

**DOWN MEMORY LANE**  
**31 DECEMBER 2023**

# *Eternity in the Heart*

*Ecclesiastes 3*

He has made everything beautiful in its time.  
Also He has put eternity in their hearts,  
except that no one can find out  
the work that God does from beginning to end.  
Ecclesiastes 3:11

**Eternity in the Heart**

# **DOWN MEMORY LANE**

**31 DECEMBER 2023 | 8.00PM**



## **PRELUDE**

*Musicians*

## **CALL TO WORSHIP**

*Rev. Dr. Charles Tan*

## **INVOCATION**

## **RECALLING 2023**

1. 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary
2. Bethany Diaspora Church
3. Cyclone Michaung

## **FEATURES IN 2023**

## **HYMNS OF PRAISE**

*Youth Conference Team*

*Ms. Chloe Tang*

*Mr. Joshua Phang*

*Ms. Bethany Toong*

Hymn HWC 56 Day by Day

Hymn CP 322 The Solid Rock

Hymn CP 399 Higher Ground

# **Down Memory Lane 2023**

## **TESTIMONIES**

1. Coming to Faith  
*Mdm. Yeo Thiam Neo*
2. *Mrs. Tan Chen Kee*
3. *Deacon Dr. K. C. Tang*

## **SPECIAL ITEM**

“Give me Jesus” | *Crossroads*

## **MESSAGE**

“Eternity in the Heart” | Text: Ecclesiastes 3  
*Rev. Dr. Charles Tan*

## **CLOSING HYMN**

Hymn HWC 521 Redeemed

## **BENEDICTION**

## **OFFERING**

## **POSTLUDE**

## **GIVING THANKS FOR SUPPER**

Foods which God created to be received with thanksgiving  
by those who believe and know the truth.

For every creature of God is good, and nothing to be refused if it is received  
with thanksgiving, for it is sanctified by the word of God and prayer.  
1 Timothy 4:3-4

Giving of Fellowship Supper  
John & Lai Heong; Jonas & Joanne

# Eternity in the Heart

## HYMN OF PRAISE

### HWC 56 DAY BY DAY

CAROLINA SANDELL BERG

1. Day by day and with each passing moment,  
Strength I find to meet my trials here;  
Trusting in my Father's wise bestowment,  
I've no cause for worry or for fear.  
He whose heart is kind beyond all measure  
Gives unto each day what He deems best –  
Lovingly, its part of pain and pleasure,  
Mingling toil with peace and rest.
2. Ev'ry day the Lord Himself is near me  
With a special mercy for each hour;  
All my cares He fain would bear, and cheer me,  
He whose name is Counsellor and Pow'r.  
The protection of His child and treasure  
Is a charge that on Himself He laid;  
"As your days, your strength shall be in measure,"  
This the pledge to me He made.
3. Help me then in ev'ry tribulation  
So to trust Your promises, O Lord,  
That I lose not faith's sweet consolation  
Offered me within Your holy Word.  
Help me, Lord, when toil and trouble meeting,  
E'er to take, as from a father's hand,  
One by one, the days, the moments fleeting,  
Till I reach the promised land.



HYMN OF PRAISE

**CP 322 THE SOLID ROCK**

EDWARD MOTE

1. My hope is built on nothing less,  
Than Jesus' blood and righteousness.  
I dare not trust the sweetest frame,  
But wholly lean on Jesus' name.

Refrain

On Christ the solid Rock I stand,  
All other ground is sinking sand,  
All other ground is sinking sand.

2. When darkness veils His lovely face,  
I rest on His unchanging grace.  
In every high and stormy gale,  
My anchor holds within the veil.

*Refrain*

3. His oath, His covenant, His blood,  
Support me in the whelming flood.  
When all around my soul gives way,  
He then is all my hope and stay.

*Refrain*

4. When He shall come with trumpet sound,  
O may I then in Him be found.  
Dressed in His righteousness alone,  
Faultless to stand before the throne.

*Refrain*



# Eternity in the Heart

## HYMN OF PRAISE

### CP 339 HIGHER GROUND

JOHNSON OATMAN, JR

1. I'm pressing on the upward way,  
New heights I'm gaining ev'ry day;  
Still praying as I'm onward bound,  
"Lord, plant my feet on higher ground."

#### Refrain

Lord, lift me up and let me stand, by faith on heaven's tableland;  
A higher plane than I have found,  
Lord, plant my feet on higher ground.

2. My heart has no desire to stay  
Where doubts arise and fears dismay;  
Though some may dwell where these abound,  
My prayer, my aim, is higher ground.

#### *Refrain*

3. I want to live above the world,  
Though Satan's darts at me are hurled;  
For faith has caught the joyful sound,  
The song of saints on higher ground.

#### *Refrain*

4. I want to scale the utmost height  
And catch a gleam of glory bright;  
But still I'll pray till heav'n I've found,  
"Lord, lead me on to higher ground."

#### *Refrain*



# Give Me Jesus

*Arranged by Robert Sterling / Performed by the Crossroads*

In the morning when I rise, in the morning when I rise,  
In the morning when I rise, give me Jesus.

Give me Jesus, give me Jesus.  
You can have all this world, but give me Jesus.

And when I am alone, oh, and when I am alone,  
And when I am alone give me Jesus.

Give me Jesus, give me Jesus.  
You can have all this world, but give me Jesus.

And when I come to die, oh, and when I come to die,  
And when I come to die give me Jesus.

Give me Jesus, give me Jesus.  
You can have all this world,  
You can have all this world,  
You can have all this world,  
But give me Jesus.



SCRIPTURE TEXT

ECCLESIASTES 3



<sup>1</sup>To everything *there is* a season,  
A time for every purpose under heaven:

<sup>2</sup>A time to be born,  
And a time to die;  
A time to plant,  
And a time to pluck *what is* planted;

<sup>3</sup>A time to kill,  
And a time to heal;  
A time to break down,  
And a time to build up;

<sup>4</sup>A time to weep,  
And a time to laugh;  
A time to mourn,  
And a time to dance;

<sup>5</sup>A time to cast away stones,  
And a time to gather stones;  
A time to embrace,  
And a time to refrain from embracing;

<sup>6</sup>A time to gain,  
And a time to lose;  
A time to keep,  
And a time to throw away;

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*(Continued on page 9)*



<sup>7</sup> A time to tear,  
And a time to sew;  
A time to keep silence,  
And a time to speak;

<sup>8</sup> A time to love,  
And a time to hate;  
A time of war,  
And a time of peace.

<sup>9</sup> What profit has the worker from that in which he labors? <sup>10</sup> I have seen the God-given task with which the sons of men are to be occupied. <sup>11</sup> He has made everything beautiful in its time. Also He has put eternity in their hearts, except that no one can find out the work that God does from beginning to end.

<sup>12</sup> I know that nothing *is* better for them than to rejoice, and to do good in their lives, <sup>13</sup> and also that every man should eat and drink and enjoy the good of all his labor—it *is* the gift of God.

<sup>14</sup> I know that whatever God does,  
It shall be forever.  
Nothing can be added to it,  
And nothing taken from it.  
God does *it*, that men should fear before Him.

<sup>15</sup> That which is has already been,  
And what is to be has already been;  
And God requires an account of what is past.

<sup>16</sup> Moreover I saw under the sun:

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*In* the place of judgment,  
Wickedness *was* there;  
And *in* the place of righteousness,  
Iniquity *was* there.

<sup>17</sup> I said in my heart,

"God shall judge the righteous and the wicked,  
For *there is* a time there for every purpose and for every work."

<sup>18</sup> I said in my heart, "Concerning the condition of the sons of men, God tests them, that they may see that they themselves are *like* animals." <sup>19</sup> For what happens to the sons of men also happens to animals; one thing befalls them: as one dies, so dies the other. Surely, they all have one breath; man has no advantage over animals, for all *is* vanity. <sup>20</sup> All go to one place: all are from the dust, and all return to dust. <sup>21</sup> Who knows the spirit of the sons of men, which goes upward, and the spirit of the animal, which goes down to the earth? <sup>22</sup> So I perceived that nothing *is* better than that a man should rejoice in his own works, for that *is* his heritage. For who can bring him to see what will happen after him?



CLOSING HYMN

**HWC 521 REDEEMED**

FANNY CROSBY

1. Redeemed, how I love to proclaim it!  
Redeemed by the blood of the Lamb;  
Redeemed through His infinite mercy,  
His child, and forever, I am.

Refrain

Redeemed, redeemed, redeemed by the blood of the Lamb;  
Redeemed, redeemed, His child and forever, I am.

2. Redeemed and so happy in Jesus,  
No language my rapture can tell;  
I know that the light of His presence  
With me doth continually dwell.

*Refrain*

3. I think of my blessed Redeemer,  
I think of Him all the day long:  
I sing, for I cannot be silent;  
His love is the theme of my song.

*Refrain*

4. I know I shall see in His beauty  
The King in whose Law I delight;  
Who lovingly guardeth my footsteps  
And giveth me songs in the night.

*Refrain*



TESTIMONY

# *O Give Thanks to the Lord*

*Carol Chu*

*As I look back on 2023, I see the Lord's hand of goodness in my life.*

*4 June 2023. A Sunday that began ordinarily enough. Sunday School had ended and Morning Worship Service had just commenced. Looking at the two young men chairing the Service, I realised I could not see the left eye and part of the face of one of them. I shifted my focus to the other chairman and found that I similarly could not see his left eye and part of his face! When it came to singing hymns, I looked at the lyrics projected on the screen and realised that the right end of each line of lyrics had disappeared from view! I covered my left eye to see just with my right eye and the partial vision loss was still there. Covering my right eye and seeing with my left eye did not change the outcome. I felt this was abnormal but carried on in the worship service anyway. After about 15-20 minutes, the symptoms resolved and my vision was fully restored.*

*Since things returned to normal, I did not give the incident much further thought except that I should perhaps get a referral some time to see an eye specialist. A whole week passed and I took no action regarding what had happened. The following Sunday, I ran into Dr Elaine Tan and took the opportunity to tell her about my symptoms. I asked to see her during the week for a referral to see an eye specialist. She strongly advised me to go to the A&E as soon as possible in case it was a transient ischaemic attack (TIA). There was a tone of seriousness and urgency in her voice. I thought it*

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rather strange to go to the A&E one whole week after the incident. Nevertheless, I deferred to her medical expertise and went that afternoon to Tan Tock Seng Hospital A&E. I mentally prepared myself for a very long wait.

At registration, I told them I had temporary loss of vision. Within 2 minutes, they called me in for triage and was then brought to Ambulatory Urgent Care. Within 8 minutes, I was called in to see the doctor. There was no long wait like I had expected. Apparently they were treating me as a true emergency case, allowing me to skip ahead of the long queue of other patients.

The doctor tested my field of vision and eyesight. Both were fine. He thought it could be a TIA. He told me he would treat me as having had a minor stroke and ward me in order to run the necessary investigations.

I was taken in for an MRI. I was also then sent to see the eye doctor, who turned out to be Dr Elvine Neo from Bethany. He was very kind and reassuring. To meet a familiar face in a strange hospital setting where I was subjected to so many tests was just so good and heartwarming. He checked my eyes thoroughly and found no issues.

I was warded in EDTC (Emergency Department Therapeutic Care) Ward. The staff treated me like a stroke patient, asking me whether I had numbness or headache, whether I knew where I was and who I was speaking to. The MRI report released the next morning showed no abnormality of the brain and, as such, I was discharged.

According to medical studies, about 1 in 3 people who has a TIA will eventually have a stroke, with about half occurring within a year

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*after the TIA. Often called a ministroke, a TIA can serve as both a warning of a future stroke and an opportunity to prevent it. Patients are therefore advised to seek immediate medical attention when a TIA occurs so that potentially treatable conditions can be promptly identified and evaluated to help prevent a stroke.*

*On hindsight, I had not done the right thing by being so indifferent to my symptoms and only seeking medical attention a whole week after the event. I exercised regularly and had not considered that I could be a stroke patient. To think I actually had a ministroke! Things could also have been much worse. I could have suffered a major stroke in the interim period before seeking medical attention. I thank God for sparing me from that.*

*I want to thank Elaine and Elvine for their medical expertise and invaluable help.*

*I'm reminded again of how transient our life on earth is, and of how we must live for the Lord while we can.*

*Psalms 39:4-5*

*"LORD, make me to know my end,  
And what is the measure of my days,  
That I may know how frail I am.  
Indeed, You have made my days as handbreadths,  
And my age is as nothing before You;  
Certainly every man at his best state is but vapor."*

## **Down Memory Lane 2023**

*Above all, I thank God for His goodness and mercy.*

*1 Chronicles 16:34*

*"Oh, give thanks to the LORD, for He is good!  
For His mercy endures forever."*

# ETERNITY IN THE HEART

The Works of God are profound and deep;  
Great wisdom is what we must ever seek!  
He has put Eternity in the heart of Man;  
Let us be challenged to understand His Plan.

He has given His blessings for Life on earth;  
He fills the heart with great joy and mirth.  
He makes all things beautiful, in its time;  
It takes faith to comprehend things sublime.

There are many works that God has undertaken;  
He lovingly watches over His people from Heaven.  
He planned Salvation to be full and complete;  
He has also blessed the Church with gifts replete.

Let us be challenged to comprehend His Grace;  
May we be deeply moved to seek His Face!  
God has placed Eternity profoundly in the heart;  
From the Presence of God may we never depart!

Charles Tan  
Inspiration: Ecclesiastes 3



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