

BETHANY

INDEPENDENT- PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

God's Kind of Church...

Where God is touching lives...

And people care for people.

Bethany IV ... 2 November 2025 ... Holy Communion Sunday

MEDITATION

REV DR CHARLES TAN

Text: Isaiah 7

THE LORD HIMSELF WILL GIVE YOU A SIGN

THE PROBLEM OF UNBELIEF

Unbelief is the opposite of having faith in God. King Ahaz had a renowned grandfather, King Uzziah, who built Judah into a very strong and wealthy nation.

Ahaz was the opposite of King Uzziah. He was weak and cowardly. Worse, he was idolatrous and rebellious.

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MEDITATION

GOD'S MERCY BESTOWED

God showed much mercy. He sent Isaiah, a prominent prophet to King Ahaz. But the errant king refused to heed the word of God given to him. Nevertheless, Isaiah gave to Ahaz an amazing prophetic word.

¹³ Then he said, "Hear now, O house of David! *Is it* a small thing for you to weary men, but will you weary my God also?"

¹⁴ Therefore the Lord Himself will give you a sign: Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a Son, and shall call His name Immanuel. Isaiah 7:13-14

1. A rebuke to Ahaz

- a) He wearied men (his people)
- b) He wearied God also
 - i. Stubborn
 - ii. Rebellious
 - iii. Idolatrous

2. A remarkable prophecy

- a) God will Himself give a special sign
- b) A virgin will conceive and bear the Son of God
- c) That Child to born would be called "Immanuel"

ENTERING INTO THE SEASON OF ADVENT

We begin preparation for Advent 2025. Our focus is on the Lord Jesus as the Light that shines in a world of great darkness. Let us look forward to celebrating Advent!

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 rejoice through worship and fellowship!



PULPIT THEME FOR NOVEMBER-DECEMBER 2025

"The Dayspring from on high has visited us"

Luke 1:78



COMMUNION MEDITATION

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



YOUTH CONFERENCE 2025

"Reconciled to God" - 2 Corinthians 5:20

The much anticipated Youth Conference is around the corner! As we learn about being reconciled to God, may we appreciate our salvation so much more, and may it inspire us to live for Him in every aspect of our lives.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Details

Dates: 1-4 December 2025 (Monday - Thursday)

Venue: Bethany IPC Main Sanctuary

Time: 9.00am to 5.00pm daily

Age

Open to youths aged 13 and above.

Fellowship Lunch

Lunch will be provided every day. It would be an opportunity for us to relate to and fellowship with one another.

Fees

\$25.00

Do sign up early to assist in the planning of the programme.

If there are any queries, please feel free to contact Joshua Phang at 8028 6194.

You may register online by scanning the QR Code below:



CHRISTMAS CAROLLING 2025

Christmas remains a precious and joyous time of celebrating the advent of our Great Redeemer and Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ. Let us be encouraged to declare His wondrous praise and share the Light of His Gospel to those around us!

We're glad to have our Christmas Carolling this year. If you're interested, kindly register at the Booth in the Fellowship Hall on Sundays.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

DETAILS

Date: 6 December 2025, Saturday

Venue: Sanctuary

Time: 3.00pm

We will begin with a time of Worship in the Main Sanctuary (Level 2), followed by a Fellowship Tea at Level 1.



CHRISTMAS AT SHANGRI-LA 2025

Our special Christmas Service and Christmas Lunch will be held on 25 December 2025.

Let us anticipate a glorious time of extolling the LORD our God!

DETAILS

Date: 25 December 2025, Thursday

Venue: Shangri-La

Time: 10.30am

Christmas Worship Service will commence at 10.30am, followed by Christmas Lunch.

Please plan to sign up early!

Kindly scan the QR below to register for Christmas Lunch. If you've any inquiries, please approach us at the booth in the Fellowship Hall on Sundays and we will assist you.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

GIVING OF FELLOWSHIP MEALS

Breakfast: Andrew & Hwei Li Wong

Lunch: Andrew & Hwei Li Wong; Pastor Ben Quah & Sui Hui



THIS WEEK IN BETHANY

1. Seniors Program
 - a) Tuesday, 4 November 2025 | 9.30am- 11.30am
 - b) Thursday, 6 November 2025 | 9.30am- 11.30am

4. Saturday, 8 November 2025
 - a) YPG/ YAG | 2.00pm
 - b) Youth Worship | 3.15pm

5. Sunday Ministry, 9 November 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



BIBLE MEMORY WORK

TODAY: 2 November 2025

Text: A great light

*"The people who sat in darkness have seen a great light,
And upon those who sat in the region and shadow of death
Light has dawned." Matthew 4:16*

1. Darkness is here related to the shadow of death
2. The great light is none other than that which the Lord Jesus gives
3. May we treasure the gift of light!

NEXT SUNDAY: 9 November 2025

Text: The light of life

Then Jesus spoke to them again, saying, "I am the light of the world. He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness, but have the light of life." John 8:12

WORSHIP IN SPIRIT AND TRUTH

Psalm 18:35-36

³⁵ You have also given me the shield of Your salvation;

Your right hand has held me up,

Your gentleness has made me great.

³⁶ You enlarged my path under me,

So my feet did not slip.

1. God's help noted
 - a) His shield of salvation
 - b) His upholding power
2. God's help appreciated
 - a) Greatness is experienced
 - b) Stability of life is treasured

POETRY CORNER

1

IMMANUEL

Unbelief is a choice that one makes in the heart;
It is a rejection of faith in God, on man's part.
There is no reason to disbelieve God at any time;
Unbelief is an expression of a heart that is blind.

God in His mercy has not given up on mankind;
He continues to show grace to man who is blind.
He offers a great sign that compels belief in the Lord;
A Virgin shall conceive and bear the Son of God.

That special offspring would be called Immanuel;
He would come and save the world and Israel.
He would dispel the darkness that is in the heart;
To all who would believe, great grace He imparts.

Unbelief brings nothing but sorrow and strife;
Faith in Immanuel results in eternal life.
As we celebrate Advent, let us be thankful;
To the Son of God, may we be ever grateful.

Charles Tan

Inspiration: Isaiah 7:13-14

POETRY CORNER

#2

An Approach to Prayer

Whenever we consider a prayer approach overhaul;
We need look no further than the Apostle Paul.
His attitude towards prayer was one of reverent humility;
A bold confidence in God whom he knew would bless richly.

We ask God for protection and provision for material needs;
But Paul's focus was for the indwelling of the Spirit to supersede.
That the love of God might be enigmatically understood;
Through steadfast faith grounded in deep roots.

Human nature yearns for escape and deliverance;
But Paul coveted strength from God's omnipotence.
His plight suggested he could do well to pray for himself indeed;
Yet he chose, for his fellow brethren, to intercede.

Praying unceasingly was what Paul had emphasized;
His prayers were always centered on the Christ.
He never neglected to give thanks and praise to the Lord;
Reminding us that the reason we pray is always to glorify God.

Dr. Sng Li Wah
Inspiration: Ephesians 3:1 4-2 1

POETRY CORNER

#3

Pray for spiritual growth

Pray for spiritual growth through the Holy Spirit
That our inner man is being strengthened daily
Building a solid foundation in faith with no limit
For the Lord Jesus to dwell in our hearts fully

Pray to get some understanding of the magnitude of the Lord's love
A love so vast and immense surpassing all knowledge
He gives exceedingly abundantly all that we ask beyond and more
To be filled with the fullness of God rooted in love and nourished

Pray for humility to come before the Lord our creator
All nations and people owe their existence to God
Reflect on the greatness of the Almighty and behold His power
May we manifest His works in us to give glory to the Lord

Pray not to incur the wrath of our Father and fear Him
He is slow to anger and will not always strive with us
Worship Him with great honour and hold Him in the highest esteem
Praise Him for He crowns us with lovingkindness and tender mercies

Jessie Quek

Inspiration: Ephesians 3:14-21; Psalm 103: 4-8

ORDER OF WORSHIP



PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

Mr. Nicholas Khoo

Mrs. Khoo Li Hui

PRAYER

HYMNS

HWC 4 | How Great Thou Art

VIP 721 | Empower Me

MESSAGE

“He will be great in the sight of the Lord”

Text : Luke 1:1-18

Rev. Dr. Charles Tan

HOLY COMMUNION

HWC 123 | O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

CLOSING HYMN

HWC 124 | Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

BENEDICTION

OFFERING

POSTLUDE



HYMNS

HWC 4 HOW GREAT THOU ART

STUART K. HINE & EUGENE THOMAS

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. When through the woods and forest glades I wander
And hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees,
When I look down from lofty mountain grandeur,
And hear the brook and feel the gentle breeze.

Refrain

3. 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

4. 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



HYMNS

VIP 721 EMPOWER ME

CLAIRE CLONINGER

1. Nobody knows how weak I am better than You.
Nobody sees all of my needs better than You
And nobody has the power to change me to what I was born to be.
Jesus, be strong in my weakness:
Empower me!

Refrain

Empower me
Like a rushing river flowing to the sea.
Lord, send Your Holy Spirit flowing now through me
Till I'm living as Your child victorious and free.
Send the power of Your love:
Empower me!

2. Nobody's eyes see through my soul better than Yours;
And nobody's love can make me whole, no love but Yours;
And nobody has the power to lift me to reach for eternity.
Jesus, break through all my defenses:
Empower me!

Refrain

Send the power of Your love: Empower
Empower me, empower me!
Send Your love and, Lord, empower me!



HYMNS

HWC 123 O COME, O COME, EMMANUEL

1. O come, O come, Emmanuel,
And ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here,
Until the Son of God appear.

Refrain

Rejoice! Rejoice!
Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!

2. O come, Thou Dayspring, come and cheer
Our spirits by Thine advent here;
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
And death's dark shadows put to flight.

Refrain

3. O come, Thou Wisdom from on high,
And order all things, far and nigh;
To us the path of knowledge show,
And cause us in her ways to go.

Refrain

4. O come, Desire of nations, bind
All peoples in one heart and mind;
Bid envy, strife and quarrels cease,
Fill all the world with heaven's peace.

Refrain



HYMNS

HWC 124 COME THOU LONG-EXPECTED JESUS

1. Come, Thou long-expected Jesus
Born to set Thy people free;
From our fears and sins release us,
Let us find our rest in Thee.
Israel's Strength and Consolation,
Hope of all the earth Thou art;
Dear Desire of every nation,
Joy of every longing heart.

2. Born Thy people to deliver,
Born a Child and yet a King,
Born to reign in us forever,
Now Thy gracious Kingdom bring.
By Thine own eternal Spirit
Rule in all our hearts alone;
By Thine all sufficient merit,
Raise us to Thy glorious throne.



