

BETHANY

INDEPENDENT-
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

God's Kind of Church...

Where God is touching lives...

And people care for people.

Bethany IV ... 23 November 2025

MEDITATION

REV DR CHARLES TAN

Text: Isaiah 11

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A ROD FROM THE STEM OF JESSE

A HUMBLE DESCRIPTION

We have a very humble description of the Messiah. It is amazing that the Messiah should be presented with such a humble description!

MEDITATION

¹ There shall come forth a Rod from the stem of Jesse,
And a Branch shall grow out of his roots.

² The Spirit of the LORD shall rest upon Him,
The Spirit of wisdom and understanding,
The Spirit of counsel and might,
The Spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD.

Isaiah 11:1-2

1. The stem of Jesse

Jesse's role in life was not portrayed in any significant manner
He was simply the father of David who became king
Yet from this stem and root the Messiah would come forth

2. The Messiah presented humbly

As a Rod
As a Branch

3. The glorious Holy Spirit

The Holy Spirit would come upon the Messiah in His fulness
Seven features of the Holy Spirit were highlighted:
His Presence would outweigh the humble description of the Messiah

THE SEVENFOLD SPIRIT

1. The Spirit of the Lord
2. The Spirit of wisdom
3. The Spirit of understanding
4. The Spirit of counsel
5. The Spirit of might
6. The Spirit of knowledge
7. The Spirit of the fear of the Lord

MEDITATION

OUR CHALLENGE

1. To be truly humble
2. To seek the filling of the Spirit of God

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 further enlightened spiritually through worship and fellowship!



CONDOLENCES

Heartfelt condolences to Ms. Ho Lianya and family on the demise of her mother, Mrs. Ho Hwee Long née Goh Siew Hoon. The late Mrs. Ho passed away on Saturday, 15 November 2025. She was 81 years old.



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.

Details

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

Venue: Bethany IPC Main Sanctuary

Time: 9.00am to 5.00pm daily

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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.

DETAILS

Date: 6 December 2025, Saturday

Venue: Sanctuary

Time: 3.00pm

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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.



GIVING OF FELLOWSHIP MEALS

Breakfast: Siok & Eric

Lunch: Roger & Lena; Sherman & Zara; Ryan & Rachel

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONGRATULATIONS

Heartfelt congratulations to Joseph and Li Ying on the occasion of their wedding on 22 November 2025. May their marriage be blessed richly!



THIS WEEK IN BETHANY

1. Seniors Program

- a) Combined Seniors Program (Last Seniors Program of 2025)
Tuesday, 25 November 2025 | 9.30am- 11.30am
- b) There will be no Seniors Program on Thursday, 27 November 2025

2. Saturday, 29 November 2025

- a) Pre-Conference Special | 3.00pm
- b) No YPG/ YAG
- c) No Youth Worship

3. Sunday Ministry, 30 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) No Catechism Class
- g) Meet the Session | 1.30pm



LETTERS THAT WARM THE HEART

Dear Pastor,

On behalf of my family, I would like to thank you, the Pastoral Team, and the Church for being there for us in our time of bereavement, as we mourn the passing of my beloved Mum. Though she only visited Bethany twice at our Shangri-La programmes, I remember many brethren who were so gracious and friendly to her and my Dad.

Over the past few days, I'm deeply moved by so many from Bethany who have come alongside to support us, praying alongside, offering to get us food, texting words of encouragement and comfort and more. Many of those texts pointed me back to the Lord's Word and His everlasting promises, as Light that would shine in the midst of darkness. A special thanks to you and Auntie Sally too, for coming to visit soon after touching down from Perth, and praying with my Dad who misses Mum the most. The road ahead will be difficult as we adjust to life without Mum, and the tears will continue to come, but I'm most grateful for my spiritual family in Bethany and for the Lord Jesus, my Good Shepherd who will lead me through the storm.

**Love,
Lianya**

WORSHIP IN SPIRIT AND TRUTH

Psalm 19:7-9

⁷The law of the LORD *is* perfect, converting the soul;
The testimony of the LORD *is* sure, making wise the simple;

⁸The statutes of the LORD *are* right, rejoicing the heart;
The commandment of the LORD *is* pure, enlightening the eyes;

⁹The fear of the LORD *is* clean, enduring forever;
The judgments of the LORD *are* true *and* righteous altogether.

1. The Scriptures are made up of many parts
2. Law, Testimony, Statutes, Commandment, Judgment
3. They have tremendous innate power to bless the faith in many ways

BIBLE MEMORY WORK

TODAY: 23 November 2025

Text: God is light

This is the message which we have heard from Him and declare to you, that God is light and in Him is no darkness at all. 1 John 1:5

1. An old message is repeated here
2. God is indeed Light
3. There is no darkness in Him

NEXT SUNDAY: 30 November 2025

Text: You will light my lamp

For You will light my lamp;

The LORD my God will enlighten my darkness. Psalm 18:28

POETRY CORNER

#1

A BRANCH SHALL GROW OUT OF HIS ROOTS

The Messiah was the “Anointed One” of God;
He was destined to greatness by the Lord.
Yet, the prophecies concerning Him were humbly stated;
The Messiah was simply described as a “Branch” unheralded.

He would come from a humble shepherd’s family;
Jesse was a shepherd who was not famous, truly.
David was one son out of a family of eight children;
But he would become mighty, as decreed by heaven.

The Messiah’s greatness would be confirmed;
The Spirit of God would anoint Him fully.
He would be given the Spirit of God in fulness;
His life would be marked by true righteousness.

The Messiah would be mightily empowered;
His fame would be earned and truly deserved.
He would walk on the earth as the Messiah;
He would ever be the most gracious Saviour!

Charles Tan
Inspiration: Isaiah 11:1-2

POETRY CORNER

#2

The Lord's mercy

Mercy is God giving what we need not what we deserve
He is rich in mercy which never comes to an end
His mercy flows ceaselessly from His heart without reserve
Patient and willing to begin anew with sinners who repent

Mercy is when God forgives us for our wrongs
He gives believers a new life and a living hope
A gift which is undeserved given out of His kindness
Pardoning sins after cleansing from the Holy Spirit is bestowed

Mercy is given when He chastens the ones He loves
He disciplines believers to align them with His will
Guiding them to walk in the path of righteousness
Helping sinners to endure afflictions and ordeals

God's ultimate mercy is sacrificing His Son to redeem humanity
The Lord Jesus was sent into the world to save sinners
What manifestations of mercies from the Holy Trinity
May we learn to extend our love and compassion to our neighbours

Jessie Quek

Inspiration: Luke 1:59-66; Lamentations 3:22-23; Hebrews 12:6

ORDER OF WORSHIP



PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

Deaconess Dr. Jane Tan

Mrs. Cheryl Phang

PRAYER

HYMNS

HWC 309 | Pass It On
CP 331 | Be Thou My Vision

MESSAGE

“Filled with the Holy Spirit”

Text : Luke 1:61-67

Rev. Mark Tan

CLOSING HYMN

HWC 261 | Fill Me Now

BENEDICTION

OFFERING

POSTLUDE



HYMNS

HWC 309 PASS IT ON

KURT KAISER

1. It only takes a spark to get a fire going,
And soon all those around can warm up in its glowing;
That's how it is with God's love, once you've experienced it:
You spread His love to ev'ryone, you want to pass it on.

2. What a wondrous time is spring when all the trees are budding,
The birds begin to sing, the flowers start their blooming;
That's how it is with God's love, once you've experienced it:
You want to sing, it's fresh like spring, you want to pass it on.

3. I wish for you, my friend, this happiness that I've found -
You can depend on Him, it matters not where you're bound;
I'll shout it from the mountain top, I want my world to know:
The Lord of love has come to me, I want to pass it on!



HYMNS

CP 331 BE THOU MY VISION

ELEANOR H. HULL

1. Be Thou my Vision, O Lord of my heart;
Naught be all else to me, save that Thou art:
Thou my best thought, by day or by night,
Waking or sleeping, Thy presence my light.

2. Be Thou my Wisdom, and Thou my true Word;
I ever with Thee and Thou with me, Lord:
Thou my great Father, I Thy true son,
Thou in me dwelling, and I with Thee one.

3. Be Thou my Breastplate, my Sword for the fight;
Be Thou my Dignity, Thou my Delight;
Thou my soul's Shelter, and Thou my High Tow'r:
Raise Thou me Heav'nward, O Power of my pow'r.

4. Riches I heed not, or man's empty praise,
Thou mine Inheritance, now and always:
Thou and Thou only, first in my heart,
High King of Heaven, my Treasure Thou art.

5. High King of Heaven, my victory won,
May I reach Heaven's joys, O bright Heav'n's Sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
Still be my Vision, O Ruler of all.



HYMNS

HWC 261 FILL ME KNOW

ELWOOD H. STOKES

1. Hover o'er me, Holy Spirit,
Bathe my trembling heart and brow;
Fill me with Thy hallow'd presence,
Come, O come and fill me now.

Refrain

Fill me now, fill me now, Jesus, come and fill me now;
Fill me with Thy hallowed presence –
Come, O come and fill me now.

2. Thou canst fill me, gracious Spirit,
Though I cannot tell Thee how;
But I need Thee, greatly need Thee,
Come, O come and fill me now.

Refrain

3. I am weakness, full of weakness,
At Thy sacred feet I bow;
Blest, divine, eternal Spirit,
Fill with pow'r, and fill me now.

Refrain

4. Cleanse and comfort, bless and save me,
Bathe, O bathe my heart and brow;
Thou art comforting and saving,
Thou art sweetly filling now.

Refrain



Bethany Independent-Presbyterian Church

301 Upper Paya Lebar Road. Singapore 534934
tel : 65-62877713 . fax : 65-62877980 . website URL : bethanyipc.sg