

BETHANY

INDEPENDENT- PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

God's Kind of Church...

Where God is touching lives...

And people care for people.

Bethany IV ... 6 September 2026 ... Holy Communion Sunday

MEDITATION

REV DR CHARLES TAN

TEXT: PSALM 27

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THE HOUSE OF THE LORD

A PROFOUND CONCEPT

King David cultivated a deep affection for the House of the Lord. The amazing fact is that the Temple had not been built. The honour of building the Temple would go to his son, Solomon. How did David understand the House of God?

MEDITATION

⁴ One *thing* I have desired of the LORD,
That will I seek;
That I may dwell in the house of the LORD
All the days of my life,
To behold the beauty of the LORD,
And to inquire in His temple.

⁵ For in the time of trouble
He shall hide me in His pavilion;
In the secret place of His tabernacle
He shall hide me;
He shall set me high upon a rock.

Psalm 27:4-5

1. Many terms were employed to describe the House of the Lord
2. Five terms may be noted in this text
 - a) The house of the Lord
 - b) His temple
 - c) His pavilion
 - d) His tabernacle
 - e) The secret place

MULTIPLE ASPECTS

To David, these different aspects were closely connected. Each aspect had something to contribute. These aspects must be carefully combined to form the doctrine of the House of God.

1. The Tabernacle
This was drawn from Exodus 25
2. The House of God
This was a reference to the abode of God
3. His abode was to be regarded as a Holy Temple
One must never take His house for granted
4. The Pavilion
This was a reference to a Tent that is open

MEDITATION

5. The Secret Place

This is a mystery! How could an open tent also be a secret Place?

OUR CHALLENGE

1. We begin a new Pulpit series (September-October 2026)
2. The Focus is: "The Sanctuary of God"

Let us seek to deepen our understanding of this doctrine of God's house as a sanctuary!

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 through worship and fellowship!



MINISTRY IN PERTH

Pastor Charles will be ministering in Perth (7-14 September 2026).



THANK GOD FOR A MEANINGFUL 53RD ANNIVERSARY SERVICE

1. Thank God for our sponsors
2. Thank God for our organizers
3. Thank God for our Musicians
4. Thank God for all who attended the Worship Service at Shangri La Hotel
5. Thank God for all who have given to support the work of the House of the Lord



ANNOUNCEMENTS

GIVING OF FELLOWSHIP MEALS

Breakfast: Joanna Yam; Patricia Lim; Teo & Angela
Lunch: Sunday School Superintendents



MID-AUTUMN CELEBRATION 2026

We will be having our Mid-Autumn Celebration
in the month of September.

If you wish to attend, kindly sign up at the booth in the Fellowship Hall.

Details:

Date: 19 September 2026, Saturday | Time: 3.00pm
Venue: Bethany IPC Main Sanctuary
Followed by Fellowship High Tea



YOUTH CONFERENCE 2026

"Hold fast what you have" – Revelation 3:11

We start looking forward to the Youth Conference even as we enter the second half of 2026! As we learn about our faith in God, may we seek to hold fast to what we have, ensuring that no one takes away the crown of victory that we can have!

Details

Dates: 30 November 2026 - 3 December 2026 (Monday - Thursday)
Venue: Bethany IPC | Time: 9.00am to 5.00pm daily

Age

Open to youths aged 13 and above.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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 can register online by scanning the QR Code:



THIS WEEK IN BETHANY

1. Seniors Program

There will be no Seniors Program this week

2. Saturday, 12 September 2026

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

3. Sunday Ministry, 13 September 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



ANNOUNCEMENTS

HAPPY TEACHERS' DAY

Happy Teachers' Day to our Pastors, Sunday School Superintendents, and Sunday School Teachers!

We thank God for each of you. Thank you for seeking to help your students cultivate a living faith — one that actively applies the precious truths of God's Word to everyday life. Thank you for being there for your students when they are at life's crossroads. Thank you for constantly encouraging them to be steadfast in the Lord.

We also thank God for our teachers at Beginner Sunday School, Junior Sunday School, and our Special Needs Ministry. Thank you for shaping young hearts with Scripture, prayer, and such tender loving care.

Your love makes a lasting impact. One of our youths recently shared how much he still treasures the cards, notes, and care given to him years ago — a beautiful picture of Christ's enduring love in action.

We thank God for your faithfulness and devotion. Let's press on and keep sowing seeds of faith patiently, trusting that the power of God's Word is at work in the hearts of our students:

"For the word of God *is* living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword."

— Hebrews 4:12a

"All Scripture *is* given by inspiration of God, and *is* profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness."

— 2 Timothy 3:16

As we were reminded at our recent Teachers' Retreat, Elijah's ministry was powerful because of what God accomplished through him. As you contin-

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

(Continued from page 6)

ue sowing seeds of faith, may you invite the Holy Spirit into your teaching and watch Him work in your students' lives.

May God bless you richly as you serve as channels of His living water!
Happy Teachers' Day!

By Deonna Tham on behalf of Bethany Sunday School Superintendents

WORSHIP IN SPIRIT AND TRUTH

Psalm 37:16-17

¹⁶ A little that a righteous man has
/s better than the riches of many wicked.

¹⁷ For the arms of the wicked shall be broken,
But the LORD upholds the righteous.

1. The Righteous

- a) He has but a little of the wealth of this world
- b) But what he has is better than the riches of the wicked for God upholds him

2. The Wicked

- a) He may have riches
- b) But the arms of the wicked would be broken

BIBLE MEMORY WORK

TODAY: 6 September 2026

Text: “He heard me from His holy hill” Psalm 3:4

*I cried to the LORD with my voice,
And He heard me from His holy hill. Psalm 3:4*

1. The Psalmist cried out to God in his distress
2. The Lord heard his cry from His holy hill
3. The Lord’s presence was in His holy hill

NEXT SUNDAY: 13 September 2026

Text: “Offer the sacrifices of righteousness” Psalm 4:5

*Offer the sacrifices of righteousness,
And put your trust in the LORD. Psalm 4:5*

POETRY CORNER

#1

THE HOUSE OF THE LORD

David had a deep understanding of the House of God;
Different terms were employed to describe the abode of the Lord,
Each term used was used to reflect a different aspect;
David had cultivated a deep and profound respect!

Worship of God in the days of the Patriarchs was simple,
An altar could be formed but the worshipper must be spiritual.
Abraham set up many altars to offer worship to the Lord;
His simple worship was accepted because of the mercy of God.

In the days of Moses, the children of Israel had become a nation;
The worshippers must grow in faith and in deep devotion.
The Tabernacle was a pavilion that moved from place to place.
The children of Israel must desire to seek the Lord's face.

The Lord would abide with His worshippers in a simple Tabernacle;
The worshippers must learn to worship God with holy scruples!
How wonderful it is to be able to learn more about the House of the Lord!
May we learn to have the highest regard for the House of God!

Charles Tan
Inspiration: Psalm 27

POETRY CORNER

#2

The Great Works of God

Praise the Lord for His great and significant works
May we take pleasure and delight as we ponder them
Contemplate to understand His creations and their mysteries
Ever passing into deeper and deeper appreciation as He helms

The design of the universe and galaxies displays His infinite power
An Almighty God in control of the orderly functions of nature and the ecosystems
Providing food to those who fear Him shows His loving nature
Consider practising mindfulness of the Lord's actions

Praise the Lord for His vision and works in establishing Bethany Independent
Pastor Charles personally embraced the vision and grew her from a mustard seed
Into her fifty fourth year let us ensure continued growth for our descendants
May we follow the churches at Smyrna and Philadelphia taking heed

Let us proclaim the wonderful great works of the Lord
The works of His Hand are honourable and righteous
What joy to be able to receive blessings from the works of God
Praise the Lord for His faithfulness and holiness

Jessie Quek

Inspiration: Psalm 111; Revelation 2:8-11, 3:7-13

ORDER OF WORSHIP



PRELUDE

Musicians

CALL TO WORSHIP

Deacon George Thomas

Mr. Charles George

PRAYER

HYMNS

HWC 277 | The Church's One Foundation

VIP 420 | A Common Love

MESSAGE

"So I have looked for You in the Sanctuary"

Psalm 63

Rev. Dr. Charles Tan

HOLY COMMUNION

HYMN

HWC 365 | Close to Thee

CLOSING HYMN

HWC 280 | I Love Thy Kingdom, Lord

BENEDICTION

OFFERING

POSTLUDE



HYMNS

HWC 277 THE CHURCH'S ONE FOUNDATION

SAMUEL J. STONE

1. The Church's one foundation is Jesus Christ her Lord;
She is His new creation, by water and the Word:
From Heav'n He came and sought her to be His Holy Bride;
With His own blood He bought her, and for her life He died.

2. Elect from ev'ry nation, yet one o'er all the earth,
Her charter of salvation: one Lord, one faith, one birth;
One holy name she blesses, partakes one holy food,
And to one hope she presses with ev'ry grace endued.

3. 'Mid toil and tribulation, and tumult of her war,
She waits the consummation of peace forevermore,
Till with the vision glorious her longing eyes are blest,
And the great Church victorious shall be the Church at rest.

4. Yet she on earth hath union with God the Three in One,
And mystic sweet communion with those whose rest is won:
O happy ones and holy! Lord, give us grace that we,
Like them, the meek and lowly, on high may dwell with Thee.



HYMNS

VIP 420 A COMMON LOVE

CHARLES F. BROWN

A common love for each other, a common gift to the Saviour,
A common bond holding us to the Lord;
A common strength when we're weary, a common hope for tomorrow,
A common joy in the truth of God's Word.

In His family, we can meet each one's needs
We can light each one's path, we can bear each one's grief;
As His children, we can comfort each care,
We can build each one's faith, we can work, we can share.

A common love for each other, a common gift to the Saviour,
A common bond holding us to the Lord;
A common strength when we're weary, a common hope for tomorrow,
A common joy in the truth of God's Word.

2. In His family, all the love that we show,
All the help that we give, all the life we bestow;
As His children, they're an off'ring we make,
Not expecting return, just a gift for His sake.

A common love for each other, a common gift to the Saviour,
A common bond holding us to the Lord;
A common strength when we're weary, a common hope for tomorrow,
A common joy in the truth of God's Word.



HYMNS

HWC 365 CLOSE TO THEE

FANNY J. CROSBY

1. Thou my Everlasting Portion,
More than friend or life to me;
All along my pilgrim journey,
Saviour, let me walk with Thee.

Refrain

Close to Thee, close to Thee,
Close to Thee, close to Thee;
All along my pilgrim journey,
Saviour, let me walk with Thee.

2. Not for ease or worldly pleasure,
Not for fame my prayer shall be;
Gladly will I toil and suffer,
Only let me walk with Thee.

Refrain

3. Lead me through the vale of shadows,
Bear me o'er life's fitful sea;
Then the gate of life eternal
May I enter, Lord, with Thee.

Refrain



HYMNS

HWC 280 I LOVE THY KINGDOM, LORD

TIMOTHY DWIGHT

1. I love Thy kingdom, Lord,
The house of Thine abode,
The Church our blest Redeemer saved
With His own precious blood.

2. I love Thy Church, O God!
Her walls before Thee stand,
Dear as the apple of Thine eye,
And graven on Thy hand.

3. For her my tears shall fall;
For her my prayers ascend;
To her my cares and toils be giv'n,
Till toils and cares shall end.

4. Beyond my highest joy
I prize her heav'nly ways,
Her sweet communion, solemn vows,
Her hymns of love and praise.

5. Sure as Thy truth shall last,
To Zion shall be giv'n
The brightest glories earth can yield,
And brighter bliss of heav'n.



