

# BETHANY

INDEPENDENT-  
PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH

*God's Kind of Church...*

*Where God is touching lives...*

*And people care for people.*

*Bethany IV ... 10 March 2024 ... Family Camp Commences*

## MEDITATION

REV DR CHARLES TAN

Text: Deuteronomy 7

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## BECAUSE THE LORD LOVES YOU

### THE DIVINE LOVE OF GOD

That the LORD loved Israel was unquestionable. His love could be easily seen in the way He manifested it.

<sup>6</sup> "For you are a holy people to the LORD your God; the LORD your God has chosen you to be a people

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# MEDITATION

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for Himself, a special treasure above all the peoples on the face of the earth.

<sup>7</sup>The LORD did not set His love on you nor choose you because you were more in number than any other people, for you were the least of all peoples;

<sup>8</sup>but because the LORD loves you, and because He would keep the oath which He swore to your fathers, the LORD has brought you out with a mighty hand, and redeemed you from the house of bondage, from the hand of Pharaoh king of Egypt.  
Deuteronomy 7:6-8

## MANIFESTATION OF LOVE

God's love was manifested in the following ways:

1. He redeemed Israel
  - a) From bondage to Egypt
  - b) From a life of slavery to the Pharaoh
2. His choosing of Israel
  - a) To be a people to Himself
  - b) To be His holy people
  - c) To be a special treasure

## WHAT WAS THE REASON FOR GOD'S LOVE?

What was the reason behind God's love?

1. What it was not
  - a) It was not because Israel was a populous nation
  - b) It was not because Israel was notably good and righteous
2. What it was
  - a) God's love cannot be fully explained

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## MEDITATION

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- b) The source of His love is to be found in the nature of God Himself
- c) He is a great and loving God
- d) He is capable of immeasurable love

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Write to me at: [charlestan@bethanyipc.sg](mailto:charlestan@bethanyipc.sg)

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

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# WELCOME TO BETHANY

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



## A SPECIAL WORD OF WELCOME

We welcome our brethren from India and Western Australia.  
May the Lord bless their presence among us!



## CHURCH FAMILY CAMP

10-15 March 2024

*"I will lift up my eyes"*

The Family Camp commences today. May the Lord bless wonderfully.



## EASTER 2024

1. Palm Sunday

24 March 2024

2<sup>nd</sup> Baptismal Service

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# ANNOUNCEMENTS

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2. Maundy Thursday  
28 March 2024  
8.00pm  
Holy Communion

3. Easter Sunday  
31 March 2024  
Shangri La



## EASTER BAPTISMAL SERVICES

1. 17 March 2024  
2. 24 March 2024



## EASTER AT SHANGRI LA

1. We celebrate our Faith in a Risen Saviour
2. Let us share our faith as a Church
3. Invite a friend or a relative for the Easter Service at Shangri La

Book your table today!  
You may sign up using the QR code below.



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# ANNOUNCEMENTS

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## THIS WEEK IN BETHANY

### 1. Seniors Program

There will be no Seniors Program this week

### 2. Saturday, 16 March 2024

a) No YAG/YPG

b) No Youth Worship

### 3. Sunday Ministry, 17 March 2024

a) Sunday School

8.30am

b) Combined Worship Service

10.30am

c) Children's Worship Service I and II

10.30am

d) Crèche

10.30am

e) No Catechism Class



## GIVING OF FELLOWSHIP MEALS

BREAKFAST: NATHAN CHONG

LUNCH: MITCH & STEPHANIE



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# LETTERS THAT WARM THE HEART

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Dear Pastor,

We wish to express our sincere gratitude to you, the pastoral team and the members of Bethany.

It was a trying time during the period after my dad injured himself and fell into a coma. We were naturally anxious and distressed. The support and ministering to my dad while he was conscious and to the family by yourself and the pastoral team brought many comforts. During this time, many brethren have shown much support and offered kind words that were most needed. The church conveying the readiness to provide support if the eventuality were to happen was most reassuring in times of confusion and loss.

Family and friends were also very moved and touched by the outpouring of support by Bethany's brethren during the funeral wake. Many told me they have never seen such a big turn out from any church to support their own brethren in times of grief. We also received many warm condolences via text messages. The warmth and love shown by Bethany were overwhelming. I was asked many times if this is a common practice and how the congregation built such a strong bond among the members. I could proudly declare to them; this is because of the love for God that has manifested into such support for His own people in time of need. Truly, the church's motto: "God's kind of church, where people care for people" has proven true again! We thank God for all these and are determined to glorify His name, just as how our brethren have shown!

Thank you very much!

In His Grace,  
Andrew & Hwei Li

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# WORSHIP IN SPIRIT AND TRUTH

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## Psalm 143:9-10

<sup>9</sup> Deliver me, O LORD, from my enemies;  
In You I take shelter.

<sup>10</sup> Teach me to do Your will,  
For You *are* my God;  
Your Spirit *is* good.  
Lead me in the land of uprightness.

### 1. A prayer for Deliverance from God

- a) Deliverance from enemies
- b) A shelter from adversaries

### 2. A prayer to be Taught by God

- a) To do God's will
- b) To be led in the land of uprightness

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# BIBLE MEMORY WORK

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**TODAY: 10 March 2024**

**Text: “God so loved the world”     John 3:16**

*For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son,  
that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.*

*John 3:16*

1. Declared love

A glorious declaration

2. Demonstrated love

A great demonstration

3. Divine Love

A glimpse of Divine love

**NEXT SUNDAY: 17 March 2024**

**Text: “The Father loves the Son”     John 3:35**

*The Father loves the Son, and has given all things into His hand.*

*John 3:35*



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# POETRY CORNER

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# 1

## BECAUSE THE LORD LOVES YOU

God's love is found in His Being;  
He is most gracious and Loving.  
His love is not dependent on us;  
God is rich in love and righteousness.

He demonstrates His Love in redemption;  
He frees us from Sin's degradation.  
He continues to love as He has planned;  
We cannot but appreciate His loving hand.

God's Love comes with His blessings;  
He seeks to give us a deeper understanding.  
The sins and iniquities cause much strife;  
God desires to cleanse and offer eternal Life.

God's Love is amazing and breath-taking;  
His love is beyond human reasoning.  
May God grant to us grace and mercy,  
To respond to His Love that is full of glory!

Charles Tan  
Inspiration: Deuteronomy 7:6-8

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# POETRY CORNER

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# 2

## THE EVERLASTING LOVE OF GOD

Love is expressed in a myriad of ways;  
But it is comfort and joy that are felt by its recipient always.  
A child is comforted when his loving parent meets his needs;  
A loving couple is blissful as long as they follow where their hearts lead.

But human love is indeed limited;  
For human nature expects our love to be reciprocated.  
A parent's love may not be comprehended, least of all appreciated;  
A small mistake may be all it takes for a marriage to be devastated.

Only God loves with a love that is unconditional;  
His Son was sacrificed for sinners otherwise unpardonable.  
Only God loves with an everlasting love like no other;  
His love embraces each and every unworthy sinner.

Our response is then, God's love, to rediscover;  
Our secret sins and worldly selves, to surrender.  
Let us develop a greater fear of the Lord and love Him deeper;  
And be committed to spreading His love even farther and wider.

Dr. Sng Li Wah

Inspiration: John 3; Deuteronomy 7:6-8; Hosea 11:1-4

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# POETRY CORNER

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# 3

## OUR LOVING FATHER

Love is a complex emotion felt but hard to describe  
According to scriptures our first commandment is to love God  
The second is to love others as we love ourselves as inscribed  
As He loves us first our ability to love stems from the Lord

His love for the chosen ones is deeply profound  
Everlasting from past eternity to the future it continues  
Gracious and merciful to His children who tend to be wayward bound  
The Lord constantly draws us to Him with His lovingkindness

What a great God always compassionate, kind and forgiving  
A longsuffering Father dealing with man whose nature is rebellious  
He does not reject but restores the humble sincere in repenting  
Embracing and drawing all believers into union with Lord Jesus

Let us learn to love him with our heart, mind and soul  
Develop a close personal relationship to revere and serve Him  
Praise and bless Him to show we are deserving of His love in whole  
May we experience the fullness of His love everlasting

Jessie Quek  
Inspiration: Jeremiah 31:3

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# POETRY CORNER

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# 4

## AN EVERLASTING LOVE

By the LORD, the nation of Israel was chosen,  
Even though she was far from a mighty nation.

He loved her and set her apart from others,  
He redeemed her with great might and power.

She should have loved God and been grateful,  
But she chose to seek idols and was unfaithful.

For all that, God did not break His covenant,  
He still loved and cared for His chosen nation.

The Love that God has for Israel is everlasting,  
Despite her sins, His Love remains unwavering.  
He teaches and corrects her with faithfulness,  
He shows her compassion and lovingkindness.

Like Israel, we are also sinful and undeserving,  
But He still offers to us Love that is everlasting.  
May we be deeply moved by the Love of God,  
And seek to develop more love for the LORD!

Yvette Seow

Inspiration: Deuteronomy 7:6-8 and Jeremiah 31:1-3

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# ORDER OF WORSHIP

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## PRELUDE

### CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev. Benjamin Chong  
Rev. Benjamin Quah

## PRAYER

## HYMNS

CP 314 | We Gather Together  
HWC 512 | My Saviour's Love

## MESSAGE

“Therefore My Father loves Me” | Text: John 10  
*Rev. Dr. Charles Tan*

## CLOSING HYMN

HWC 280 | I Love Thy Kingdom, Lord

## BENEDICTION

## OFFERING

## POSTLUDE



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# HYMNS

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## CP 314 WE GATHER TOGETHER

THEODORE BAKER

1. We gather together to ask the Lord's blessing;  
He chastens and hastens His will to make known;  
The wicked oppressing now cease from distressing,  
Sing praises to His name: He forgets not His own.

2. Beside us to guide us, Our God with us joining,  
Ordaining, maintaining His Kingdom Divine;  
So from the beginning the fight we were winning:  
Thou, Lord, wast at our side, All glory be Thine.

3. We all do extol Thee, Thou Leader triumphant,  
And pray that Thou still our Defender wilt be.  
Let Thy congregation escape tribulation:  
Thy name be ever praised! O Lord, make us free!



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# HYMNS

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## HWC 512 MY SAVIOUR'S LOVE

CHARLES H. GABRIEL

1. I stand amazed in the presence  
Of Jesus the Nazarene,  
And wonder how He could love me,  
A sinner, condemned, unclean.

Refrain:

How marvelous! How wonderful! And my song shall ever be:  
How marvelous! How wonderful! Is my Savior's love for me!

2. For me it was in the garden  
He prayed: "Not My will, but Thine.  
"He had no tears for His own griefs,  
But sweat drops of blood for mine.

3. In pity angels beheld Him,  
And came from the world of light  
To comfort Him in the sorrows  
He bore for my soul that night.

4. He took my sins and my sorrows,  
He made them His very own;  
He bore the burden to Calv'ry,  
And suffered and died alone.

5. When with the ransomed in glory  
His face I at last shall see,  
'Twill be my joy through the ages  
To sing of His love for me.



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# HYMNS

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## HWC 280 I LOVE THY KINGDOM, LORD TIMOTHY DWIGHT

1. I love Thy kingdom, Lord, the house of Thine abode,  
The Church our blest Redeemer saved with His own precious blood.

2. I love Thy Church, O God! Her walls before Thee stand,  
Dear as the apple of Thine eye, and graven on Thy hand.

3. For her my tears shall fall; for her my prayers ascend;  
To her my cares and toils be giv'n, till toils and cares shall end.

4. Beyond my highest joy I prize her heav'nly ways,  
Her sweet communion, solemn vows, her hymns of love and praise.

5. Sure as Thy truth shall last, to Zion shall be giv'n  
The brightest glories earth can yield, and brighter bliss of heav'n.

