

BETHANY

INDEPENDENT-
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

God's Kind of Church...

Where God is touching lives...

And people care for people.

Bethany IV ... 28 December 2025

MEDITATION

REV DR CHARLES TAN

TEXT: ISAIAH 35

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Meditation	1
Announcements	3
Worship	6
Bible Memory Work	7
Poetry Corner	8
Order of Worship	13

WITH EVERLASTING JOY

THE HIGHWAY OF HOLINESS

Thank God for a glorious word to conclude 2025 with. This prophetic word speaks of a special Highway to Zion. It is called "The Highway of Holiness."

⁸A highway shall be there, and a road,
And it shall be called the Highway of
Holiness.

MEDITATION

The unclean shall not pass over it,
But it *shall be* for others.
Whoever walks the road, although a fool,
Shall not go astray.

⁹ No lion shall be there,
Nor shall *any* ravenous beast go up on it;
It shall not be found there.
But the redeemed shall walk *there*,

¹⁰ And the ransomed of the LORD shall return,
And come to Zion with singing,
With everlasting joy on their heads.
They shall obtain joy and gladness,
And sorrow and sighing shall flee away. Isaiah 35:8-10

1. Who may not use this Highway

The Unclean

Any ravenous beast

2. Who may have access to this Highway

The redeemed shall walk there

The ransomed shall return

Even the simple can walk there without fear of going astray

3. A glorious promise

Everlasting joy would be given (eternal joy)

Joy and gladness (daily joy)

No sorrow nor sighing

MEDITATION

OUR CHALLENGE

1. To conclude the year 2025 with Joy and Gladness
2. To commence 2026 with determination to walk on the Highway of Holiness

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 be uplifted with joy and gladness through worship and fellowship!



DOWN MEMORY LANE 2025

Our annual Down Memory Lane Service will be taking place at the end of the month.

Last Worship Service for 2025

31 December 2025

8.00pm

Text: Psalm 33

Title: "The eye of the LORD is on those who fear Him" Psalm 33:18

Let us take time to reflect on 2025, and look forward to 2026!



GIVING OF FELLOWSHIP MEALS

Breakfast: Joanna Yam; Oliver Loh

Lunch: Gabriel Ou

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHER'S RETREAT 9-10 January 2026

Studies: Lessons from the prophets of God

Theme: "Strengthened with might through His Spirit in the inner man"

Ephesians 3:16

Text: 1 Kings 19

This Retreat, we will be studying 1 Kings 19, which is a vital chapter about spiritual revival and restoration. We will be looking at the life of Elijah, a great prophet and servant of God.

Through the study of the life and ministry of Prophet Elijah, we hope to:

1. Comprehend the prophetic ministry
2. Be challenged by the testimony of the lives of the prophets
3. Find inspiration to serve the Lord better

Venue: Church Sanctuary

Session details:

Session 1: Friday, 9 January 2026

8:00 - 9:15pm

Session 2: Saturday, 10 January 2026

9:00 - 10:00am

Session 3: Saturday, 10 January 2026

10:30 - 11:30am

Followed by lunch

Sunday School Teachers, please sign up with your respective Sunday School Superintendents.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THIS WEEK IN BETHANY

1. Seniors Program

There will be no Seniors Program this week

2. Down Memory Lane

Wednesday, 31 December 2025 | 8.00pm

3. Saturday, 3 January 2026

- a) YPG/YAG | 2.00pm
- b) Youth Worship | 3.15pm

4. Sunday Ministry, 4 January 2026

- 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



WORSHIP IN SPIRIT AND TRUTH

Psalm 20:5-6

⁵ We will rejoice in your salvation,
And in the name of our God we will set up *our* banners!
May the LORD fulfil all your petitions.
⁶ Now I know that the LORD saves His anointed;
He will answer him from His holy heaven
With the saving strength of His right hand.

1. Rejoicing in the Lord's Salvation
 - a) We may trust in the name of God
 - b) May He fulfil all our petitions

2. Rejoicing in the fact that God answers prayer
 - a) He will answer from heaven
 - b) He will send saving strength to save His anointed

BIBLE MEMORY WORK

TODAY: 28 December 2025

Text: "My light and salvation"

The LORD is my light and my salvation;

Whom shall I fear?

The LORD is the strength of my life;

Of whom shall I be afraid? Psalm 27:1

1. Declaration of Faith

- a) In the Lord
- b) As our Light and our Salvation

2. Decision

- a) Rejection of fear
- b) Rejoicing in God's strength

NEXT SUNDAY: 4 January 2026

Text: How excellent is Your name

O LORD, our Lord,

How excellent is Your name in all the earth! Psalm 8:9

POETRY CORNER

#1

THE HIGHWAY OF HOLINESS

God imputed to believers His righteousness;
He also planned a Highway of Holiness.
This Highway would not be used by the Unclean;
No ravenous beast would be found within.

The Highway of Holiness is for the Ransomed;
God would give grace so that they would be gladsome.
The Redeemed would be filled with joy and gladness;
They would offer great praise to God for His goodness!

The Highway of Holiness would be accessible to the Simple;
The Lord would uphold and guide even those who are gullible.
There is every reason to rejoice in this special provision;
The Lord's blessings would be given to the obedient.

The road to Zion is a glorious Highway for the Redeemed;
The Lord would lead them for they have been saved from sin.
Let the heart of the Redeemed glory in God's plan of salvation;
There is no greater safety than to walk in God's plan of redemption.

Charles Tan

Inspiration: Isaiah 35:8-10

POETRY CORNER

#2

THAT WE MIGHT SERVE HIM

Through Abraham, God gave a Covenant to Israel;
God promised to bless and set apart His people.
He had a high purpose for giving the Covenant;
He wanted His people to be His faithful servants.

But Israel did not appreciate nor heed her calling;
She chose to serve idols and was bent on rebelling.
Still, God would effect His plan of deliverance;
Once again, He would show mercy in abundance.

God's people must learn to correctly reciprocate;
Serving with faith, not fear, is most appropriate!
They are meant to seek holiness and be set apart,
And to serve Him faithfully with all of their heart.

God has been merciful and delivered us from sin;
The redeemed cannot but be moved to serve Him.
We are grateful to serve, despite our sinfulness;
May He transform us to reflect more of His holiness!

Yvette Seow

Inspiration: Luke 1:74-75

POETRY CORNER

#3

To serve the Lord

The Lord Jesus is the mediator of the New Covenant
Born on Christmas day He came to deliver humanity from sins
Saved by His blood it is incumbent on us to serve Him as our commitment
To sing praises bring honour and glory due to Him

To celebrate our Lord's arrival, seek to renew our faith this Christmas
"Present our bodies as living sacrifice holy and acceptable"
Yield to the Holy Spirit and transform to true spirituality from worldliness
Be fearless and give ourselves completely to Him an offering commendable

Let our minds be renewed to be able to discern the will of God
Discover what is pleasing to Him and serve Him with great care
May our service be deeply rooted in our love for the Lord
For to serve the Lord out of duty is meaningless without care

The New Covenant from The Almighty freed believers from bondage to sins
To be delivered from the fear of death through redemption by God
What a blessing and joy to be without fear to serve Him
And to receive salvation a priceless spiritual gift from the Lord

Jessie Quek

Inspiration: Luke 1:74-75; Romans 12:1-2

POETRY CORNER

#4

The New Heaven

Religious intuitiveness still dictates human perceptions and thinking;

Temples remain focal points for worship and spiritual things.

That there is no temple in Heaven, should this thought be a surprise?

Yet, not so for true believers whose names are in the Book of Life.

The great city will be adorned as beautifully as the Lamb's bride;

Its light will be resplendent like precious stones, crystal clear and bright.

The new heaven will have no need for the sun or the moon to shine;

For it will be illumined by the very glory of the Lord Divine.

The ones who have overcome will have the Lord's hidden manna to eat;
And given new names on white stones which the Lord regards that they merit.

There will be no tears as death, pain and suffering will be no more;

The Lord's fountain of the water of life shall quench thirst to the core.

But the new heaven shall be no place for liars, the immoral or unrighteous;

Nor will it be for unbelievers of our Savior, the Lord Christ Jesus.

Let us hasten to reflect and ensure that our faith is steadfast and true;

That we may live to bring glory and honor into the new heaven too.

Dr. Sng Li Wah

Inspiration: Revelation 2:17; 21:22-27

POETRY CORNER

#5

The Dayspring from on high has visited us

Zacharias' story inspires us this Christmas,
It speaks of a God who does not give up on us.
As Zacharias' unbelief gave way to light,
He prophesied of Christ's Ministry with might.

The Lord Jesus is described as the "Dayspring",
It is a beautiful reference to the sun rising.
Tenderly, He comes to meet us where we are,
Bringing light into our lives from heaven afar.

The Lord's light shines through in various ways,
For some, an eternal hope in darkest days.
For some, newfound joy that was once elusive.
Others, stirred by the Spirit to offer holy service.

Having appreciated Christ afresh this Christmas,
May we walk in His precious light given to us.
Together, sharing His love and light to others,
We can be a Church that shines in the darkness.

Jonas Tan

Inspiration: Luke 1:78-79, Matthew 5:14-16

ORDER OF WORSHIP



PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

Dr. Tan Kok Yang

PRAYER

HYMNS

HWC 66 | To God be the Glory
CP 477 | Shine, Jesus, Shine

MESSAGE

“My soul magnifies the Lord”

Text : Luke 1:46-55

Rev. Dr. Charles Tan

CLOSING HYMN

HWC 59 | I Sing the Mighty Power of God

BENEDICTION

OFFERING

POSTLUDE



HYMNS

HWC 66 TO GOD BE THE GLORY

FANNY J. CROSBY

1. To God be the glory, great things He hath done!
So loved He the world that He gave us His Son,
Who yielded His life an atonement for sin
And opened the Life-gate that all may go in.

Refrain

Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!
Let the earth hear His voice!
Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!
Let the people rejoice!
O come to the Father, through Jesus, the Son,
And give Him the glory great things He hath done.

2. O perfect redemption, the purchase of blood,
To every believer the promise of God;
The vilest offender who truly believes,
That moment from Jesus a pardon receives.

Refrain

3. Great things He hath taught us, great things He hath done,
And great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son;
But purer, and higher, and greater will be
Our wonder, our transport, when Jesus we see.

Refrain



HYMNS

CP 477 SHINE, JESUS, SHINE

GRAHAM KENDRICK

1. Lord, the light of Your love is shining,
In the midst of the darkness shining;
Jesus, Light of the World, shine upon us.
Set us free by the truth You now bring us;
Shine on me, shine on me.

Refrain

Shine, Jesus, shine,
Fill this land with the Father's glory;
Blaze, Spirit, blaze, Set our hearts on fire.
Flow, river, flow,
Flood the nations with grace and mercy;
Send forth Your Word,
Lord, and let there be light.

2. Lord, I come to Your awesome presence,
From the shadows into Your radiance;
By the blood I may enter Your brightness,
Search me, try me, consume all my darkness;
Shine on me, shine on me.

Refrain

3. As we gaze on Your kingly brightness,
So our faces display Your likeness;
Ever changing from glory to glory,
Mirror'd here may our lives tell Your story;
Shine on me, shine on me.

Refrain



HYMNS

HWC 59 I SING THE MIGHTY POWER OF GOD

ISAAC WATTS

1. I sing the mighty pow'r of God, that made the mountains rise;
That spread the flowing seas abroad, and built the lofty skies.
I sing the wisdom that ordained the sun to rule the day;
The moon shines full, at His command, and all the stars obey.

2. I sing the goodness of the Lord, that filled the earth with food;
He formed the creatures with His Word,
And then pronounced them good.
Lord, how Thy wonders are displayed, where'er I turn my eye:
If I survey the ground I tread, or gaze upon the sky!

3. There's not a plant or flow'r below, but makes Thy glories known;
And clouds arise and tempests blow, by order from Thy throne:
While all that borrows life from Thee is ever in Thy care;
And ev'rywhere that man can be, Thou, God, art present there.



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