

BETHANY

INDEPENDENT-
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

God's Kind of Church...

Where God is touching lives...

And people care for people.

Bethany IV ... 2 December 2018 ... Holy Communion Sunday

MICA (P) No.: 030/10/2012

MEDITATION

✞ REV DR CHARLES TAN ✞

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Text: Isaiah 7

“THE LORD HIMSELF WILL GIVE YOU A SIGN”

CELEBRATING ADVENT

How wonderful it is that we can celebrate Advent once again! And we need never be tired of celebrating Advent year after year! What may we celebrate?

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MEDITATION

(Continued from page 1)

UNDERSTANDING THE WORD "ADVENT"

The word "advent" means "coming." At Christmas, we celebrate the time when Christ Jesus came into the world.

A SIGN DESIGNED BY GOD HIMSELF

Many struggle with faith in God, in the past and also in the present. God, in His infinite wisdom and grace designed a special sign to generate faith in Him!

*Therefore the LORD Himself will give you a sign:
Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a Son,
And shall call His name Immanuel." Isaiah 7:14*

1. The LORD Himself will give you a sign
 - a) This sign was designed by God Himself
 - b) It would be a sign that is truly:
 - i) Miraculous
 - ii) Spectacular
 - iii) Unique
 - iv) Wondrous
 - c) It will be so outstanding because:
 - i) It would involve God Himself
 - ii) It would take a miracle
 - iii) It would take divine power

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(Continued from page 2)

iv) It would be undeniable

At Advent, we celebrate the majesty of the Person and Power of God Himself!

2. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a Son

a) The impossible will become possible

b) A virgin shall conceive

i) Impossible, humanly speaking

ii) But this was a special work of God Almighty

iii) This sign would take place

3. You shall call His name, Immanuel

a) Immanuel means "God with us"

b) Jesus exemplified what this truly means. He was indeed "God with us!"

We have every reason to rejoice and celebrate Advent, the first coming of Jesus. We celebrate His deity dwelling among mankind! †

Write to me at: charlestan@bethanyipc.sg

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! †

*Welcome
to Bethany IV*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

A SPECIAL WORD OF WELCOME

1. To our brethren from overseas
(Australia and South Korea)
 2. To all our new friends attending the Youth Conference †
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MEET THE SESSION

All baptismal candidates will be meeting with the Session today:

1. Venue: Auditorium 4.01
 2. Time: 12.30pm †
-

YOUTH CONFERENCE

The Youth Conference commences today! Let us look forward to the Lord's blessing on all coming for the Youth Conference!

Let us pray for all involved in the Youth Conference! †

HEARTFELT CONDOLENCES

Our heartfelt condolences go to Mrs. Linda Then on the demise of her husband Mr. Then Ah Sam. The late Mr. Then was called home to be with the Lord on 27 November 2018.†

THE CHRISTMAS CANDLES

2 December 2018

1st Candle

The Prophecy Candle

9 December 2018

2nd Candle

The Bethlehem Candle

16 December 2018

3rd Candle

The Shepherds' Candle

23 December 2018

4th Candle

The Angels' Candle †

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHRISTMAS CAROLLING

Saturday, 8 December 2018

Time: 4.00pm

Last chance to sign up. Please indicate:

1. If you are 65 and above
2. If you are 12 and below

Let us look forward to a wonderful time of worship and fellowship.

"The special may be found in the ordinary,
The simplest of things become extraordinary." †

CHRISTMAS AT SHANGRI LA

Plan to book your Christmas table at Shangri La today. Let us plan to worship the Lord joyously at Shangri La on Christmas Day! †

WORSHIP IN SPIRIT & TRUTH

Psalm 96:1-2

*Oh, sing to the LORD a new song!
Sing to the LORD, all the earth.*

*Sing to the LORD, bless His name;
Proclaim the good news of His salvation from day to day.*

1. Our worship of God

- a) Singing is a good expression of worship
- b) Let us be inspired to sing to the Lord a new song
- c) Three times the word "singing" is employed
 - i) For emphasis
 - ii) For strong encouragement

2. Blessing the Lord's name

- a) To praise His name
- b) To proclaim the good news of His salvation

3. Celebrating Advent

- a) Let us sing to the Lord
- b) Let us proclaim the salvation God gives
- c) Let us find great joy this Advent ✠

JOY AT CHRISTMAS

As carols ring out at every corner of the city;
Our hearts are filled with much joy and felicity.
Gifts are carefully chosen and wrapped with much love and care;
There's no mistaking that Christmas is in the air.

Sometimes, amidst the pomp and festivity;
We risk relegating the real meaning of Christmas to obscurity.
There is only one reason we commemorate Christmas;
It is because of God's Gift to man in the birth of Christ Jesus.

Go back two thousand years to that propitious night;
The birth of the Lord Jesus, though humble, must surely be a glorious sight.
The wise men from the East had seen an unusual star from afar;
For months, they had followed it and rejoiced exceedingly when they finally found His star!

Let not our joy at Christmas be derived from mere merrymaking and presents;
True joy must well from the hearts of those who abide by Christ's presence.
May we experience the true and blissful joy of Christmas today;
Just like our forefathers did on that very first Christmas Day.

Inspiration:

"When they saw the star, they rejoiced with exceedingly great joy."

Matthew 2:10

Dr. Sng Li Wah

(HOLY COMMUNION POEM)

IMMANUEL- GOD WITH US

Two names were given which had great symbolic meaning;
"Immanuel-" was a name that was unique and outstanding!
It would take no less than Deity to wear that Name;
Jesus wore that Name wonderfully, totally without blame!

"Jesus" was the other name given to the Lord,
He was sent to save people by our great God!
He lived up to His Name and we bless Him;
He shed His blood for us that we may be clean!

Jesus lived as God had planned, in every detail;
Over the hardest of difficulties, He would prevail.
He came to show us the way we should live;
We may overcome all trials if only we believe!

God knows that the trials of life can get us down;
Jesus shows us how to wear a thorny crown.
With deepest dignity He suffered and died,
May we ever love our Lord, Jesus the crucified!

Inspiration: Isaiah 7:14 (Immanuel); Matthew 1:21 (Jesus)

Charles Tan †

BIBLE MEMORY WORK

TODAY: 2 DECEMBER 2018

MATTHEW 2:10

THEY REJOICED WITH EXCEEDINGLY GREAT JOY

When they saw the star, they rejoiced with exceedingly great joy.

1. The Bethlehem Star was a special sign from God
2. The Wise Men's Joy
 - a) They understood the significance of the Star
 - b) They appreciated even more the appearance of the Star which was for a while lost to them
3. Finding Joy
 - a) We have more than a Star to guide us
 - b) We have the Lord and the Word of God to give us much-needed light

NEXT SUNDAY: 9 DECEMBER 2018

LUKE 1:47

REJOICED IN GOD

And my spirit has rejoiced in God my Saviour. †

THEME : REJOICED WITH EXCEEDINGLY GREAT JOY

THIS WEEK @ WORSHIP

COMBINED WORSHIP SERVICE
10.30 AM . CHURCH SANCTUARY

"My spirit has rejoiced in the Lord"
Luke 1:46-55

Chairmen

Rev Mark Tan
Student-Pastor
Eugene Seow

Pianist

Mrs Esther Ang

Organist

Mrs Sally Tan

Speaker

Rev Dr Charles Tan

Interpreter

Dr Jane Tan

TEENS' WORSHIP SERVICE

NO TEENS WORSHIP SERVICE

CHILDREN'S CHURCH
10.30 AM

Prophecy Candle:
"You shall call His name Jesus"
Matthew 1:18-25

CC I: P1—P3
3rd Floor
Auditorium 3-1

CC II: P4—P6
4th Floor
Auditorium 4-1

Speaker
Mrs Joanne Tan

Speaker
Miss Camille George

**EVENING-BILINGUAL
WORSHIP SERVICE**

**NO COMBINED EVENING-BILINGUAL
WORSHIP SERVICE**

Breakfast : Pastor Mitch's Discipleship Class
Fellowship Lunch : Mark Tan (Jr) & Louis Poey

Bethany Church Activities

	Day	Time	Venue	Location
WORSHIP SERVICES				
Morning Worship Service	Sun	10.30 am	Church Sanctuary	2 nd floor
Children's Worship I (P1 – P3)			Auditorium 3-1	3 rd floor
Children's Worship II (P4 – P6)			Auditorium 4-1	4 th floor
Teens' Worship Service			Auditorium 3-8	3 rd floor
Combined Evening-Bilingual		4.00pm	Auditorium 4-7 & 4-8	4 th floor
SUNDAY SCHOOL				
Crèche	Sun	8.30am 10.30am	Green Turf	1 st floor
Beginners' Sunday School		8.30am	Auditorium 2-1	2 nd floor
Junior Sunday School I			Auditorium 3-1	3 rd floor
Junior Sunday School II			Auditorium 4-8	4 th floor
Intermediate Sunday School			Auditorium 3-8	3 rd floor
Senior Sunday School I			Fellowship Hall	1 st floor
Senior Sunday School II			Main Sanctuary	2 nd floor
Senior Sunday School III			Prayer Room 4-1	4 th floor
Senior Sunday School IV			Auditorium 4-1	4 th floor
Special Needs Ministry			Auditorium 4-7	4 th floor
CHOIRS				
Singing Kakis	Thurs	8.00 pm	Auditorium 3-2	3 rd floor
One Voice	Sat	5.00 pm	Auditorium 4-8	4 th floor
Youth Choir		5.00 pm	Auditorium 3-1	3 rd floor
Evergreens	Sun	1.00 pm	Auditorium 3-1	3 rd floor
BIBLE STUDY				
Church Bible Study	Tue	8.00 pm	Church Sanctuary	2 nd floor
Home Bible Study	2 nd and 4 th Thurs	3.00 pm	-	-
Mandarin Bible Study	1 st and 3 rd Fri	7.30 pm	4 th Floor Auditorium	4 th floor
CATECHISM CLASS				
	Sun	1.00 pm	Auditorium 4-8	4 th floor
PRAYER MEETING				
	Mon	8.00 pm	Church Sanctuary	2 nd floor
FELLOWSHIP GROUPS				
Young People's Group I	Sat	3.00 pm	Auditorium 2-1	2 nd floor
Young People's Group II			Auditorium 3-8	3 rd floor
Young People's Group III			Auditorium 3-1	3 rd floor
Young Adults' Group			Auditorium 4-7 & 4-8	4 th floor
Young Married Group			Auditorium 4-1	4 th floor
Adults' Ministry		4.00 pm	Auditorium 4-1	4 th floor

Bethany Independent-Presbyterian Church

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

COMBINED WORSHIP SERVICE
2 December 2018
Order of Worship

PREPARATION

Pre-Worship Singing

Pianist : Mrs Esther Ang
Organist : Mrs Sally Tan

Century Praise 119

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

Prelude

Call to Worship

Rev Mark Tan
Student-Pastor Eugene Seow

Invocation

PRAISE

Hymns

Century Praise 148

O Come, All Ye Faithful

Century Praise 143

Good Christian Men, Rejoice

Century Praise 130

One Small Child

PRAYER

Pastoral Prayer

“PREACH THE WORD”

Message: “My spirit has rejoiced in the Lord”

Text : Luke 1:46-55

Speaker: Rev Dr Charles Tan

THE LORD’S SUPPER

Hymn

HWC No. 189

Calvary Covers It All

Partaking of the Bread

Hymn

Century Praise 189

When I Survey The Wondrous Cross

Partaking of the Cup

RESPONSE

Offering

Hymn

Century Praise 153

What Child Is This?

Prayerful Meditation

Benediction

Postlude



BETHANY

INDEPENDENT-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
SINGAPORE

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And people care for people.*

PASTORAL LETTER

2 DECEMBER 2018

SENIOR PASTOR : REV DR CHARLES TAN

Dear Brethren,

COMMENCEMENT OF THE YOUTH CONFERENCE

The Youth Conference commences today! This ministry is one of the most significant ministries in Bethany.

1. Support of this Youth Conference
 - a) It comes in many forms
 - b) We have many seeking to serve in any way they can
 - i) As Bible Study teachers
 - ii) As auxiliary helpers (AVA)
 - iii) As sponsors
 - iv) As Camp Committee Members
 - v) As people who will be praying alongside
 - vi) As Camp cooks

The list goes on! How our hearts must rejoice in the Lord's provision of so many who are deeply committed to ensure the success of the Youth Conference.

2. The theme of the Youth Conference is most apt: "A wise master builder."
 - a) The Apostle Paul was the one whose life was truly outstanding
 - b) The following features may be noted about his life and ministry:
 - i) It was well-founded
 - ii) It was well-planned
 - iii) It was well-built
 - c) Consequently, his life and ministry were so well-blessed by the Lord.

Let us pray that this year's Youth Conference would be wonderfully blessed by the Lord. Few things are as important as seeing our young people blessed!

*Prayerfully,
Pastor Charlie*