

# BETHANY

INDEPENDENT-  
PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH

*God's Kind of Church...*

*Where God is touching lives...*

*And people care for people.*

*Bethany IV ... 3 August 2025 ... Holy Communion Sunday*

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## MEDITATION

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REV DR CHARLES TAN

**Text: Psalm 105**

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## THE WORD OF THE LORD TESTED HIM

### THE STORY OF JOSEPH

Of all the sons of Jacob, the most illustrious one was called Joseph. The story of Joseph's life was brilliantly sketched in a few lines.

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# MEDITATION

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<sup>16</sup> Moreover He called for a famine in the land;  
He destroyed all the provision of bread.

<sup>17</sup> He sent a man before them—  
Joseph—*who* was sold as a slave.

<sup>18</sup> They hurt his feet with fetters,  
He was laid in irons.

<sup>19</sup> Until the time that his word came to pass,  
The word of the LORD tested him.

Psalm 105:16-19

1. God was the Master Planner
  - a) It was He who called for a famine in Egypt
  - b) The famine caused the "destruction" of bread in the land
  
2. God sent Joseph into the land of Egypt
  - a) He entered into the land as a mere slave
  - b) Joseph was imprisoned
    - i) He was framed
    - ii) He suffered greatly because he was fettered
  
3. God was testing Joseph all this while
  - a) Could he take hardship?
  - b) Would he lose his faith?
  - c) Would being imprisoned change him adversely?

## **GOD'S PLAN WORKED OUT WELL**

1. For Joseph personally
2. For his family who came to live in Egypt
3. For Egypt because the country never had a better governor

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# MEDITATION

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Our challenge is to learn how we can trace the hand of God in our life!  
May the Lord raise up outstanding servants like Joseph in every

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*Write to me at:* charlestan@bethanyipc.sg

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

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### **WELCOME TO BETHANY**

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



### HOLY COMMUNION MEDITATION

<sup>26</sup> 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."

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

<sup>28</sup> For this is My blood of the new covenant, which is shed for many for the remission of sins.

Matthew 26:26-28

1. It was the Lord Jesus who blessed the bread and the cup
2. Communion remembers
  - a) The death of the Lord Jesus
  - b) The giving of the New Covenant
  - c) The promise of the remission of sins



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# ANNOUNCEMENTS

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## **GIVING OF FELLOWSHIP MEALS**

**Breakfast: Ee Ai Lin; Elizabeth Wong**

**Lunch: Ezra Lee; Ee Ai Lin; Tan You Cai & Alvina; Yeong Kiat & Karen**



## **CONGRATULATIONS!**

Heartfelt congratulations to Desmond and Joyce on the occasion of their wedding on 2 August 2025. May the Lord's richest blessings be yours



## **CELEBRATING BETHANY'S 50+2 ANNIVERSARY**

Date: 24 August 2025 | Venue: Shangri La Hotel  
Time: 10.30am (Worship) | Anniversary Lunch: 12.00nn

Plan to book your table today.

To register for Anniversary Lunch, please scan the QR code below



## **CELEBRATING BETHANY'S 50+2 ANNIVERSARY: CHILDREN'S SPECIAL LUNCH PROGRAM**

As part of our 50 +2 Anniversary celebrations at Shangri La, there will be a separate Lunch Program especially for the children.

They will have their own lunch menu and program in a separate room, taken care of by our staff and volunteers.

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# ANNOUNCEMENTS

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## Details

Date: 24 August 2025 | Venue: Shangri La (Azalea Room)

Time: 12.15pm - 2.00pm

This is open to **children aged 4 to 12**.

Please contact Pastor Ben Quah (9752 3036) if you have any queries.

Scan QR code to register your child for the **Children's Special Lunch Program**:



## THIS WEEK IN BETHANY

1. Seniors Program
  - a) Tuesday, 5 August 2025 | 9.30am- 11.30am
  - b) Thursday, 7 August 2025 | 9.30am- 11.30am
2. Saturday, 9 August 2025
  - a) No YPG/ YAG
  - b) No Youth Worship
3. Sunday Ministry, 10 August 2025
  - a) Sunday School | 8.30am
  - b) Morning Worship Service | 10.30am
  - c) Chinese Worship Service | 10.30am
  - d) Children's Worship I and II | 10.30am
  - e) Crèche I and II | 10.30am
  - f) Catechism Class | 1.30pm



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# WORSHIP IN SPIRIT AND TRUTH

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## Psalm 11:4-7

<sup>4</sup> The LORD *is* in His holy temple,  
The LORD's throne *is* in heaven;  
His eyes behold,  
His eyelids test the sons of men.

<sup>5</sup> The LORD tests the righteous,  
But the wicked and the one who loves violence His soul hates.

<sup>6</sup> Upon the wicked He will rain coals;  
Fire and brimstone and a burning wind  
*Shall be* the portion of their cup.

<sup>7</sup> For the LORD *is* righteous,  
He loves righteousness;  
His countenance beholds the upright.

### 1. The Sovereignty of the Lord

- a) He is in His holy temple
- b) This is where His throne is found
- c) He watched over the world with righteousness

### 2. The Divine Justice that He upholds

- a) The wicked would be judged
- b) The righteous would be tested
- c) He will uphold those who are truly upright

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# BIBLE MEMORY WORK

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**TODAY: 3 August 2025**

Text: "We beheld His glory" John 1:14

*And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory,  
the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.*

*John 1:14*

1. The Lord Jesus

- a) He is called The Word Incarnate
- b) The Word made flesh

2. The glory of the Lord Jesus

- a) Not everyone could see His glory
- b) But those who could, saw the following:
  - i) It was the glory of the Son of God
  - ii) He was full of grace and truth

**NEXT SUNDAY: 10 August 2025**

Text: "The brightness of His glory" Hebrews 1:3

*Who being the brightness of His glory and the express image of His  
person, and upholding all things by the word of His power,  
when He had by Himself purged our sins,  
sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high.*

*Hebrews 1:3*

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# POETRY CORNER

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#1

## THE WORD OF THE LORD TESTED HIM

The patriarch Jacob had twelve sons;  
But not all were good and wholesome.  
Joseph was the favourite son of Jacob;  
His father's affection stirred up hatred.

The wicked brothers hatched a wicked plan;  
Joseph was sold as a slave in a mighty land.  
God was aware of all that was happening;  
His divine plan was to bring great blessings.

But Joseph had to be tested thoroughly;  
The son of Jacob had to accept indignity.  
He was framed and sent to prison to suffer;  
He was chained, for he was now a prisoner.

Joseph suffered much for many years;  
His father Jacob shed copious tears.  
But God was preparing Joseph for the future;  
He would become Egypt's brilliant governor!

Charles Tan  
Inspiration: Psalm 105:16-19

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# POETRY CORNER

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#2

## The Glory in Hope

The setbacks in life sometimes make us wonder;  
Does God hear prayers? Why does He not answer?  
Spiritual blindness can cause our faith to waver;  
Yet, faith is what we need for spiritual eyes to uncover.

Faith is what it takes to feed and sustain that yearning;  
We call it Hope, which makes mundane lives worth living.  
Hope may be invisible, yet it is that glorious and powerful belief;  
That tomorrow will be better than today, and it will bring relief.

As Christians, our hope is in the glory of God, the Heavenly Father;  
The Lord Jesus, whose life and deeds serve as our glorious example.  
The ministry of the Holy Spirit which perpetuates our hope forever;  
Liberating us from the snare of sin and  
the grip of dark powers.

Our part is to constantly check that our faith is real;  
For it grants us access to God's grace and peace surreal.  
Let us yield ourselves to the Holy Spirit's glorious work of transformation;  
And persevere in the hope of being changed into a new man fit for heaven.

Dr. Sng Li Wah

Inspiration: 2 Corinthians 3:12-18; Romans 5:1-5

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# POETRY CORNER

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#3

## Lifting the veil

Inspired by scriptures but limited by carnal ways  
A challenge to rise above the physical world to peer into the spiritual realm  
Only the Holy Spirit can resolve the conundrum for us  
Turn to the Lord and seek the Holy Spirit to be at the helm

He lifts the veil to enable believers to sight the glory of God  
To reveal His loving nature and desires of His Will  
A divine agent to help us understand and experience the grace of the Lord  
Foolish to scoff at these merciful blessings and goodwill

We can look forward with much hope in the glorious new covenant  
To go boldly unto our Father when the veil is removed in the Lord Jesus  
Given liberty from blindness because of the presence of the Holy Spirit  
Transformed from inside out God will change our lives

Transformation by the Holy Spirit will be deep and long lasting  
God causes His glory to shine in us in a little-by-little process  
From glory to glory the work of the Lord is continually progressing  
The new covenant grants access to God and His transforming presence

Jessie Quek

Inspiration: 2 Corinthians 3:12-18

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# ORDER OF WORSHIP

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## PRELUDE

## CALL TO WORSHIP

*Mrs. Mary Kee*  
*Mrs. Ong Wan Ying*

## PRAYER

## HYMNS

CP 57 | Worthy of Worship  
CP 6 | How Great Thou Art

## MESSAGE

“Since we have this ministry”  
Text : 2 Corinthians 4:1-6  
*Rev. Dr. Charles Tan*

## HOLY COMMUNION

HWC 274 | Break Thou the Bread of Life

## CLOSING HYMN

HWC 377 | Jesus, I My Cross Have Taken

## BENEDICTION

## OFFERING

## POSTLUDE



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# HYMNS

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## CP 57 WORTHY OF WORSHIP

TERRY W. YORK

1. Worthy of worship, worthy of praise,  
Worthy of honour and glory;  
Worthy of all the glad songs we can sing,  
Worthy of all of the off'rings we bring.

Refrain

You are worthy, Father, Creator,  
You are worthy, Saviour, Sustainer,  
You are worthy, worthy and wonderful;  
Worthy of worship and praise.

2. Worthy of rev'ence, worthy of fear,  
Worthy of love and devotion;  
Worthy of bowing and bending of knees,  
Worthy of all this and added to these...

*Refrain*

3. Almighty Father, Master and Lord,  
King of all kings and Redeemer,  
Wonderful Counsellor, Comforter, Friend,  
Saviour and Source of our life without end.

*Refrain*



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# HYMNS

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## CP 6 HOW GREAT THOU ART

STUART K. HINE

1. O Lord, my God! When I in awesome wonder  
Consider all the worlds Thy hands have made,  
I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder,  
Thy pow'r throughout the universe displayed.

Refrain

Then sings my soul, my Saviour God to Thee;  
How great Thou art, how great Thou art!  
Then sings my soul, my Saviour God to Thee;  
How great Thou art, how great Thou art!

2. And when I think that God, His Son not sparing,  
Sent Him to die, I scarce can take it in;  
That on the cross, my burden gladly bearing,  
He bled and died to take away my sin.

*Refrain*

3. When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation,  
And take me home, what joy shall fill my heart!  
Then I shall bow in humble adoration  
And there proclaim, my God, how great Thou art!

*Refrain*



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## HYMNS

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### HWC 274 BREAK THOU THE BREAD OF LIFE

ST. 1-2 MARY A. LATHBURY, ST. 3-4 ALEXANDER GROVES

1. Break Thou the bread of life, dear Lord, to me,  
As Thou didst break the loaves beside the sea;  
Beyond the sacred page I seek Thee Lord,  
My spirit pants for Thee, O living Word.
  
2. Bless Thou the truth, dear Lord, to me, to me,  
As Thou didst bless the bread by Galilee;  
Then shall all bondage cease, all fetters fall;  
And I shall find my peace, my All in all.
  
3. Thou art the bread of life, O Lord, to me,  
Thy Holy Word the truth that saveth me;  
Give me to eat and live with Thee above;  
Teach me to love Thy truth, for Thou art love.
  
4. O send Thy Spirit, Lord, now unto me,  
That He may touch my eyes and make me see:  
Show me the truth concealed within Thy Word,  
And in Thy Book revealed I see Thee, Lord.



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## HYMNS

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### HWC 377 JESUS, I MY CROSS HAVE TAKEN

HENRY LYTE

1. Jesus, I my cross have taken,  
All to leave and follow Thee;  
Destitute, despised, forsaken,  
Thou from hence my all shalt be:  
Perish every fond ambition,  
All I've sought, and hoped and known;  
Yet how rich is my condition,  
God and heav'n are still my own!
  
2. Let the world despise and leave me,  
They have left my Saviour too;  
Human hearts and looks deceive me;  
Thou art not, like man, untrue;  
And, while Thou shalt smile upon me,  
God of wisdom, love, and might,  
Foes may hate and friends may shun me;  
Show Thy face, and all is bright.
  
3. Man may trouble and distress me,  
'Twill but drive me to Thy breast;  
Life with trials hard may press me,  
Heav'n will bring me sweeter rest.  
O 'tis not in grief to harm me,  
While Thy love is left to me;  
O 'twere not in joy to charm me,  
Were that joy unmixed with Thee.

*(Continued on page 16)*

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# HYMNS

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*(Continued from page 15)*

4. Hasten on from grace to glory,  
Armed by faith and winged by prayer;  
Heav'n's eternal days before me,  
God's own hand shall guide me there.  
Soon shall close my earthly mission,  
Swift shall pass my pilgrim days,  
Hope shall change to glad fruition,  
Faith to sight, and prayer to praise.

