

# BETHANY

INDEPENDENT-  
PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH

*God's Kind of Church...*

*Where God is touching lives...*

*And people care for people.*

*Bethany IV ... 25 January 2026*

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## MEDITATION

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REV DR CHARLES TAN

TEXT: PSALM 114

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## AT THE PRESENCE OF THE LORD

### A BRIEF SUMMARY

In this Hallel Psalm the Psalmist recalled the time when God liberated Israel from slavery under the Pharaoh. This is a beautiful Psalm using imagery artfully.

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# MEDITATION

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<sup>1</sup> When Israel went out of Egypt,  
The house of Jacob from a people of strange language,

<sup>2</sup> Judah became His sanctuary,  
*And* Israel His dominion.

<sup>3</sup> The sea saw *it* and fled;  
Jordan turned back.

<sup>4</sup> The mountains skipped like rams,  
The little hills like lambs.

<sup>5</sup> What ails you, O sea, that you fled?  
O Jordan, *that* you turned back?

<sup>6</sup> O mountains, *that* you skipped like rams?  
O little hills, like lambs?

<sup>7</sup> Tremble, O earth, at the presence of the Lord,  
At the presence of the God of Jacob,

<sup>8</sup> Who turned the rock *into* a pool of water,  
The flint into a fountain of waters. Psalm 114:1-8

## 1. Nature personified

- a) The sea and mountains
- b) Nature trembles at the Presence of God

## 2. The Presence of God

- a) His Presence is truly awesome!
- b) His power is glorious

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# MEDITATION

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## **OUR CHALLENGE**

1. Never take Presence of God for granted
2. To appreciate afresh the Majesty of the Lord our God
3. To praise and magnify Him always

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*Write to me at:* [charlestan@bethanyipc.sg](mailto:charlestan@bethanyipc.sg)

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# ANNOUNCEMENTS

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## **WELCOME TO BETHANY**

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



## **GIVING OF FELLOWSHIP MEALS**

**Breakfast: Berlinda Cheong; Janssen Ho & Annie Cheong**

**Lunch: Janelle Tan; Edward & Elena Koh; Janssen Ho & Annie Cheong**



## **CONGRATULATIONS**

Heartfelt congratulations to Edward and Elena on the occasion of their wedding on 24 January 2026. May their marriage be blessed richly!



## **NEXT SUNDAY**

We will be observing Holy Communion at both the Morning Worship and the Chinese Worship.

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# ANNOUNCEMENTS

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## THIS WEEK IN BETHANY

1. Seniors Program
  - a) Tuesday, 27 January 2026 | 9.30am- 11.30am
  - b) Thursday, 29 January 2026 | 9.30am- 11.30am
  
2. Saturday, 31 January 2026
  - a) YPG/ YAG | 2.00pm
  - b) Youth Worship | 3.15pm
  
3. Sunday Ministry, 1 February 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



## CHINESE NEW YEAR SPECIAL 2026

The details of our Chinese New Year Special Programme this year are as follows:

Date: 28 February 2026, Saturday

Time: 3.00pm

Location: Sanctuary (Level 2)

Followed by Fellowship Tea in the Fellowship Hall (Level 1)

Please sign up at the Booth at the Fellowship Hall on Sundays.



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# ANNOUNCEMENTS

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## FAMILY CAMP 2026

Theme: “Perfecting holiness

Dates: 15-20 March 2026

Overseas pastors will be planning to attend the Family Camp. Let us get to know them better at the Family Camp!

### Registering for Camp:

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!



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# ANNOUNCEMENTS

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## NOTICE OF BETHANY'S ACM

**Date: 22 February 2026 | Time: 1.00pm**

**Venue: Sanctuary**

1. Election of New Session

2026-2029

2. Some changes to take note

- a) Rotation of Pastors to be set in motion
- b) Pastors Mark and Mitchell Tan would step out of the Session for the next round of Elections
- c) Pastors Benjamin Quah and Benjamin Chong would be up for election for the next round
- d) Subsequently, they would step down for another set of pastors to become Session Members

3. Additional names to the Session

- a) Mr. Joshua Phang
- b) Mr. Tang Hong Wee

4. The full list of Session Members (2023-2026)

- a) Mr. George Thomas
- b) Dr. Daniel Chia
- c) Mr. Milton Ong
- d) Dr. Quek Li Wei
- e) Dr. Tang Kong Choong
- f) Mrs. Ng Lay Eng
- g) Mrs. Tan Li Hong
- h) Dr. Jane Tan
- i) Mrs. Tan Hong Suen

They would be seeking to serve for another term as Session Members.



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# WORSHIP IN SPIRIT AND TRUTH

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## Psalm 21:6-7

<sup>6</sup>For You have made him most blessed forever;  
You have made him exceedingly glad with Your presence.

<sup>7</sup>For the king trusts in the LORD,  
And through the mercy of the Most High he shall not be moved.

1. Blessed by the Lord
  - a) Blessed by the Presence of God
  - b) Exceedingly great gladness
  
2. Appropriate response
  - a) To trust in the Lord
  - b) To wait for the mercy of God to be bestowed

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## BIBLE MEMORY WORK

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### TODAY: 25 January 2026

Text: I will love You, O LORD Psalm 18:1

*I will love You, O LORD, my strength. Psalm 18:1*

1. Expression of Love for God
  - a) This is good and healthy
  - b) Not enough expression of love for God
  
2. Experience of God
  - a) His strength
  - b) His gift of strength in times of need

### NEXT SUNDAY: 1 February 2026

Text: Bless the LORD, O my soul Psalm 103:1

*Bless the LORD, O my soul;  
And all that is within me, bless His holy name" Psalm 103:1*

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# POETRY CORNER

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#1

## AT THE PRESENCE OF THE LORD

The Redemptive Story of Israel must be remembered;  
The Presence of God was recalled and treasured.  
The Journey from Egypt to Israel was hazardous;  
But God was there with Power that was marvelous.

The Red Sea proved to be Israel's enemy;  
The Lord's Presence caused the Sea to flee!  
The waves rolled back and Israel crossed over safely;  
The River Jordan also behaved itself most humbly.

The Mountain of Sinai quaked at the Presence of God;  
There was such a display at the majesty of the Lord.  
The hard Rock yielded water for thirsty Israel;  
The Lord's Presence dispelled the fear of Evil.

The Lord has not removed His Presence at all;  
If we have good ears we could hear Him call.  
May our hearts be deeply moved as we ponder!  
May the Lord our God be our special treasure!

Charles Tan  
Inspiration: Psalm 114

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# POETRY CORNER

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#2

## Our Merciful God

Despite God's own declaration of His attributes to Moses;  
Man never truly comprehended His mercy and graciousness.  
The Israelites of old continued to defy God's commandments;  
Even when He had meted out His chastisement.

The truth is that although God had set His statutes, judgements and laws;  
He has not dealt with us according to our sinful flaws.  
Had He decided to punish us according to our wrongdoings;  
Man would have been banished to unspeakable sufferings.

God will forgive us when we sin but if we showed genuine repentance;  
Time and again, He has proven to be full of mercy and forbearance.  
God is righteous and is slow to anger;  
He does not wish to strive with man, nor does He bear grudges.

Now, we are blessed when we read and hear God's word;  
Even more so when we do His commandments afterward.  
Let us treasure and bless God's mercy and graciousness;  
And be very grateful for His love, longsuffering and goodness.

Dr. Sng Li Wah

Inspiration: Psalm 103: 8-10; Exodus 34:5-7; Leviticus 26:18-30;  
Revelation 1:3

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# POETRY CORNER

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#3

## Bless the Lord

The Lord graciously revealed Himself to Moses  
And proclaimed that He is merciful and gracious  
Slow to anger, longsuffering and abounding in goodness  
Forgave Israel who was stiff necked and idolatrous

Praise the Lord for His intrinsic nature and attributes  
Respond to His love by doing His commandments  
Show our love in obeying His will and be of faithful service  
May we not simply articulate the right God talk in manner supercilious

The mercy of the Lord is boundless and knows no limits  
He extends His compassion to all who hold Him In great reverence  
Aware that man is weak, ephemeral and given to temptations  
Bless the Lord for we know Him through His benefits

God reveals His presence to us with each new day  
His Hand drives the order and beauty of the universe  
Executing justice for the oppressed reflects His loving ways  
Stop in pursuit of hectic lives and give thanks for His grace and mercy that  
surrounds

Jessie Quek

Inspiration: Psalm 103; Exodus 34:6-7

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# ORDER OF WORSHIP

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## PRELUDE

**CALL TO WORSHIP**  
*Deaconess Dr. Jane Tan*

## PRAYER

**HYMNS**  
CP 289 | And Can It Be That I Should Gain  
Song No. 2 | Only God

**MESSAGE**  
“Great is His mercy toward those who fear Him”  
Text : Psalm 103:11-13  
*Rev. Benjamin Chong*

**CLOSING HYMN**  
CP 89 | Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

## BENEDICTION

## OFFERING

## POSTLUDE



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## HYMNS

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### CP 289 AND CAN IT BE THAT I SHOULD GAIN

CHARLES WESLEY

1. And can it be that I should gain  
An interest in the Savior's blood?  
Died He for me, who caused His pain—  
For me, who Him to death pursued?  
Amazing love! How can it be  
That Thou my God, shouldst die for me?

Refrain

Amazing love! How can it be  
That Thou, my God, shouldst die for me!

2. He left His Father's Throne above  
So free, so infinite His grace—  
Emptied Himself of all but love,  
And bled for Adam's helpless race:  
'Tis mercy all, immense and free,  
For O my God, it found out me!

*Refrain*

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# HYMNS

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3. Long my imprisoned spirit lay,  
Fast bound in sin and nature's night;  
Thine eye diffused a quickening ray—  
I woke, the dungeon flamed with light!  
My chains fell off, my heart was free,  
I rose, went forth, and followed Thee.

*Refrain*

4. No condemnation now I dread;  
Jesus, and all in Him, is mine;  
Alive in Him, my living Head,  
And clothed in righteousness divine,  
Bold I approach th'eternal Throne,  
And claim the crown, through Christ my own.

*Refrain*



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# HYMNS

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## ONLY GOD

INSPIRED BY ROMANS 5-8

WORDS AND MUSIC BY GABRIEL OUBAL

1. Who could take away our sins?  
Who could free from guilt within?  
Who could make the sinner whole  
And heal the wounded soul?

Who would cleanse and not condemn?  
Who would save the souls of men?  
Who would give His only Son  
So we can be made one?

### **Chorus:**

Only God, Only God  
Only God can make the sinner whole  
And heal the wounded soul

Only God, Only God  
Only God would give His only Son  
So we can be made one  
Only God

2. Who can give us strength to cope,  
For each day – a living hope?  
Who can lend His Spirit's pow'r  
To help in every hour?

Who will lead us on the way,  
Give us grace for every day?  
Who can give us life anew  
So we can be made new?

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# HYMNS

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**Chorus:**

Only God, Only God  
Only God can make the sinner whole  
And heal the wounded soul

Only God, Only God  
Only God would give His only Son  
So we can be made one  
Only God

**Bridge:**

If God would give His only Son,  
So He would give to every one –  
The things we need to grow.  
Our Father surely knows.

**Chorus:**

Only God, Only God  
Only God can make the sinner whole  
And heal the wounded soul

Only God, Only God  
Only God would give His only Son  
So we can be made one  
Only God



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# HYMNS

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## CP 89 PRAISE TO THE LORD, THE ALMIGHTY

JOACHIM NEANDER

1. Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!  
O my soul, praise Him, for He is thy health and salvation!  
All ye who hear, now to His temple draw near;  
Join me in glad adoration!
  
2. Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things so wondrously reigneth,  
Shelters thee under His wings, yea, so gently sustaineth!  
Hast thou not seen how thy desire e'er have been  
Granted in what He ordaineth?
  
3. Praise to the Lord, who doth prosper thy work and defend thee,  
Surely His goodness and mercy here daily attend thee.  
Ponder anew what the Almighty can do,  
If with His love He befriend thee.
  
4. Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me adore Him!  
All that hath life and breath, come now with praises before Him!  
Let the Amen sound from His people again:  
Gladly forever adore Him.



**Bethany Independent-Presbyterian Church**

301 Upper Paya Lebar Road. Singapore 534934

tel : 65-62877713 . fax : 65-62877980 . website URL : bethanyipc.sg