,
Blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside!

Refrain



Bethany Independent-Presbyterian Church

301 Upper Paya Lebar Road, Singapore 534934
tel : 65-62877713 . fax : 65-62877980 . website URL : bethanyipc.sg