

BETHANY

INDEPENDENT- PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

God's Kind of Church...

Where God is touching lives...

And people care for people.

Bethany IV ... 4 January 2026 ... Holy Communion Sunday

MEDITATION

REV DR CHARLES TAN

Text: Psalm 113

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THE HALLEL PSALMS

The word "Hallel" means "praise."

There is a set of Psalms called "Hallel Psalms" (Psalms 113-118). These Psalms were recited during Pesach (Passover week).

¹ Praise the LORD!

Praise, O servants of the LORD,

MEDITATION

Praise the name of the LORD!

² Blessed be the name of the LORD

From this time forth and forevermore!

³ From the rising of the sun to its going down

The LORD's name *is* to be praised. Psalm 113:1-3

1. The Call to offer praise to the LORD

a) God's formal name is employed (LORD)

b) This was the name that God revealed to Moses

2. The historic text

² *And God spoke to Moses and said to him: "I am the LORD.*

³ *I appeared to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, as God Almighty, but by My name LORD I was not known to them.* Exodus 6:2-3

a) "God Almighty"

This was the name of God given to Abraham and the patriarchs

b) LORD

This was the name God used to relate to the children of Israel

OUR CHALLENGE FOR THE NEW YEAR

1. To offer praise to the LORD

2. To offer praise as His servants

3. Let each and every day see us offering praise to the LORD!

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 uplifted through worship and fellowship!



HAPPY NEW YEAR!

The Pastoral Team and Session Members wish all worshippers a Happy New Year!



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



GIVING OF FELLOWSHIP MEALS

Breakfast & Lunch: Pastoral Team and Session



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

ACM

Date: Sunday, 22 February 2026

1.30pm

A new Session would need to be elected
(Term of Office 2026-2029)



FAMILY CAMP 2026

Theme: “Perfecting holiness in the fear of God” 2 Corinthians 7:1

Dates: 15-20 March 2026

Please sign up for camp through the online registration form (scan the QR code below).

If you need further assistance, please go to the registration booth at the Fellowship Hall.

Do ensure that your passport expiry date is after 20 September 2026 before you begin registration.

Let us look forward to a wonderful time of learning what it means to perfect holiness in the fear of God!



ANNOUNCEMENTS

THIS WEEK IN BETHANY

1. Seniors Program
Combined Seniors Program
Thursday, 8 January 2026 | 9.30am- 11.30am

2. Sunday School Teacher's Retreat
 - a) Friday, 9 January 2026 | 8.00pm
 - b) Saturday, 10 January 2026 | 9.00am

3. Saturday, 10 January 2026
 - a) YPG/YAG | 2.00pm
 - b) Youth Worship | 3.15pm

4. Sunday Ministry, 11 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



CONDOLENCES

Heartfelt condolences to Mr. Stanley Chan and family on the demise of his uncle, Mr. Andy Chua Tiong Hoe. The late Mr. Chua was called home to be with the Lord on Friday, 2 January 2026. He was 62 years old.



WORSHIP IN SPIRIT AND TRUTH

Psalm 20:7-9

⁷ Some *trust* in chariots, and some in horses;
But we will remember the name of the LORD our God.

⁸ They have bowed down and fallen;
But we have risen and stand upright.

⁹ Save, LORD!

May the King answer us when we call.

1. Some place their trust in horses
 - a) The word "horses" is a reference to war horses
 - b) But the best of weapons may yet fail

2. The call to trust in the Lord
 - a) The Lord will answer when we call upon Him
 - b) He will lead us to victory

BIBLE MEMORY WORK

TODAY: 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

1. The name of the God : "LORD"
2. His name is truly excellent
3. In all the earth there is no name like His!

NEXT SUNDAY: 11 January 2026

Text: I will praise You, O LORD

I will praise You, O LORD with my whole heart;

I will tell of all Your marvelous works *Psalm 9:1*

ORDER OF WORSHIP



PRE-WORSHIP

"Shine on Us"

Combined Choir & Children's Choir

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev. Mark Tan

PRAYER

HYMNS

10,000 Reasons

CP 310 | Count Your Blessings

MESSAGE

"Forget not all His benefits"

Text : Psalm 103

Rev. Dr. Charles Tan

HOLY COMMUNION

HWC 364 | My Jesus, I Love Thee

CLOSING HYMN

HWC 409 | I Know Whom I Have Believed

BENEDICTION

OFFERING

POSTLUDE



Shine on Us

Words & Music by: Michael W. Smith and Deborah D. Smith

Arranged by: Lari Goss

Performed by: Combined Choir

Lord, let Your light, light of Your face
Shine on us.

Lord, let Your light, light of Your face
Shine on us

That we may be saved,

That we may have life

To find our way in the darkest night.

Let Your light shine on us.

Lord, let Your grace, grace from Your hand
Fall on us.

Lord, let Your grace, grace from Your hand
Fall on us

That we may be saved,

That we may have life

To find our way in the darkest night.

Let Your grace fall on us.

Lord, let Your love, love with no end
Come over us.

Lord, let Your love, love with no end
Come over us

That we may be saved,

That we may have life

To find our way in the darkest night.

Let Your love come over us.

Let Your light shine on us.



HYMNS

10,000 REASONS

MATT REDMAN AND JONAS MYRIN

Bless the Lord, O my soul, O my soul,
Worship His Holy Name.

Sing like never before, O my soul,
I'll worship Your Holy Name.

The sun comes up, it's a new day dawning,
It's time to sing Your song again.
Whatever may pass, And whatever lies before me,
Let me be singing when the evening comes.

Bless the Lord, O my soul, O my soul,
Worship His Holy Name.

Sing like never before, O my soul,
I'll worship Your Holy Name.

You're rich in love and You're slow to anger,
Your name is great, and Your heart is kind.
For all Your goodness, I will keep on singing,
Ten thousand reasons for my heart to find.

Bless the Lord, O my soul, O my soul,
Worship His Holy Name.

Sing like never before, O my soul,
I'll worship Your Holy Name.

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HYMNS

And on that day, when my strength is failing,
The end draws near and my time has come,
Still, my soul will sing Your praise unending;
Ten thousand years and then forevermore.

Bless the Lord, O my soul, O my soul,
Worship His Holy Name.
Sing like never before, O my soul,
I'll worship Your Holy Name.

Worship Your Holy name,
Lord, I'll worship Your Holy Name.



HYMNS

CP 310 COUNT YOUR BLESSINGS

JOHNSON OATMAN JR.

1. When upon life's billows you are tempest tossed,
When you are discouraged, thinking all is lost,
Count your many blessings, name them one by one,
And it will surprise you what the Lord hath done.

Refrain

Count your blessings, name them one by one;
Count your blessings, see what God hath done;
Count your blessings, name them one by one;
Count your many blessings, see what God hath done.

2. Are you ever burdened with a load of care?
Does the cross seem heavy you are called to bear?
Count your many blessings, ev'ry doubt will fly,
And you will be singing as the days go by.

Refrain

3. So, amid the conflict, whether great or small,
Do not be discouraged, God is over all;
Count your many blessings, angels will attend,
Help and comfort give you to your journey's end.

Refrain



HYMNS

HWC 364 MY JESUS, I LOVE THEE

WILLIAM FEATHERSTON

1. My Jesus, I love Thee, I know Thou art mine,
For Thee all the follies of sin I resign.
My gracious Redeemer, my Saviour art Thou:
If ever I loved Thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.

2. I love Thee because Thou hast first loved me,
And purchased my pardon on Calvary's tree.
I love Thee for wearing the thorns on Thy brow:
If ever I loved Thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.

3. I'll love Thee in life, I will love Thee in death,
And praise Thee as long as Thou lendest me breath,
And say when the death dew lies cold on my brow,
"If ever I loved Thee, my Jesus, 'tis now."

4. In mansions of glory and endless delight,
I'll ever adore Thee in Heaven so bright.
I'll sing with the glittering crown on my brow,
"If ever I loved Thee, my Jesus, 'tis now."



HYMNS

HWC 409 I KNOW WHOM I HAVE BELIEVED

DANIEL WHITTLE

1. I know not why God's wondrous grace
To me He hath made known,
Nor why, unworthy, Christ in love
Redeemed me for His own.

Refrain

But "I know whom I have believed,
And am persuaded that He is able
*To keep that which I've committed
Unto Him against that day*".

2. I know not how this saving faith
To me He did impart,
Nor how believing in His Word
Wrought peace within my heart.

Refrain

3. I know not how the Spirit moves,
Convincing men of sin,
Revealing Jesus through the Word,
Creating faith in Him.

Refrain

(Continued on page 15)

HYMNS

4. I know not when my Lord may come,
At night or noontide fair,
Nor if I'll walk the vale with Him,
Or "meet Him in the air".

Refrain



POETRY CORNER

#1

FORGET NOT ALL HIS BENEFITS

“Benefits” is the term used to describe God’s blessing;
This term is apt and wonderfully soul uplifting.
The Lord our God has truly benefitted those who trust;
God’s blessings reflect His grace and His goodness.

Many seek the Lord’s great blessings in life;
But the Lord is forgotten when times are rife!
The challenge is to remember God’s blessings;
Remembering will cause us to be well-pleasing!

The blessings of God are often taken for granted;
They are forgotten and they are not appreciated.
This is surely wrong and harmful to our soul;
To bless the Lord is a truly good and noble goal.

It is good to count our blessings from God;
Our hearts would be enriched by the Lord.
We would find a healthier attitude towards life;
Even when the circumstances are full of strife.

Charles Tan
Inspiration: Psalm 103:1-5

POETRY CORNER

#2

Our loving Father

The Lord has a special regard for the poor and meek
For they are humble and realise the power of God in their lives
The powerful rich take pride in the imagination of their heart so to speak
Don't they know the Lord turns their heart like rivers of water wherever He wishes

Mary was chosen to conceive and bring forth the Son of God
She was but a lowly servant with neither wealth nor social standing
Despite an initial apprehension she responded obediently to the Lord
At a tender age to accept the task which is socially challenging

Meeting Elizabeth encouraged Mary
in shared understanding of the miraculous pregnancy
Bursting with a song she rejoiced and proclaimed
that the Lord had done for her great things
In celebration let us too praise and glorify God for His clemency
A plan through the Messiah who has come to fulfil His covenant promises

In year 2026 let us worship the Lord with renewed and fervent faith
May he grant His grace and mercy to protect refugees and casualties
trapped in conflicts
"Bless the Lord at all times and His praise shall continually be in my mouth"
Exalt His name and seek to be delivered from fears and anxieties

Jessie Quek

Inspiration: Luke 1:46-59; Proverbs 21:1; Psalm 34:1-3

POETRY CORNER

#3

For this reason I bow my knees

As the year 2025 swiftly draws to an end,
We offer thanksgiving for God's gracious hand.
While spiritual progress was seen in some ways,
Weakness in flesh was apparent in other days.

Paul's prayer for the Ephesians is most inspiring;
It reveals where we may also be greatly lacking.
Besides praying for strength in the inner man,
More of Christ's love they had to comprehend.

Paul prayed to be rooted and grounded in love,
Beyond just knowing we are loved from above.
If we truly love the Lord and keep His commandments,
We need not fear being uprooted by life's predicaments.

Coming before our glorious God on bended knee,
May "more love to Thee" also be our earnest plea,
The year ahead may have challenges aplenty,
But our God can do exceedingly abundantly!

Jonas Tan

Inspiration: Ephesians 3:14-21, John 14:21-23

POETRY CORNER

#4

Dancing Tree

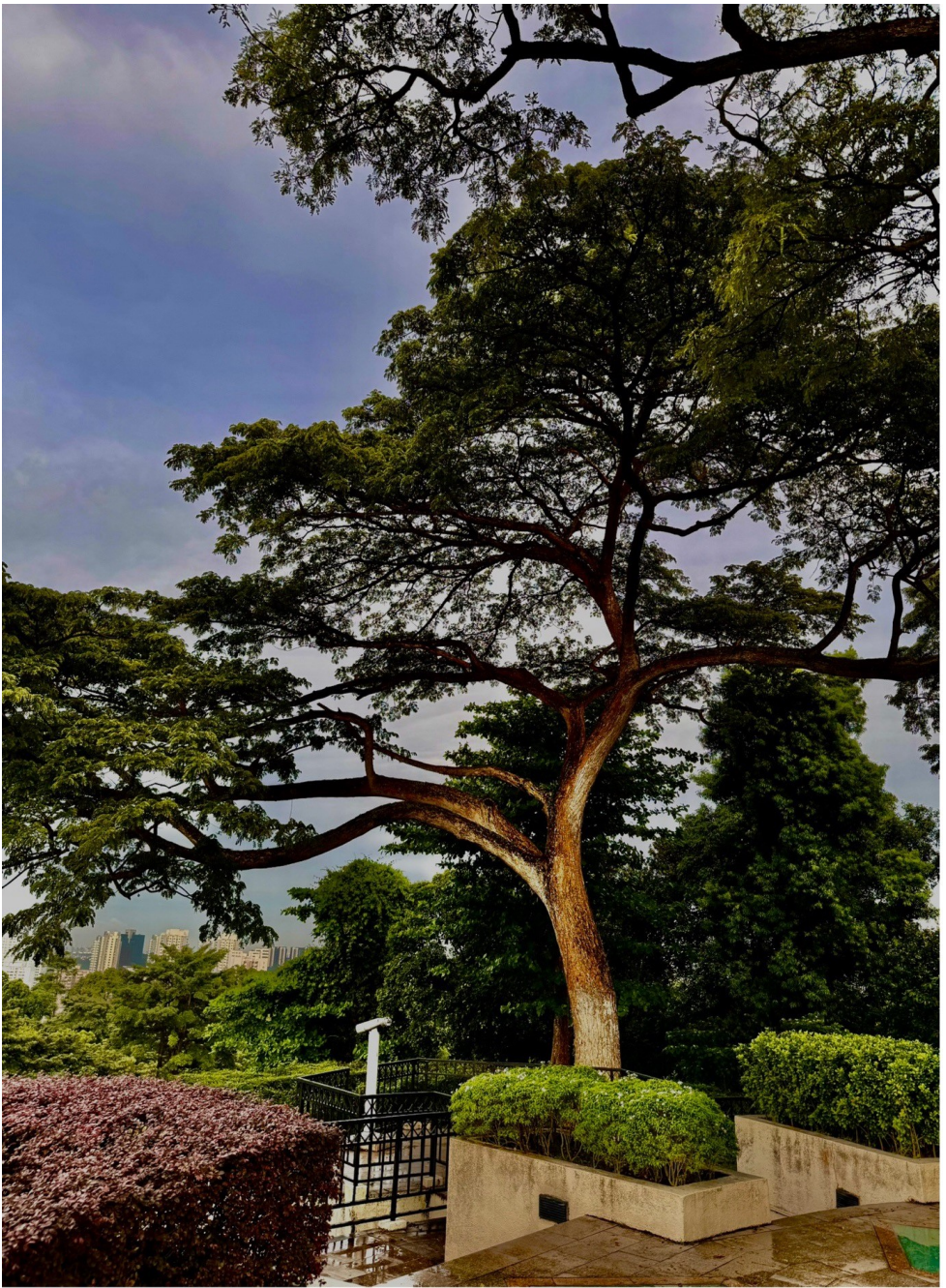
Oh! What a sight to behold!
A tree dances for all to see!
Arching trunk graceful yet bold,
Arms outstretched, fluid with glee.

Dancing tree so strong and free!
How many storms have you weathered?
How deep are your roots, dear dancing tree?
Upon this hill, joyful spirit unfettered!

Up on this hill, my soul magnifies the Lord!
For He is my light, and He is my salvation.
With strength and resilience anchored in God,
May I deepen my roots into His firm foundation.

Oh! Dancing tree! Towards a deeper faith I commit,
Into the glory of His light, I wholeheartedly submit.

Dr. Tan Kok Yang
Inspiration: Psalm 27: 1, Luke 1: 46
A dancing tree



"Dancing Tree" by Dr Tan Kok Yang

Bethany Independent-Presbyterian Church

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