



THIS IS MY STORY

A BOOKLET OF TESTIMONIES

**CHRISTMAS
BAPTISMAL SERVICE I
7 DECEMBER 2025**



THIS IS MY STORY

TESTIMONIES OF BRETHREN WHO WILL BE
RECEIVED INTO CHURCH MEMBERSHIP
ON 7 DECEMBER 2025

Paedo-Baptism

1. Andrew Lee Cheng Wei
(Son of Dao Hong & Olivia)
2. Ellie Chiam Shi Le
(Daughter of Dao Hua & Shi Yun)

To be baptized by:

Pastor Charles Tan

Pastor Charles Tan

Baptism

1. Chai Sock Gek (Nelly), 谢淑玉
(Mother of Phyllis)
2. Koh Yah Cher (Irene), 许霭群
(Sister of David)
3. Lim Kim Leng, 林金龙
(Father of Louisa)
4. Lum Pin Yong, 蓝秉扬
(Father of Chih Foong)
5. Nancy Tan Quee Lian, 陈桂莲
(Mother of Li Li)
6. Ong Yingxuan

To be baptized by:

Pastor Moses Kwek

Pastor Moses Kwek

Pastor Moses Kwek

Pastor Moses Kwek

Pastor Moses Kwek

Pastor Eugene Seow

Transference

1. Koh Kim Kwan Esther
2. Lim Koon Guan Peter
3. Lim Jia Wei, Winston

Reaffirmation

Celine Ng Si Qi

To be prayed for by:

Pastor Charles Tan
Pastor Charles Tan
Pastor Eugene Seow

To be prayed for by:

Pastor Eugene Seow

OUR COMMITMENT TO GOD

LEE DAO HONG & OLIVIA
(PARENTS OF ANDREW LEE)

Dear Andrew,

Today is a truly significant day. You will be baptised in Bethany IPC, the very church where Mummy and Daddy found our faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. This moment marks our commitment to raise you in a family that loves the Lord and strives to walk with Him.

You were born on 9th March 2025, a precious answer to our prayers for an addition to the family. The formation of new life is truly wondrous – carefully planned and lovingly crafted by God Himself. Throughout Mummy’s pregnancy, which coincided with a tumultuous semester at work, repeated bouts of flu, and even a few episodes where she almost fainted despite healthy blood checks, God was gracious and we are thankful for His protection. You are also a healthy and cheerful child at nine months old. Your sister, Adora, loves you dearly and is the best at making you chuckle. May you one day recognise how God has been there for you from the very beginning and praise Him.

*“For You formed my inward parts; You covered me in my mother’s womb.
I will praise You, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made;
Marvelous are Your works, and that my soul knows very well.” (Psalm
139:13-14)*

We named you Andrew Lee Cheng Wei (李诚伟). Just as the Lord Jesus had a disciple named Andrew, we pray that you too will one day become a fervent follower and committed servant of the Lord. Your name carries our hope for you: *Andrew* - that you will have ‘strength’ and ‘courage’ in Him, 诚 (*chéng*)- become a person of sincerity, and 伟 (*wěi*) - accomplish the

'great' and 'noble' works that God leads you to do.

"For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them." (Ephesians 2:10)

Our deepest prayer is that you will grow up into a man who loves the Lord wholeheartedly and recognises His abundant blessings within the spiritual family of God. May you one day experience the goodness of God for yourself and find a personal faith in Him. With these thoughts, we commit you to the Lord in prayer and baptism.

With all our love,
Daddy and Mummy (Dao Hong and Olivia)



WE PRAYED FOR YOU

CHIAM DAO HUA & SHI YUN
(PARENTS OF ELLIE CHIAM)

Amongst the many stories of faith you'll hear,
This is one we hope you will come to hold dear.
How even before you came to be,
We prayed for you, wholeheartedly.

For first came the miracle that there were two,
Identical twins to love and keep our hands full.
There was joy, yet uncertainty about the days ahead,
And again, we prayed for you to our God as He led.

As the weeks went by and complications grew,
Many came alongside and upon His strength we drew.
Words of love and encouragement from God's Word,
As we prayed for you, with hearts undeterred.

At twenty-eight weeks, into the world you came - both of you,
Suddenly here, right in our view.
Our hearts filled with joy and gratitude anew,
"We prayed for you", we whispered, our beloved two.

Then came the call that fateful day,
To hold your sister Emma close, before the Lord called her away.
Our hearts were broken, we cannot deny,
Yet still we prayed for you, even as we said goodbye.

Each day after, as we traveled to the hospital and back,
Where every ounce and milligram we tracked,
In those rides we carried our hopes and fears,
As we prayed for you and to the Lord we drew near.

And woven in your story, let us never forget,
The prayers of many whom, Ellie, you have not yet met.
Their hearts were stirred, and deeply moved,
“We prayed for you”, they said, God’s love through them proved.

So here we are today, what a journey it has been,
Still the story is being written, much yet unseen.
But this remains true, and always true,
Our God is always good and we will always pray for you.



A NEW BEGINNING AT ANY AGE

CHAI SOCK GEK (NELLY)

When my daughter was 17, she told us that she had accepted Christ and became a Christian. My late husband was not happy as he felt that Christianity was for Western people. I used to be exposed to idol worship in the past but never really believed in anything. Over the years, my daughter's grandmother-in-law and my sister-in-law invited me to a few Christian events.

A few years ago, my daughter (Phyllis) had breast cancer and after completing her treatment, she brought me to Bethany's Chinese service in mid 2023. I started to learn more and over time, joined the Sunday School on Sunday mornings and the Seniors Program on Thursdays.

My memory is not good, but I try to learn what I can. Recently Pastor Moses spoke to me, I told him that I had come to believe what the Bible teaches. That all of us have sinned, and that the Lord Jesus can forgive us of our sins and grant us everlasting life. I want to have the Lord Jesus in my life. I like Bethany because people are kind and caring and I want to belong to the community. I feel very happy whenever I am in Church. I want to follow the Lord Jesus from now on. I hope to be baptised this Christmas.

任何年龄都能有新的开始

谢淑玉

当我的女儿 17 岁时，她告诉我们她已经接受了基督，成为一名基督徒。我的已故丈夫并不高兴，因为他觉得基督教是给西方人的。我过去接触过拜偶像，但从来没有真正相信过什么。多年来，女儿的婆婆和我的大嫂也邀请我参加过一些基督徒的活动。

几年前，我的女儿 Phyllis 患上乳癌。她完成治疗后，在 2023 年年中带我来参加伯大尼的中文崇拜。我开始学习更多的圣经真理，过了一段时间，也开始参加主日早上的中文主日学和星期四的年长人士节目。

我的记忆力不好，但我尽量学习我能学的。最近子恩牧师与我谈话时，我告诉他我相信圣经的教导——我们都是罪人，而主耶稣能赦免我们的罪，并赐给我们永生。我求主耶稣进入我的生命。

我喜欢伯大尼，因为这里的人都很亲切、有爱心。我也希望能够成为伯大尼的一分子。每次来教会，我都感到很快快乐。我决定从现在开始跟随主耶稣。我盼望能在今年圣诞节受洗。



PRECIOUS LORD JESUS

KOH YAH CHER (IRENE)

My name is Irene Koh Yah Cher. I was born on December 2, 1947. I have 6 siblings - two elder sisters, two younger brothers and two younger sisters. All of them are not Christians except one brother, David Koh, from Bethany and another younger sister who is a Christian. We used to worship idols and ancestor worship. My mother before her passing away, came to know the Lord.

A. How I came to faith in the Lord?

1. This year, I was invited to Bethany's SSP by my daughter-in-law, Li Li. When I came, I was touched by the love of the people in Church. They were warm, helpful and friendly. I love to attend because I always have a happy experience being in Church. Initially, I did not understand what was taught, but gradually, I began to like the teachings from the Bible too.

2. There is a close friend of mine who is a Christian. She was specially kind and friendly which deeply impacted me. She was one of those who influenced me to come to believe in the Lord Jesus. She goes to another Church but she also comes to Bethany's SSP on Thursday. Thank God for my friend Neo Siew Yen. (梁秀缘女士)

3. One Thursday, we were doing a craft on Psalm 121:1-2. I did not understand the text so I asked Tr. Jo what the verses meant. She took me aside and there she explained the meaning. The Creator, our Maker is the One we ought to look to for help in every situation in life. We must trust and have faith in Him. Furthermore, she took the opportunity to explain the Gospel of salvation to me too.

When I heard the Good News of salvation, I was so deeply touched by the love of the Lord Jesus for me, I knew that I needed Him. When Tr. Jo asked me if I wanted the Lord to come into my life, I was so ready and I accepted Him into my heart that very day. I was overjoyed to have the Lord Jesus as

my Lord and Saviour. After which, I went to tell my brother David the Good News. He was so delighted to see me believe in the Lord too.

B. How the Lord is real to me since I believe?

1. Prayer became so real to me. Some time ago, there were some family problems. I was deeply troubled and I prayed and asked God to help us. Wonderfully, the Lord heard my cry and answered my prayers. This enabled me to see the reality of God – a God who hears and answers prayers.

2. Another incident was that I was about to go for a sinus procedure. Actually I was a bit hesitant to go or not to go. Amazingly, there were 2 incidents that happened to confirm that I should not do it. One was - my ears were unknowingly filled with water. Another was, a day before the procedure, the nurse asked me to wash my face with the disinfectant lotion. After I did that, my lips became swollen. I told the Doctor and he cancelled the procedure for me. I was so relieved that the Lord answered my cry to Him. Isn't the Lord good and marvellous? I am so grateful that our God is there for us.

3. Some changes in my life:

a) Before I believed in the Lord, I was a worrier. Now that Jesus is mine, I am very happy and not as anxious as before.

b) Now I no longer nag or lose my temper. The Lord has given me a peaceful heart. I do not want to offend God by sinning against Him.

c) Jesus is very precious to me because I have a relationship with Him.

d) I am not well educated, but I want to continue to learn more about my precious Lord and Saviour. I wish someone could teach me personally.

e) The Church is my big spiritual family and I am very happy to be part of this family in Bethany. I wish to declare my faith and trust in the Lord Jesus through water baptism.

宝贵主耶稣

许霭群

我的名是许霭群（Irene Koh），出生于1947年。我有六个兄弟姐妹 - 两个姐姐，两个弟弟还有两个妹妹。他们全都不是信徒，唯有一个弟弟，(David Koh)，来自伯大尼堂，和一个妹妹，也是基督徒。我们原本祭拜偶像，和祖先。我妈妈在过世前，接受了主。

我是如何来信靠主耶稣基督？

今年，我受到媳妇，（Li Li）的邀请，来到伯大尼的年长人士特别节目。在那，我被伯大尼会友们的爱感动。他们很友善，很好相处。我每次到教会都很开心。起初我不太明白节目中所教导的，但渐渐我开始喜欢圣经上的教训。

我很亲的一个朋友是个基督徒。她富有爱心的生活方式深深地打动我。她触使我要来信靠主耶稣。她虽然上另一个教会，但也来到伯大尼的年长人士特别节目。感谢上帝赐我这朋友，梁秀缘女士。

有一次周四的年长人士特别节目，我们正在做的手工与《诗篇121:1-2》有关。我不明白这段经文的意思，就问玉华老师。她将我带到一旁，解释经文的意思。她说，我们的创造者就是上帝，我们可以在生活中寻求帮助我们的那

一位 - 我们要信靠祂。玉华老师也借此机会，将福音解释给我。

当我听到上帝拯救我们的福音，主耶稣对我的爱深深地感动了我。我知道我需要祂。所以当玉华老师问我是否要主进入我的生命，我就在那一天，打开心门接受主耶稣。我很兴奋有主耶稣基督为我的救主。之后，我将这件事告诉我弟弟 David。他也为我信主非常高兴。

自从信主之后，祂如何更真实？

祷告变得更加真实。有一阵子，家中有些问题。我非常烦恼，祈求上帝的帮助。祂美妙地听见我的哭求，回应了我的祷告。这使我见到上帝的真实 - 祂是个垂听我们，回应祈祷的上帝。

还有另一次，我一直徘徊不知道该不该动鼻窦的手术。后来有两个事件使我得到肯定不去动这手术：（1）我的耳朵不知为何积水；（2）我在手术前一天嘴唇对消毒剂敏感而肿了起来。因此，医生将手术取消了。我心中松了一口气，上帝听见了我心中的呼求。祂真是多么的美妙！我感激有祂的同在。

我生命中的改变

1. 在信主前，我心中常常忧虑。现在有了主耶稣，我很开心，心中也没那么焦虑。

2. 我现在比较少唠叨，或发脾气。上帝赐我心中的平安。我也不要因脾气而陷入罪恶中。
3. 主耶稣对我非常宝贵；我珍惜与祂的关系。
4. 我受的教育不多，但我希望继续学习有关我的救主。我希望有人能来教导我。
5. 教会是属灵的大家庭，我很开心能成为伯大尼的一份子。我要宣告我的信心，我愿通过洗礼表示对主耶稣的信靠。



GOD IS WITH ME

LIM KIM LENG

My name is Lim Kim Leng. I come from a family that practised Taoism, I grew up in a close-knit family, with 9 other siblings. We were very close to my late mother as my father passed away when I was younger. My mother suffered a stroke that left her paralyzed at 77 years old and she lived till 96 years old. As such, my siblings and I had always honored, loved and cared for my mother. I was invited to visit several Churches by friends, however, my heart was not open as my aged mother was not a Christian and my main concern was to care for her till she passed away.

However, God continued to lead me to Himself. I had spent all my life working and providing for the family. When I was 60 years old, I suffered a viral attack and lost my hearing completely in one ear. It was very sudden and for a long while I felt dizzy due to the imbalance. Listening became challenging for me as I had to try to tune out the loud background noise. I learnt to cope with the change but that also meant that I had to stop working and that gave me time to follow my wife, Shirley, and daughter, Louisa, to Bethany.

I started to listen to the messages and open my heart to the faith. The turning point came when my wife, Shirley, was diagnosed with an aggressive cancer in 2021. After surgery to remove the cancerous growth, she had to undergo 8 months of intensive chemotherapy sessions followed by radiotherapy. That happened during COVID, as there were many social restrictions, I had little help from family and friends. I became the main caregiver. It was then that I started praying to God and I began to believe that there is a God who is able to help me in my time of need. Friends from Bethany who came to visit my wife also shared the Word of God with me, answering all my questions about the faith.

I seek baptism because I have experienced the hand of God leading me, from the time when I had no faith to leading me to Bethany and helping me discover God. Through all of this, I have witnessed the hand of God in my

life. He has provided, protected and blessed. I have also learnt that Jesus died on the cross for our sins, I thank God for a chance to believe in Him and I know all things are from Him. I know with certainty that there is a God who is in control of my life, my heart is filled with peace. I want to trust and believe in Him.



我的名字是林金龙。我来自一个信奉道教的家庭，在一个关系紧密的家庭中长大，有9个兄弟姐妹。我们与已故的母亲非常亲近，因为我的父亲在我年幼时就去世了。我的母亲在77岁时中风瘫痪，她一直活到96岁。因此，我和我的兄弟姐妹们一直尊敬、爱护和照顾着我们的母亲。我曾多次被朋友邀请参观教堂，但我的心并未敞开，因为我年迈的母亲不是基督徒，而我主要关心的是照顾她直到她去世。

然而，上帝持续地引领我归向祂。我一生都在工作和养家。当我60岁时，我遭受了一次病毒攻击，完全失去了其中一只耳朵的听力。这件事发生得非常突然，在很长一段时间里，我因平衡感受损而感到头晕。听东西对我来说变得具有挑战性，因为我必须努力过滤掉嘈杂的背景噪音。我学会了适应这个变化，但这见事发生后我要停止工作，

这让我有时间跟随我的妻子、女儿和家人前往伯大尼教会。

我开始聆听圣经的话。转折点出现在2021年，我的妻子被诊断出患有侵袭性癌症。在手术切除癌变组织后，她不得不接受为期8个月的强化化疗，随后是放疗。那时正值新冠疫情，由于许多社交限制，我很少能得到家人和朋友的帮助。我成为了主要的照顾者。就在那时，我开始向上帝祈祷，并开始相信有一位上帝能够在需要的时候帮助我。伯大尼教会来探望我妻子的朋友们也与我分享了上帝的话语，回答了我关于信仰的所有问题。

我寻求受洗，因为我经历了上帝之手的引领，从我毫无信仰之时，到引领我来到伯大尼，帮助我发现了上帝。通过这一切，我见证了上帝在我生命中的作为。祂供应、保护和赐福。我也了解到耶稣为我们的罪死在十字架上，我感谢上帝给我相信祂的机会，我知道万物都源于祂。我确知有一位上帝掌管着我的生命，我的心中充满了平安。我愿信任并信靠祂。

"I CAN'T DEPEND ON MY DEEDS"

LUM PIN YONG

I helped a number of people who are facing difficulties in life during my working days. I used to think these deeds were good enough. However, after coming to know our Lord Jesus, I understood that I cannot depend on whatever I have done to be deemed righteous before God.

Before Him, I am a sinner. Therefore, I accept this grace from our Heavenly Father, I accept Lord Jesus as my Saviour who died on the cross to cleanse all my sins.

John 14:6:

Jesus said to him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me."

It is only right of me to share the gospel of the Lord Jesus with others. Whenever I encounter familiar faces, I will convey the message that salvation and a return to our heavenly home with the Father are attainable only through faith in the Lord Jesus.

Psalm 91:4:

"He shall cover you with His feathers,
And under His wings you shall take refuge;
His truth *shall* be *your* shield and buckler."

I firmly believe that God's protection has been instrumental in enabling me to overcome the numerous surgeries I've undergone over the past decade and more.

Due to the presence of five tumours on my neck, I experience discomfort when I turn my head. Despite this, the doctor recommended against surgery.

I earnestly pray for God's mercy, seeking His intervention to prevent the tumours from worsening. As I turn my gaze towards the Lord, I find true

hope.

My sincere hope is that my testimony of faith in the Lord Jesus will serve as an encouragement to those who have yet to embrace God's grace and salvation.



我以前帮过好一些面临生活困难的人。我原以为做这些就够好了。不过认识主耶稣后，我明白一点：我不能靠自己做过的事，在神面前称义。在神面前，我是罪人。因此我接受天父的恩典，接受主耶稣死在十字架上，为我洗脱一切的罪。

《约翰福音14:6》写道：

耶稣说：“我就是道路、真理、生命，若不借着我，没有人能到父那里。”

如今我要为主耶稣传福音，遇到相熟的人，就告诉他们：唯有信主耶稣才能得救，回天家与天父永远在一起。

《诗篇91:4》写道：

祂必用自己的翎毛遮蔽你，你要投靠在祂的翅膀底下，祂的诚实是大小的盾牌。

我相信是上帝保佑我，才能让我过去十多年来渡过大大小小的手术难关。

我的颈项有五粒肿瘤。虽然医生说不需要动手术，但我转头时会痛。我会为这件事祷告，求上帝的怜悯，不要让肿瘤恶化，并且我要把目光转向主，才有盼望。

希望我信主的见证能鼓励还未得救的人，前来信主。



My name is Nancy Tan Quee Lian. I was born on 20 October 1944. I have four siblings, 2 elder brothers, 1 elder sister and 1 younger sister, but today, I have only 1 younger sister left. Previous to my coming to know the Lord, my family and I prayed to Tua Pek Kong.

How did I come to know the Lord?

In the earlier years of my life, I had been to church before. The reason I stopped going was because my mother questioned me about my marriage to come - will I marry a Christian or non-Christian? That really stumped me. I hesitated and from then on, I stopped going to Church. I didn't really understand what it means to be a Christian then.

Later in life, I went to a Church with a teacher, who is my friend. I went there for many years. Only 2 years ago, I came to Bethany and joined SSP. After some time, Tr. Jo shared the Gospel with me. After hearing that God loves me and wants to save me from sin, I want to believe and follow the Lord Jesus. This year, I followed my youngest daughter Li Li and attended the Chinese Worship service and Catechism Class.

What are some changes in my life?

Before I became a Christian, I used to go to temples every first and fifteenth day of the lunar calendar to worship. I also pray during the 7th month. Now I no longer do that. I also stopped praying to the other idols too. I now like coming to Church.

Last time, I used to have bursts of anger. Now, I am able to control better. Another change is that when I see weak older folks on the road, I would give them a smile. I want to learn how to love others.

Recently, I fell. While I was on my way to my younger daughter's house, a car came so close to me and I tried to avoid it. Instead, I fell on the road pavement. But I felt as though Someone had lifted me up. I felt it was God who protected me. Because of God's miraculous intervention, I was not badly injured at all. Praise God indeed!

I want to be baptized because this is my public declaration of my faith in the Lord Jesus. Water baptism itself cannot save me. I am saved by faith, believing that Jesus has sacrificially died on the cross for my sins. I thank Him for His love and salvation.



因信得救

陈桂莲

我的名是陈桂莲，Nancy。我出生于1944年，十月二十日。我有四个弟兄姐妹；两个哥哥，一个姐姐还有一个妹妹。但如今在世的只剩下妹妹。在认识主耶稣之前，我和家人是祭拜大伯公的。

我怎么来认识主耶稣？

我在年轻时，曾经上过教堂。后来，因为妈妈的反对，我停止上教堂。她问我将来嫁给拜拜的人或基督徒？这问题难倒了当时的我。之后，我就不再上教堂。我当时确实不明白成为基督徒的意义。

直到后来，我跟着一位当老师的朋友去令一个教会好几年。两年前，我来到伯大尼的年长人士特别节目。没过多久，玉华老师与我分享福音。听到了上帝多么爱我，要将我从罪恶中救赎出来。我要相信，跟随主耶稣。决定后，今年，我跟着小女儿Li Li，到伯大尼堂的中文崇拜会，也有上教理班。

我生命有了什么改变？

在我成为基督徒以前，我常在农历初一，十五到庙里去拜拜。我在七月时，也会去拜拜。我现在不再这么做了，也停止祭拜偶像。我也开始喜欢到教堂来。

以前，我脾气非常暴躁，但现在，感觉没那么暴躁。另一个改变是在路上看到年长人士时，会向他们微笑，鼓励他们。我想学习爱戴他人。

最近，我出了意外。我在到小女儿家的路途中，有一辆车开得很靠近我。我想设法走开一点但不幸的，我跌倒在路旁。但我在跌倒时，我感觉有‘人’扶持我。我想是上帝的保守，所以没受到什么大碍。赞美上帝！

我要受洗，因为我要公开的宣告我接受主耶稣的救恩。洗礼不会拯救我。我是因着信心，主耶稣在十字架上牺牲为我死，赦免我的罪。我感谢祂的爱和救恩。



FINDING A PERSONAL FAITH

ONG YINGXUAN

Introduction

Hello everyone! I am Yingxuan, currently a second year Occupational Therapy student in SIT. Growing up in a non-Christian family, I was first introduced to Bethany through my Aunty, Siew Chiong, who often invited my siblings – Dingjie and Yanning – and me for Easter and Christmas concerts, as well as Junior Camp. I began attending Junior Sunday School regularly in 2015.

Turning point

When I was younger, coming to church was just a routine for me. I saw myself as a relatively obedient child. I obeyed my parents, was doing decently in school and thought I could coast through life perfectly fine while relying on my own strength. As a result, I did not see a need to develop a personal relationship with God. However, it was in 2018 when I attended Youth Conference, with the theme of “A Wise Master Builder”, where I discovered faith to be real for the first time. I remembered during one of our Bible study sessions, Tr. Cam shared with us a lesson from Matthew 13 which speaks about the Parable of the Sower. After that lesson, I was deeply rebuked as I realised that the state of my heart was everything else (wayside, stoney, thorny) but good ground. I was preoccupied with chasing after materialistic things of the world. I sought to achieve good grades, be well liked by the people around me, and was distracted by the many temptations of the world. These things would bring me joy that were temporary, and when trials of life came, I would find myself being overwhelmed by fear and worry. That was when I realised I had absolutely no place for God’s word to take root in my heart.

Matthew 7:24-27 “Therefore whoever hears these sayings of Mine, and does them, I will liken him to a wise man who built his house on the rock: and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it did not fall, for it was founded on the rock. But everyone who hears these sayings of Mine, and does not do them, will be like a foolish

man who built his house on the sand: and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it fell. And great was its fall.”

Another passage that was taught to us was from Matthew 7:24–27. These verses speak about how the wise man who hears and obeys the teachings of the Lord Jesus, builds his house on a firm foundation that withstands the trials of life. In contrast, the foolish man who ignores the Lord’s word builds his house on sand, which collapses when challenges arise. This was the moment I decided to take my faith seriously. I wanted to be like the wise man who built his house on the rock, so that my faith would be a firm foundation that anchors me in seasons of trials.

Experiencing the Lord’s Grace

When I was taking my O Levels in 2020, I remembered feeling extremely stressed and anxious. Being appointed many leadership roles, I had several events and responsibilities to handle. On top of that, I was also preparing for my Grade 8 ABRSM Piano examination. With so much on my plate, I barely had time to study, and my academics began to suffer. I eventually had to drop two of my additional subjects – O Level Music and Higher Chinese. To make matters worse, I was also struggling with my pure science subjects and had to switch to combined science just a few months before the O Levels. That same year, Covid-19 struck, and everything shifted to home-based learning. I felt like an absolute failure, lost and uncertain about how I would prepare for my exams or where my grades would take me.

During that period, a verse that Teacher Yuan Li and Teacher Yvette had taught in Sunday School came to mind:

2 Corinthians 4:16: “Therefore we do not lose heart. Even though our outward man is perishing, yet the inward man is being renewed day by day.”

This verse reminded me that even though I may feel discouraged and worn out on the outside, God is still renewing my spirit from within, and that there’s still a living hope that I can hope in. I did not have to face each day through my own strength. Instead, I could turn to him in prayer.

Another text that brought me a sense of peace was:

Matthew 6:33–34 “But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you. Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about its own things. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble.”

This passage reminded me of the importance of learning to put God first above everything else in our lives. When we learn to let Him take control and seek Him above all else, He will provide and bless us. As I held these verses close to my heart and learned to seek God first, by His grace, not only did I secure a place in my dream course in Singapore Polytechnic through the Early Admission Exercise, but I was also able to do well in my O Level examinations.

God’s Love in Bethany

Having attended Bethany for the past 10 years, it has been a place where I’ve truly felt God’s love through His people. The pastors, teachers, and friends who relate to me each week have given me a strong sense of warmth and belonging. Even during hectic or challenging periods, they always take the time to check in, offer encouragement, and pray for us. Whenever I faced doubts, they patiently guided me back to the Lord’s Word. Bethany is a church family I deeply cherish, and I hope to continue serving God here in every way I can!

Response

When I was 6, I vividly remembered one night as my mother was putting me to sleep, she asked me which religion I would like to be part of in the future, to which I replied “Christian”. When asked why, I answered that it is because I enjoy listening to and singing Christmas carols.

This Christmas, my reason for wanting to seek Baptism is not because I love Christmas carols, but because I recognise the need to have the Lord in my life as my personal Saviour. As I trace God’s hand of provision over the past few years, I cannot help but be thankful for his grace and love. God has proven himself to be real and faithful to me, and I would like to respond by continuing to follow Him and to grow deeper in my faith!

TESTIMONY OF FAITH IN JESUS CHRIST

KOH KIM KWAN ESTHER

My name is Esther Koh, and my husband is Peter Lim. We have two wonderful children, Victoria and Winston, and our joy multiplied 21 months ago when our little sweetheart, Elizabeth, arrived two years after Victoria married.

I grew up in a family with strong Taoist beliefs. My beloved father owned a factory that produced giant joss sticks used during temple festivals, so Christianity was strictly forbidden at home. I used to visit temples to pray for my mother after she suffered a bad fall that left her in a coma for two and a half years. Even after her passing, I occasionally went to the temple whenever I was distressed or in need of blessings. To me, “God” was a source of comfort—someone I could turn to when I faced situations beyond my control.

When I was young, I once followed a friend to church and had a good experience, but I did not return because I did not want to upset my parents. After my father passed away, my religious practices remained unchanged—until the end of 2015.

In 2015, Winston was invited to church by a friend, and Peter and I decided to accompany him. During the worship service, I was deeply moved by the message that the Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of God, came to earth, lived a sinless life, sacrificed Himself, was crucified for our sins, and rose again on the third day. Through faith in Him, I could receive forgiveness for my sins and the gift of eternal life. Wanting to learn more, we joined the Alpha Course and began attending a cell group. It took about a year for me to know the Lord Jesus more personally and to commit my faith to Him. By God’s grace, all four of us—including my daughter—were baptised together in 2017. Peter and I remained in the Chinese congregation and served joyfully in the choir for seven years.

I have come to understand that Christianity is not merely a religion—it is a

relationship with God and with people. Knowing and keeping God's Word transforms a person's character and outlook on life. I have seen, time and again, how God's grace and mercy can change lives.

When Peter and I first came to Bethany on 29 December 2024, we immediately felt welcomed and warmly received. Many families here have worshipped for generations. Pastor Charles and his wife, Sally, are like a big brother and sister, faithfully guarding the house of God. Together with the Pastoral Team, they guide and support worshippers through every season of life - as we also witness many weddings and funerals being conducted here. We are also encouraged by how the community here are committed and passionate in serving one another - serving meals, maintaining the church, and caring for one another. This spirit of service is something we have not seen elsewhere.

Bethany is truly God's kind of church—a place where lives are touched and people take care of one another. Every Sunday is a day we gather to worship and praise the Lord, learn God's Word through Bible study groups, and recharge spiritually for the challenges of the week. It is also a day to meet both new and familiar faces while enjoying the lovingly prepared lunch led by Auntie Sally. The beautiful hymns and music lift our spirits and unite our hearts in worship. The church is well-organised, with everyone serving together joyfully. Pastor Charles' Daily Devotions also help us begin each day with God's Word, reminding us to walk in His ways.

I feel blessed to be part of the Bethany community. I have found warm fellowship here and people with whom I can together deepen my understanding of God's Word - with Pastor Charles and the strong Pastoral Team earnestly guiding us in our learning. As I grow in my knowledge of the Lord, I know my faith in Jesus Christ will continue to be strengthened.

I desire to be like the tree planted by the rivers of water, as described in Psalm 1:3—

“That brings forth its fruit in its season,
Whose leaf also shall not wither.”

And by God's grace, I pray that my life will bear fruit for Him.

HONoured TO BE A PART OF BETHANY

LIM KOON GUAN PETER

My name is Peter Lim, and I'm here with my dear wife, Esther, and our son, Winston. We are delighted to be accepted into the Bethany family.

My journey with the Lord Jesus began when a classmate approached me during recess, asking if I knew there was a God with whom I could talk and hear. Initially skeptical, I dismissed the idea. However, during the school holidays, boredom led me to visit a nearby church one Sunday, alone and uninvited. From that day forward, I became actively involved in church activities beyond Sunday worship.

Despite regular attendance at worship services and youth fellowship, and identifying as a Christian, I lacked a personal understanding of the Gospel. I didn't see myself as a sinner and had a limited understanding of the Lord Jesus as the living God, viewing Christianity as a religion focused on good deeds. My prayers were often transactional, yet I experienced God's grace in many instances.

After a couple of years, I left the church due to disillusionment with a youth leader's behaviour, a decision influenced by the departure of several close friends.

In late 2015, an invitation from Winston's friend led us to her church, marking my homecoming after 30 years away. Singing familiar hymns evoked a sense of God's presence, and I immediately regretted my years of pursuing career fulfilment without finding true satisfaction. I thank God for this second chance to know Him better.

Following that visit, Esther and I decided to make this our family church. We joined the Chinese Sunday Worship and choir, while our children, Victoria and Winston, attended the Youth Worship Service. Participating in church events like the Alpha course and a cell group deepened our faith. I began to understand that Christianity is about a relationship with God and His

people. I came to recognise that I am a sinner and that the Lord Jesus Christ my Savior died for my sins, that I may have eternal life filled with the Holy Spirit whom will guide and lead me through life's many challenges.

In March 2017, our family of four publicly committed our lives to God through baptism, a profoundly moving moment. Subsequently, Esther and I officially joined the Chinese choir.

Knowing my desire for our family to worship together, Winston encouraged us to visit Bethany. We were warmly welcomed during our visit last year, and the genuine love and eagerness to serve were contagious. We knew we had to return.

We've since joined Pastor Charlie's Sunday school, and his teachings on Revelation have been enlightening. I'm drawn to Bethany's emphasis on the Word of God. The Bible-based teaching and Pastor Charlie's passion for helping people understand God's truth have significantly enriched my faith.

I appreciate Bethany as a place where people from all walks of life unite to worship, learn, and serve. It's a community that embodies the gospel and the spirit of oneness in Christ, as Paul wrote in 1 Corinthians 12:12.

Today, I stand before you with gratitude and joy, eager to commit to this community and serve the Lord alongside you. I look forward to growing in faith, learning from one another, and being part of this vibrant body of Christ. I pray that God will continue to guide and bless Bethany, and I am honoured to be a part of it.



HIS FAITHFULNESS IN EVERY SEASON

LIM JIA WEI, WINSTON

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

My name is Winston, and I am deeply blessed to join the Bethany community this December.

My journey with Christ began in my early childhood. I attended a Christian childcare centre where I was introduced to Christian practices, such as saying grace before meals, and learned numerous Bible stories. This foundation continued into my formal schooling years, where I attended a Christian after-school program that further piqued my interest in the faith through teachings from the Word of God. I recall a conversation with my teacher who questioned why I prayed for help before exams but did not attend church. My excuse was a lack of time, to which she responded, "You may be too busy to attend church, but God found time to create you!" Her words resonated deeply with me.

During junior college, as I wrestled with loneliness and sought purpose, I began attending church regularly. I found joy in singing praises and worshipping God, which reminded me of biblical truths and my identity in Christ.

My faith was truly tested during my National Service, particularly during Commando training. The prospect of parachuting out of a plane was frightening. In that moment, I realized that my safety was not guaranteed by anyone but God. Waiting to jump, I prayed for peace and trust in His protection. Through each of my five parachute jumps, my fear remained palpable, but my faith grew stronger. Like King David, "I sought the LORD, and He answered me and delivered me from all my fears" (Psalm 34:4).

God's goodness continued into my university years at NUS Dentistry. The program was challenging, with many factors beyond my control, such as securing enough cases to meet graduation requirements and ensuring

patients attended their appointments. I am grateful for the Christian community within the school, whose encouragement spurred me to seek God's purpose and trust in His providence. Eventually, I was blessed with more than enough cases, allowing me to refer patients to my peers and share testimonies of God's goodness. These challenging years tested the genuineness of my faith, refining it as gold is purified by fire (1 Peter 1:7).

As my faith matured, I recognized my need for deeper understanding and interpretation of God's Word. When Yanning invited me to Bethany, it was an easy decision. Here at Bethany, I appreciate the pastors' emphasis on sound Biblical teaching and the constant challenge to apply Scripture to daily life. I eagerly anticipate the weekly SSS2 classes, where Pastor Eugene and Teacher Kevin generously share their wisdom and the testimonies of faithful followers, which greatly encourage my heart.

I am excited to join Bethany this Christmas and look forward to serving and growing within this body of Christ.



KEPT BY FAITH

CELINE NG SI QI

My name is Celine, and I first came to Bethany in April 2024 at Wei Han's invitation.

Salvation

I was raised in a Christian household, baptised as a child, and grew up attending church. By God's grace, I was brought up by wonderful and God-fearing parents, and surrounded by loving and kind church aunties, uncles, leaders, and friends who all played a part in shaping my understanding of God and faith. I am deeply thankful for the Lord's boundless love, which has kept me and continually draws me to Him.

My understanding of faith evolved over the years. Somewhere along the way, what began as my parents' faith became real to me, and truly my own. Looking back, two key phases stand out –

- **Younger years:** learning about who God is, discovering who I am in Him, making this faith my own.
- **Through adolescence and young adulthood:** learning to perceive life in the light of faith – to surrender, to give myself to sanctification, to hope in the Lord, to persevere through trials, to cultivate the fear of the Lord.

The dimensions mentioned above are neither linear nor complete. They overlap and continue to unfold, and I am grateful for the Lord's ongoing work of transformation in my life.

Conviction

The first thing that comes to mind when I think of faith at work in my life is the divine gift of sustained desire. With time, I've found deeper joy in growing my understanding of who God is. I recognise that loving the Lord's word and seeking to draw near to Him are not inclinations of my own doing, but rather, are God-given desires. Faith is the fuel that sustains this aspiration to seek the Lord, and I am thankful for it.

The second thought that arises is the abiding comfort and presence of God. I know with all my heart that the Lord has been my deepest wellspring of hope and peace when challenges in life felt painful and insurmountable. In difficult times when comfort seemed elusive, being able to seek the Lord and hold fast to faith has brought unexpected measures of strength and confidence. I've found in the Lord a profound certainty of being held, known, and kept – assurances that are both real and precious.

A third idea is that of redemption. Growing up, through seasons of searching and confronting questions about how I wanted to interact with the world around me and the kind of person I hoped to become, my faith had, at times, been fickle. Yet, the Lord's faithfulness far transcends my fickle heart. He loves me despite my undeservedness and moments of weakness, and made a way for me to be reconciled to Him. The Lord Jesus paid an astounding price to redeem us from sin, and this work of redemption, unfathomably costly yet freely given, fills me with gratitude.

The thoughts shared above – desire, peace, confidence, and redemption, tell of a good and gracious God who loves. And my heart seeks to respond in thanksgiving and devotion – to be identified with the Lord, and as Scripture exhorts in 1 Timothy 6:11-12, to *pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience, gentleness; to fight the good fight of faith and lay hold on eternal life.*

Why Bethany?

Bethany has been a blessing to me in many ways, and in the time I've been here, I've come to appreciate the priorities and spirit of the church.

Bethany prioritizes truth – there is good and rightful emphasis on Biblical truth as an anchor. Over the past year and a half, the teachings at Bethany have challenged me, compelling me to seek out Godly wisdom and joy. I've grown in my understanding of many important cornerstones of faith, such as the fear of the Lord, glory of God, prayer, and more. In catechism class, I've also had the chance to engage with key texts that tell of the person of the Lord Jesus, which has refreshed, strengthened, and at times corrected my grasp of vital truths. In moments of need, pastors and fellow brethren have

offered patient, gracious guidance, helping me find perspective and deepen my faith through Scripture.

Bethany is also a community that loves and encourages one another. It has been incredibly special to watch the church come together to support and care for each other through joy and heartache. In the past year, I've been blessed to be on the receiving end of such love. Different ones have welcomed me warmly, and extended kindness and care as I navigated challenges and changing seasons. In Bethany, I find myself in good company – and I am blessed to be a part of this wonderful community.

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BETHANY

INDEPENDENT-
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

God's Kind of Church...

Where God is touching lives...

And people care for people.

Bethany IV ... 7 December 2025 ... Holy Communion Sunday

MEDITATION

REV DR CHARLES TAN

Text: Isaiah 12

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THE WELLS OF SALVATION

THE SALVATION THAT GOD GRANTS

There is so much to rejoice in when we ponder the Salvation God has planned for us. Thank God for His blessings outpoured at the Youth Conference this past week.

MEDITATION

¹ And in that day you will say:

"O LORD, I will praise You;

Though You were angry with me,

Your anger is turned away, and You comfort me.

² Behold, God *is* my salvation,

I will trust and not be afraid;

'For Yah, the LORD, *is* my strength and song;

He also has become my salvation.' "

³ Therefore with joy you will draw water

From the wells of salvation.

Isaiah 12:1-3

1. Salvation includes:

- a) God turning away His anger
- b) He offers His comfort instead

2. Salvation causes the heart to offer praise to God

- a) For being our God of salvation
- b) For giving us strength
- c) For giving us a song in the heart where there was fear and sadness

3. Salvation is compared to a deep well

- a) One may come to this well and draw as much water as needed
- b) Water is vital to sustain and health
- c) Salvation is more than just a decision to receive the Lord Jesus as Saviour

DRAWING FROM THE WELLS OF SALVATION

1. Draw from the wells of salvation, life refreshing water
2. Discover the Joy of salvation as you drink deeply
3. Determine to share the joy of salvation freely

Write to me at: charlestan@bethanyipc.sg

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WELCOME TO BETHANY

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



THE ADVENT CANDLES

1st Advent Candle: The Prophecy Candle
30 November 2025

2nd Advent Candle: The Bethlehem Candle
7 December 2025

3rd Advent Candle: The Shepherds Candle
14 December 2025

4th Advent Candle: The Angels Candle
21 December 2025



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



ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHRISTMAS BAPTISMAL COMBINED SERVICE

List of Baptismal Candidates this week

Paedo-Baptism

1. Andrew Lee Cheng Wei (Son of Dao Hong & Olivia)
2. Ellie Chiam Shi Le (Daughter of Dao Hua & Shi Yun)

Baptism

1. Chai Sock Gek (Nelly), 谢淑玉 (Mother of Phyllis)
2. Koh Yah Cher (Irene), 许霭群 (Sister of David)
3. Lim Kim Leng, 林金龙 (Father of Louisa)
4. Lum Pin Yong, 蓝秉扬 (Father of Chih Foong)
5. Nancy Tan Quee Lian, 陈桂莲 (Mother of Li Li)
6. Ong Yingxuan

Reaffirmation

Celine Ng Si Qi

Transference

1. Koh Kim Kwan Esther
2. Lim Koon Guan Peter
3. Lim Jia Wei, Winston



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!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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.



GIVING OF FELLOWSHIP MEALS

**Breakfast: Timon, Charissa, Celine & Beatrice Chiong;
Esther, Peter & Winston Lim**

Lunch: YC & Hong Suen; Elvin & Pat; Kalen & Kai Lam



CONDOLENCES

Heartfelt condolences to Mrs. Helen Lim and family on the demise of her brother-in-law, Mr. Eric Tan. The late Mr. Tan was called home to be with the Lord on Saturday, 29 November 2025. He was 61 years old.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THIS WEEK IN BETHANY

1. Seniors Program

There will be no Seniors Program during the month of December

2. Saturday, 13 December 2025

Post Youth Conference Special I | 3.00pm

"Having made known to us the mystery of His will"

Ephesians 1:9

3. Sunday Ministry, 14 December 2025

a) Sunday School | 8.30am

b) Combined Worship Service | 10.30am

c) Children's Worship I and II | 10.30am

d) Crèche I and II | 10.30am

e) No Catechism Class



YOUTH CONFERENCE 2025

"Reconciled to God"

1. Thank God for another successful YC

We had more than 100 young people at the YC that concluded on Thursday, 4 December 2025. Thank God for His grace and strength given!

2. Heartfelt thanks to:

The Planning Committee

The sponsors

The Camp Cooks

May the Lord continue to lead and to bless the YC attendees!



ANNOUNCEMENTS

POST-YOUTH CONFERENCE SPECIALS 2025

As we have learnt much from Youth Conference, we seek to reflect on the lessons learnt, continue applying them in our lives for the rest of the year and prepare for the year ahead in 2026! We will be having 3 Post-Youth Conference Sessions in December 2025.

Details

13 December 2025

"Having made known to us the mystery of His will" - Ephesians 1:9

20 December 2025

A Christmas Special

"Good tidings of great joy" - Luke 2:10

27 December 2025

"Making mention of you in my prayers" - Ephesians 1:15-19

Time

3.00pm - 4.30pm

Location

Auditorium 4-7/8

Fellowship tea will be provided after each session.

Age

Open to youths aged 12 and above. All are invited.



LETTERS THAT WARM THE HEART

Dear Bethany family,

Both Chris and I are so ever grateful we can be back in Singapore to unite our hearts with all of you in person!

In the past week, my family in Singapore had suffered an unexpected loss in the sudden passing of my uncle-in-law, who is the husband of my mother's youngest sister. My uncle-in-law was 61 years old when he collapsed and passed on during his routine exercise last Saturday. My uncle-in-law was a believer who did not have a Church community that knew him personally.

We are deeply moved by the tremendous support extended by the Pastoral team in our helplessness to see to the funerary details, prior to our arrival at Singapore.

Pastor Ben Quah saw my family at first notice and provided every guidance to them, in their time of deep grief. The Pastoral Team undertook extra responsibilities, on top of Youth Conference ministry, to organise support for music, bulletin, translation and AV.

We are deeply grateful to God for all of you!

It means so much for my family to have this privilege to witness for themselves firsthand, a Christian funeral. They have been blessed to experience your comforting support as a Church family.

Words cannot express our gratitude enough.

We thank God for you!

*Love,
Aldine and family.*

WORSHIP IN SPIRIT AND TRUTH

Psalm 19:12-14

¹² Who can understand *his* errors?

Cleanse me from secret *faults*.

¹³ Keep back Your servant also from presumptuous *sins*;

Let them not have dominion over me.

Then I shall be blameless,

And I shall be innocent of great transgression.

¹⁴ Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart

Be acceptable in Your sight,

O LORD, my strength and my Redeemer.

1. Problems we must take note of

- a) Errors
- b) Secret faults
- c) Presumptuous sins

2. Prayer to the Lord our Redeemer

- a) To be kept from the dominion of presumptuous sins
- b) To be blameless from great transgression
- c) To have our mediation found acceptable in God's sight

BIBLE MEMORY WORK

TODAY 7 December 2025

Text: A light to my path

Your word is a lamp to my feet

And a light to my path. Psalm 119:105

1. God's word gives us the necessary light for life
2. It is well-compared
 - a) To a lamp that lights the path of our feet
 - b) This light is needed in our path of life

14 December 2025

Text: His marvelous light

But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light. 1 Peter 2:9

POETRY CORNER

#1

THE WELLS OF SALVATION

The imagery of Wells was applied to Salvation;
It is a beautiful symbol of great jubilation.
Wells were prized by all who were travelers;
It was life or death for all desert wayfarers.

Wells were the heart and centre of village life;
Without a good supply of water, life would be rife.
Where water was sufficient it brought happiness;
Without water, life would be positively ruinous.

God is the Giver of the Wells of Salvation;
He is not filled with anger or consternation.
Anyone may come and draw water freely;
All may come, even those who are poor and needy.

Let joy fill our hearts as we draw life-giving water;
We need not feel far, nor do we need to falter.
Let us with joy draw from the Wells of Salvation;
The plan of God's Salvation is worthy of meditation.

Charles Tan
Inspiration: Isaiah 12:1-3

POETRY CORNER

#2

Our Father's Love

The Holy Spirit filled Zacharias with insights of a prophet
When he regained his speech, he started to praise God
Enlightened to see His faithfulness to keep His promises as intended
Proclaiming the forerunner and imminent arrival of Christ the Lord

Let us draw inspiration from the example of the transformed Zacharias
Seek to be given the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of God
We will never be able to fully fathom the infinite Being and His ways
Our part is to dredge the Scriptures
and progressively find out a little more of the Lord

Our Father had planned to send the Messiah
as the Light into the world of darkness
Rejoice with exultation that the Lord Jesus has come to redeem His people
He sacrificed His life for sinners through death on the cross
Whoever believes in Him receives the gift of eternal life and no longer struggle

This Christmas meditate on the goodness and love of our Father
Let us remember He gave His only Son to take our punishment for our sins
He provided the way to free us from condemnation while we are still sinners
"Greater love has no one than this, to lay down one's life for his friends"

Jessie Quek

Inspiration: Luke 1:67-68; Ephesians 1:17; John 15:13

POETRY CORNER

#3

The New Heaven and Earth

The tabernacle was where the Jews of old had worshipped God;
The cloud by day and the fire by night symbolized the presence of the Lord.

The First Temple was then built according to God's instructions;
The glory of the Lord was again evident at the Temple's dedication.

But the Jews had sinned and turned away from God;
This resulted in the departure from the Temple of the glory of the Lord.
It was a sad day when all the time and effort that had been employed;
Culminated in the First Temple being totally destroyed.

King Cyrus of Persia had allowed the rebuilding of the Second Temple;
The latter was indeed where the Lord Jesus Himself had ministered.
Yet the Temple's destruction had long been foretold by the Lord Jesus;
Indeed, it was burnt and destroyed by the Roman soldiers.

Today, we look forward to the coming of the Millennial Temple;
Where the presence of God will once again be with men in His tabernacle.
We need to ensure our faith is genuine and our lives are righteous;
Surely we want to be on the side of God and the Lord Jesus.

Thereafter will dawn the New Heaven and New Earth;
Where there will be no more death, nor pain, nor tears of sorrow for sufferers.
This will ultimately be the place of peace and solace for all true believers;
Where the glory of God will prevail forever and ever.

Dr. Sng Li Wah

Inspiration: Exodus 40:34; 2 Chronicles 5:13-14;
Ezekiel 10:18; Matthew 24:1-2; Revelation 21:1-4

POETRY CORNER

#4

BLESSED IS THE LORD GOD OF ISRAEL

There was a priest whose name was Zacharias;
Outwardly, he was considered to be righteous.
In reality, he struggled with darkness and unbelief;
Powerful words sent from God, he did not believe.

God would have to chastise him, for good reason;
He had to learn life changing and poignant lessons.
For 9 months, he was mute and not able to speak;
To search and know the Scriptures, he would seek.

Zacharias learnt to submit to God in obedience;
The gift of prophecy, he was allowed to experience!
He was filled with the Holy Spirit and given light;
There was such clarity and he spoke with insight!

His first word was to exult the Lord God of Israel;
God has been faithfully watching over His people.
He promised to send His Son to be our Redeemer;
May we rejoice greatly in God's gift of our Savior!

Yvette Seow

Inspiration: Luke 1:67-68

ORDER OF WORSHIP



PRE-WORSHIP ITEM

"Only God"

Youth Conference Attendees

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev. Christopher Lai

PRAYER

HYMNS

CP 147 | Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

CP 142 | O Little Town of Bethlehem

MESSAGE

"As He spoke by the mouth of His holy prophets"

Text : Luke 1:70-71

Rev. Dr. Charles Tan

HOLY COMMUNION

HWC 128 | It Came Upon the Midnight Clear

CLOSING HYMN

HWC 131 | Angels from the Realms of Glory

BENEDICTION

OFFERING

POSTLUDE



HYMNS

CP 147 HARK! THE HERALD ANGELS SING

CHARLES WESLEY

1. Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King;
Peace on earth, and mercy mild; God and sinners reconciled!"
Joyful, all ye nations, rise, join the triumph of the skies;
With angelic host proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"

Refrain

Hark! The herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn King."

2. Christ, by highest heav'n adored; Christ, the everlasting Lord!
Late in time behold Him come, offspring of a virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see; hail th'incarnate Deity!
Pleased as man with men to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel.

Refrain

3. Hail the heav'n-born Prince of Peace!
Hail the Sun of Righteousness!
Light and life to all He brings, ris'n with healing in His wings.
Mild He lays His glory by, born that man no more may die;
Born to raise the sons of earth, born to give them second birth.

Refrain



HYMNS

CP 142 O LITTLE TOWN OF BETHLEHEM

PHILLIPS BROOKS

1. O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by.
Yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting Light;
The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.

2. For Christ is born of Mary, and gathered all above,
While mortals sleep, the angels keep their watch of wond'ring love.
O morning stars, together proclaim the Holy Birth,
And praises sing to God the King, and peace to men on earth.

3. How silently, how silently the wondrous gift is giv'n;
So God imparts to human hearts the blessings of His Heav'n!
No ear may hear His coming, but in this world of sin,
Where meek souls will receive Him still the dear Christ enters in.

4. O Holy Child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray;
Cast out our sin, and enter in; be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell;
O come to us, abide with us, our Lord Emmanuel.



HYMNS

HWC 128 IT CAME UPON THE MIDNIGHT CLEAR

EDMUND H. SEARS

1. It came upon the midnight clear,
That glorious song of old,
From angels bending near the earth
To touch their harps of gold:
"Peace on the earth, goodwill to men,
From heav'n's all gracious King!"
The world in solemn stillness lay
To hear the angels sing.

2. Still through the cloven skies they come
With peaceful wings unfurled,
And still their heav'nly music floats
O'er all the weary world:
Above its sad and lowly plains
They bend on hov'ring wing,
And ever o'er its Babel sounds
The blessed angels sing.

HYMNS

3. And ye, beneath life's crushing load,
Whose forms are bending low,
Who toil along the climbing way
With painful steps and slow,
Look now! For glad and golden hours
Come swiftly on the wing:
O rest beside the weary road
And hear the angels sing.

4. For lo, the days are hast'ning on,
By prophets seen of old,
When with the ever-circling years
Shall come the time foretold,
When the new heav'n and earth shall own
The Prince of Peace their King,
And the whole world send back the song
Which now the angels sing.



HYMNS

HWC 131 ANGELS FROM THE REALMS OF GLORY

JAMES MONTGOMERY

1. Angels, from the realms of glory,
Wing your flight o'er all the earth;
Ye who sang creation's story,
Now proclaim Messiah's birth:

Refrain

Come and worship, come and worship,
Worship Christ, the new-born King!

2. Shepherds, in the fields abiding,
Watching o'er your flocks by night,
God with man is now residing,
Yonder shines the infant Light!

Refrain

3. Sages, leave your contemplations,
Brighter visions beam afar;
Seek the Great Desire of nations,
Ye have seen His natal star.

Refrain

4. Saints before the altar bending,
Watching long in hope and fear,
Suddenly the Lord, descending,
In His temple shall appear.

Refrain



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