

Youth Worship



BETHANY INDEPENDENT-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

God's kind of church, where God is touching lives, and people care for people.

WELCOME TO YOUTH WORSHIP!

The LORD God is One who speaks to us! As we gather together for an uplifting time of worship, let us also ready our hearts to hear His voice!



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COME AND WORSHIP

Acted Unfaithfully Like Their Fathers

A new generation of Israel fought for and occupied the very land that God had promised their forebears. Awed by the fulfillment of God's promise, cautioned by their fathers' failures, and fortified by the history of God's glorious deliverance from Egypt, the children of Israel had every reason to remain faithful to the Most High God. Unfortunately, they turned back on Him.

- ⁵⁶ Yet they tested and provoked the Most High God,
And did not keep His testimonies,
⁵⁷ But turned back and acted unfaithfully like their fathers;
They were turned aside like a deceitful bow.
⁵⁸ For they provoked Him to anger with their high places,
And moved Him to jealousy with their carved images.

PSALM 78:56-58

1. The sins of Israel

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|--------------|
| a. Tested the LORD | Psalm 78:56a |
| b. Provoked the Most High God | Psalm 78:56b |
| c. Did not keep His testimonies | Psalm 78:56c |
| d. Turned back from following Him | Psalm 78:57a |
| e. Acted unfaithfully | Psalm 78:57b |
| f. They were deceitful | Psalm 78:57c |
| g. They were idolatrous | Psalm 78:58 |

2. They were like a deceitful bow Psalm 78:57c

- a. Israel had been greatly blessed by God
- b. One would expect Israel to
 - i. Appreciate God
 - ii. Be faithful to Him
- c. Like a deceitful bow, Israel did not turn out as expected

A RELEVANT LESSON FOR US

- 1. We have been abundantly blessed by the LORD
 - a. As an individual
 - b. As a Church
- 2. The dangers
 - a. Being unthankful
 - b. Being ungrateful
 - c. Forgetting the LORD
 - d. Forsaking God
- 3. Let us take to heart God's word to Israel before they entered the Promised Land.

¹¹ “Beware that you **do not forget the Lord your God** by not **keeping His commandments, His judgments, and His statutes** which I command you today, ¹² lest—when you have eaten and are full, and have built beautiful houses and dwell in them; ¹³ and when your herds and your flocks multiply, and your silver and your gold are multiplied, and all that you have is multiplied; ¹⁴ when your heart is lifted up, and you forget the Lord your God who brought you out of the land of Egypt, from the house of bondage;

Deuteronomy 8:11-14

ORDER OF WORSHIP

YOUTH WORSHIP SERVICE

30 AUGUST 2025

Prelude

Pianist: Gabrielle Wan

Call to Worship

Pastor Charles Tan

Opening Prayer

Pastor Charles Tan

Song Leading

1. Above all *with* There is None Like You
2. In Christ Alone

Jovan Wong and Ryan Quek

Pianists: Gabrielle Wan
and Rayne Quek

Scripture Reading

Text: Numbers 24:15-25

Tessa Kang and Chloe Tang

Pastoral Prayer

Pastor Jonathan Jacob

Message

“A Sceptre shall rise out of Israel”

Text: Numbers 24:15-25

Pastor Charles Tan

Closing Prayer

Pastor Charles Tan

Offering

Postlude

Pianist: Rayne Quek

MY NOTES

30 AUGUST 2025

“A SCEPTRE SHALL RISE OUT OF ISRAEL”

NUMBERS 24:15 - 25

WORSHIP SONGS

Above All *with* There is None Like You

by Lenny LeBlanc and Paul Baloche

Above all powers, above all kings
Above all nature and all created things;
Above all wisdom and all the ways of man,
You were here before the world began.

Above all kingdoms, above all thrones,
Above all wonders the world has ever known;
Above all wealth and treasures of the earth,
There's no way to measure what You're worth.

Crucified, laid behind a stone;
You lived to die, rejected and alone;
Like a rose, trampled on the ground,
You took the fall and thought of me,
Above all.

There is none like You,
No one else can touch my heart like You do.
I could search for all eternity long
And find there is none like You.

Your mercy flows like a river wide,
And healing comes from Your hands.
Suffering children are safe in Your arms;
There is none like You.

There is none like You.
No one else can touch my heart like You do.
I could search for all eternity long
And find there is none like You.

(end)

IN CHRIST ALONE

By Shawn Craig and John Mandeville

In Christ alone will I glory,
Though I could pride myself in battles won.
For I've been blessed beyond measure
And by His strength alone I overcome.

Oh, I could stop and count successes
Like diamonds in my hand.
But those trophies could not equal
To the grace by which I stand.

Refrain:

In Christ alone I place my trust
And find my glory in the power of the cross.
In every victory, let it be said of me:
My source of strength,
My source of hope is Christ alone.

In Christ alone will I glory,
For only by His grace I am redeemed.
And only His tender mercy
Could reach beyond my weakness to my need.

No, I seek no greater honour
Than just to know Him more,
And to count my gains but losses
To the glory of my Lord.

Refrain:

In Christ alone I place my trust
And find my glory in the power of the cross.
In every victory, let it be said of me:
My source of strength,
My source of hope is Christ alone.
In every victory, let it be said of me:
My source of strength,
My source of hope is Christ alone.



REVIEW OF GOD'S WORD

Let us review what we have learnt at our last Youth Worship!

YWS MESSAGE - 16 AUGUST 2025

“WHO SEES THE VISION OF THE ALMIGHTY”

NUMBERS 23:27-30, 24:1-14

THE CIRCUMSTANCES OF TODAY'S TEXT

¹Now when Balaam saw that it pleased the LORD to bless Israel, he did not go as at other times, to seek to use sorcery, but he set his face toward the wilderness. ²And Balaam raised his eyes, and saw Israel encamped according to their tribes; and the Spirit of God came upon him.

Numbers 24:1-2

1. Balaam was hired by Balak to curse Israel
2. But twice now, he failed to do so
 - a. Balaam tried to use sorcery
 - b. But God had not allowed him to succeed
3. God turned it into a blessing instead
4. Balak and Balaam now sought another way to curse Israel
 - a. To not see something of Israel (an omen)
 - b. But by looking at the “wasteland”
 - c. Perhaps he might be able to curse Israel to become like a barren wilderness
5. Balaam instead saw Israel encamped tribe by tribe
And he gave a third prophecy of blessing

A COMPARISON OF THE THREE PROPHECIES (ORACLES)

1. The first prophecy

*“How shall I curse whom God has not cursed?
And how shall I denounce whom the LORD has not denounced?
Numbers 23:8*

- a. God has chosen to bless Israel
- b. There was nothing that anyone could do
- c. Balaam had no choice but to be a mouthpiece to speak what God had put in his mouth Numbers 23:12

2. The second prophecy

¹⁹ *“God is not a man, that He should lie,
Nor a son of man, that He should repent.
Has He said, and will He not do?
Or has He spoken, and will He not make it good?”*

²⁰ *Behold, I have received a command to bless;
He has blessed, and I cannot reverse it.
Numbers 23:19-20*

- a. Man is fickle, but not God
- b. God will surely be faithful to fulfil His word/ promise
- c. He will not be manipulated in any way to change what He has decreed regarding Israel
 - i. His Presence
 - ii. His Leading
 - iii. His Strength
- d. Balaam needed to be corrected on this matter Numbers 23:20

3. The third prophecy

³ Then he took up his oracle and said:

*"The utterance of Balaam the son of Beor,
The utterance of the man whose eyes are opened,*

*⁴ The utterance of him who hears the words of God,
Who sees the vision of the Almighty,
Who falls down, with eyes wide open:*

Numbers 24:3-4

a. Note the significant shift

Balaam is no longer speaking as a mere mouthpiece

b. He speaks as one

i. Whose eyes are opened

ii. Who hears the words of God

iii. Who sees the vision of the Almighty

c. There is a depth of understanding not realised before

i. Balaam is able to further describe the extent of God's blessings
on Israel Numbers 24:5-7

ii. He is able to trace Israel's history from Egypt, to their present level
of immense strength Numbers 24:8-9

iii. He is even able to prophesy the future; how the Messiah would
one day come out of Israel (4th Prophecy) Numbers 24:17

LESSONS TO BE DRAWN FROM THE STORY OF BALAAM'S PROPHECIES

1. God's Word must be Complied with

a. If God has given us a word to hear

b. Or a word to speak

c. Then we have no choice but to speak or hear that word as God
had intended

2. There may be Correction along the way
 - a. Especially as we try to impose our own thoughts and ways upon God
 - b. Balaam was duly corrected
 - c. He had to learn that God is not like man
He will not be manipulated for our selfish purposes!
3. What we ought to seek: Comprehension and Change
 - a. To truly “see”
 - b. Nothing less than a vision of (from) the Almighty
 - c. Standing in awe of God
As one “who falls down, with eyes wide open”

THE CHALLENGE TO “SEE”

1. God is powerfully carrying out His profound plans
2. Our part is to “see” as God has revealed; to gain insight into what God is seeking to do
3. Then in living accordingly, we find success and blessing
 - a. For the present
 - b. And for the future

REFLECTIONS

YOUTH WORSHIP REFLECTIONS

By Thaddeus Heng

Welcome back to Youth Worship! What a joyous and meaningful time of worship we had last week, celebrating Bethany's 50+2 Anniversary. It was wonderful to see Pastor Moses and Pastor Eugene being commissioned as Associate Pastors too! There is much to rejoice and give thanks to the Lord for. As we begin a new year of church ministry, there is much to ponder and reflect on. I was deeply challenged by Pastor Ben Quah's message from Numbers 24. Allow me to share some of my thoughts.

Spiritual Sight: To see the vision of the Almighty



At Youth Worship two weeks ago, we studied the third of Balaam's series of prophecies. There was a noted shift in the third prophecy: Balaam's eyes were opened to see "the vision of the Almighty". He was then able to describe in greater detail the extent of the Lord's blessings upon Israel.

The challenge for us is to seek this spiritual sight. While we may not be prophets, the Lord can and will enable us to see His greater Plan, and Purpose for us. Our part is to gain insight into His Plan and seek to follow His way. I am challenged to hone my knowledge of God's Word, and to have that spiritual sight to comprehend His Word. Spiritual sight would enable me to not only understand the messages taught, but to see and comprehend the Lord's Word at a deeper level.



Relating to the Word of God: Compliance


Furthermore, I am also challenged to comply with the Lord's Word, once I have comprehended it. Balaam had to be corrected throughout this whole series of prophecies, and was taught to comply: to hear and then speak the Lord's Word as a mouthpiece. I recognise that I too must learn to relate to the Lord's Word, in compliance. Personally, I find myself coming to church each weekend, listening to lessons and understanding in the moment, but failing to apply them throughout the week. This is not a healthy cycle, and I recognise that I must take action, and pray for the Lord's enablement, to comply with His Word.



Bethany's 53rd year: To share the same vision and spirit of faith

As part of the next generation of Bethany, I am challenged to carry on the shared vision of the older ones in Bethany. To continue and follow in their example is no easy task, and requires one to find the same vision and spirit of faith. Thus, even more, I recognise the importance of having spiritual sight and personal compliance with God's Word. I want to grow up to be someone who can see and comprehend the Lord's Word like the older ones in Bethany, and thus be able to carry on that special Bethany spirit.

There is so much to praise the Lord for, as I consider His blessings upon Bethany the past 52 years. May we all be challenged to grow so much more in our faith, and our comprehension of the Lord's Word, as we begin Bethany's 53rd year!



POETRY CORNER

A STRANGER IN A FOREIGN LAND

Moses grew up in Egypt and became a fugitive;
The sentence against him was gravely punitive.
He had slain an Egyptian man in a fight;
To save himself, Moses had to take flight.

He came to the land of the Midianites;
Many did not know that he had taken flight.
He was seen as an Egyptian who helped the weak;
Jethro sent his daughters out, their defender, to seek.

Jethro liked Moses as he stayed with his family;
He offered Zipporah to be joined in matrimony.
Soon Moses had a family with Zipporah;
But he still felt that he was just a foreigner.

He was not an Egyptian, nor a Midianite;
But what does it mean to be an Israelite?
Moses struggled to determine his identity;
Would he ever be able to fulfil his destiny?

Charles Tan
Exodus 2:17-22

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THANK GOD FOR A WONDERFUL ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION!

From the little ones to the elderly, over a thousand people gathered to worship and celebrate Bethany's 50+2 Anniversary. We also thank God for our new Associate Pastors – Pastor Moses and Pastor Eugene!

How inspiring it is to see so many demonstrate their faith in the Lord and His work tangibly and meaningfully.

1. Sharing of their testimonies in the special book given to all
2. The musicians and choirs offering a melody to the Lord
3. Sponsoring of the Anniversary gifts and Lunch Programmes
4. Supporting in the AV
5. Serving in the Children's Worship and Programmes
6. Organising the entire Lunch Programme
7. Generous giving towards our ministries overseas

May the entire worship experience inspire us to discover the reality of this same spirit of faith in our lives!

NEXT YWS

6 SEP 2025

**6
SEP**

“Behold I give to him My covenant of peace”

Text: Numbers 25:1-18

To be God’s covenant people is a wonderful blessing. However, Israel held this privilege with little regard, succumbing to the evil schemes of the Moabites and Midianites to commit harlotry. Who would remain faithful to the LORD and to fight for what is right? Among the entire congregation, Phinehas, the grandson of Aaron, stood out as one who was zealous with God’s zeal. The LORD honoured him with an everlasting covenant.



Bethany Independent-Presbyterian Church