

...The day of the Lord will come...

1 Thessalonians 5:2

Art by Louise Lau

VOL 11 NO 5

2 February 2020

8.30 & 10.30 am

Order of Service

Prayers & Prelude

Call to Worship

*Doxology

*Opening Hymn: Beautiful Saviour, King of Creation

Responsive Scripture Reading: Proverbs 20:10-17 KJV

Worship in Song

Scripture Reading: 1 Thessalonians 2:13-16 ESV

Message: Endurance in Persecution

*Response Song: When Trials Come

Holy Communion

The Bread: O the Deep, Deep Love of Jesus

The Cup: When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

Corporate Life & Prayer

Offering & Offertory Response

*Closing Hymn: In Christ Alone

Benediction

Announcements

Postlude

*Congregation stands

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Welcome

We are pleased to welcome you to worship with us. If you are new to Zion Bishan, do speak to an usher or hospitality team member to find out about our faith, or about our activities and programmes. You may also approach the Info Desk after service.

Our Sunday services and activities

8.30 am

English service — *Sanctuary L1*

Children's Discipleship — *please ask at the Hospitality or Info Desk*

Mandarin service — *Chapel L4*

(8.45 am) Domestic Helpers Fellowship (English) — *Room 105 L1*

9.00 am

Hokkien service — *Auditorium 2 L4*

10.30 am

English service — *Sanctuary L1/2*

Cantonese-Mandarin service — *Chapel L4*

Tamil service — *Music Room L3*

Mandarin-English service — *MPH L1*

Domestic Helpers Fellowship (English-Indonesian) — *Room 103 L1*

Children's & Youth Discipleship — *please ask at the Hospitality or Info Desk*

1.30 pm

Adult Discipleship Class — *see below*

5.00 pm

English service — *MPH L1*

Serving You Today

Speaker: Mr Quek Tze-Ming.

Worship Ministry Team: A. *Music Team:* B. *Song Leader:* Jeannette Thia.

8.30 am: *Coordinator:* Keith Ong & Janna Wong. *Worship Ldr:* Elder Sonny Tan.

Responsive Scripture Reading: Moses Thia. *Scripture Reading:* Sneha Peter.

10.30 am: *Coordinator:* Roy Leong. *Worship Ldr:* Elder Foo Say Chiang. *Responsive Scripture Reading:* Madeline Chu. *Scripture Reading:* Jeremy Khoo.

Pastors and Ministry Staff

E-mail: *user ID* followed by @zionbishan.org.sg

Rev Dr Alby Yip, *Senior Pastor* *alby*

Rev Dr Dev Menon, *Pastor* *dev*

Rev Zheng Haoren, *Pastor (Comm Dev't)* *zhenghr*

Rev Dr Steven Tan, *Pastor* *steven*

Rev Ebinezar Mohan, *Pastor (Tamil)* *ebi*

Rev Kew See Seong, *Pastor (Mand)* *sskew*

Rev Lim Jit Thye, *Pastor (Cant-Mand)* *jtlim*

Rev Daniel Nge, *Pastor (Mand-Eng)* *daniel*

Mrs Emily Quek, *Special Projects* *emily*

Mrs June Tan, *Children's Ministry* *june*

Mrs Ruth Quek, *Children/Y. Adults* *ruth*

Mrs Sharon Quek, *Trg/Mobilisation* *sharon*

Mr Timmy Ng, *Youth Ministry* *timmy*

Mr Vernon Quek, *Young Adults/AGs* *vernon*

Mr Darrell Tan, *Communications* *darrell*

Deacon Paul Yeo, *Hokkien Ministry* *paul*

Mr Quek Tze-Ming, *Assoc Min Staff* *tzeming*

Rev Dr David Wong, *Advisory Pastor*

Rev Dr Quek Swee Hwa, *Pastor Emeritus*

Confidential Care & Counselling e-mail:
care@zionbishan.org.sg

Adult Discipleship Class

Learning to Rest in God

2 February, 1.30–3.30 pm, L4 Auditorium

By Sharon Quek

Endurance in Persecution

1 Thessalonians 2:13-16

2 February 2020
Mr Quek Tze-Ming

Introduction

Thanksgiving for the Thessalonians

“you accepted it ... as ... the Word of God” (v. 13)

Suffering in Solidarity

“you became imitators of the churches ... in Judea.
For you suffered the same things ...” (v. 14)

“wrath has come upon them” (v. 16)

Reflection Questions

1. In what ways does accepting the word of God as the word of men differ from accepting it was the word of God? (v. 13)
2. The Thessalonians, too, like Paul, have already suffered for their faith. And this suffering is evidence of the work of God in their lives (vv. 14-16). How do Christians today react to suffering?
3. When Paul says “Jews” in v. 14 he doesn’t simply mean all Jews, but those in Judea so bitterly opposed to Jesus they handed him over to the Romans for crucifixion, and opposed the believers who met after Jesus’ resurrection (see the early chapters of Acts). They hindered believers “from speaking to the Gentiles (and Jews!) that they might be saved” (v. 16). What reasons do people have today for not wanting this message to go into all the world?
4. From our bulletin prayer section and/or mission focus, select two areas of the world where Christians suffer persecution for Christ’s sake and spend some time in prayer for them.

Prayer Points

Our Church

Thessalonians — To the early church, persecution was expected. Pray that we will grow in owning this aspect of our faith, and not be afraid to pay a price for living according to God's ways. May we also pray for persecuted Christians around the world. For more info: www.opendoorsusa.org/prayer-resources/

Christianity Explored (5 Feb) — Praise God for the participants who have been returning each week, some staying back to continue discussion till 10 pm. This week is the midway point of the course, on the topic of the cross. Pray that the Holy Spirit will continue to do His work in participants' lives and hearts to reveal the reality of God and the gospel.

Tuition Ministry (6 Feb) — Thank God for the new year of ministry that is beginning. Pray for the tutors and students to build a good relationship, and have productive time each week.

Our People

Pastor Alby — He has begun his sabbatical (Feb to Apr). Continue to pray for his physical recovery and spiritual renewal (see pp 7–8), as well as for strength and health for Vivienne and the rest of the family.

Our World

Ipoh Trip (6–8 Feb) — Pray for fruitful ministry for Pastor Ebi and Hong York, and for God to watch over their safety and health.

Coronavirus Outbreak — Pray for the Chinese government to sustain its response to the epidemic, that loss of lives may be minimised. Pray for medical and government workers, especially in locations that are overwhelmed by the scale of the needs. Pray for Chinese Christians to be strong in faith, to have peace and hope in God, as a clear witness in the face of fear and suffering.

Brexit — The UK left the European Union on 31 Jan. Pray for the UK and European churches to rise above national perspectives, vividly witness to God's love for people of all nations, condemn xenophobia, serve refugees, and work for societies that manifest peace and justice.

Pray for churches, mission agencies, and theological schools that will lose the benefits of freely operating across all the EU countries, that they will seek God's leading. Pray that discipleship, church planting, and missions efforts will find ways to continue playing their part.

Last Week

Service	Attendance	Offering (\$)
English 8.30 am	239	11,839.00
English 10.30 am	424	13,029.00
Children's Discipleship	62	
English 5 pm	30	2,202.00
Combined Chinese	242	4,748.00
Tamil	13	455.00
TOTAL (*excl. ADCs)	1,010	32,273.00
Use of Premises		680.00
Electronic Transfer		7,331.65
WEEKLY TOTAL		\$40,284.65

Weekly offering to meet budget for 2019/20: \$61,901

Land Lease Renewal Fund

Gifts Nos. 1459-1470	12,175.00
Hongbao Offering	374.00
Electronic Transfer	2,732.00
Weekly Total	15,281.00

(Weekly Target: \$113,854)

Total To Date **\$3,806,919.22**

Info for Giving

General & Missions Fund

DBS Current A/C: 070-901056-3

PayNow: T10SS0029GGMF

ZION BISHAN BP CHURCH



Land Lease Renewal Fund

DBS Current A/C: 070-901055-5

PayNow: T10SS0029GGPF

ZION BISHAN BP CHURCH – GPF

(please indicate *Land Lease*

Renewal Fund on back of cheque)

Please provide your *CONTACT NUMBER* on each cheque



Your Response

2 February 2020

NAME

PHONE

E-MAIL

You may e-mail your response to **office@zionbishan.org.sg**

PLEASE TICK AS APPROPRIATE

I would like to:

- sign up for an activity
- request prayer
- give feedback
- send a word of encouragement
- other:

RESPONSE DETAILS:

(more space overleaf)

Please note that the church will retain and use your submitted data as needed to process your indicated response.

HAND YOUR RESPONSE TO AN USHER, THE INFO DESK, OR PUT IT IN THE OFFERING BAG

FOLD AND TEAR ALONG LINE TO DETACH

Church Family News

1. Pastor Alby is on sabbatical leave till end April.

Looking Ahead

Friday 7 February

8.00 pm: Friday Prayer Meeting, MPH, Level 1. Faith Cluster chairing.

Sunday 9 February

Worship Ministry Team: B. Music Team: B.

8.30 am: *Coordinator:* Klein Aw & Timothy Sng.
Worship Ldr: Elder Roland Low. *Responsive Scripture Reading:* Mary Seah. *Scripture Reading:* Rosie Wee.

10.30 am: *Coordinator:* Colin Chua. *Worship Ldr:* Elder David Leong. *Responsive Scripture Reading:* Chew Ping Nan. *Scripture Reading:* Peter Yap.

Morning Service Series: The Thessalonian Letters

- 9 Feb 1 Thess 2:17–3:13 Paul’s Love, Pride, and Concern – Mr Vernon Quek
- 16 Feb 1 Thess 4:1-13 How to Walk and Please God
- 23 Feb 1 Thess 4:13-18 Hope for Those who are Asleep

Evening Service February Series:

Songs of Experience

- 2 Feb Psalm 73
Elder David Leong
- 9 Feb Psalm 2
Mr Quek Tze-Ming
- 16 Feb Psalms 149–150
Mr Vernon Quek
- 23 Feb Psalm 119 (excerpts)
Deacon Chan Kin Yip

*THANKS FOR YOUR RESPONSE!
YOU MAY HAND IT TO AN USHER
OR THE INFO DESK, OR PUT IT IN
THE OFFERING BAG*

All Things Work Together for the Good...

Romans 8:28 is perhaps the most quoted verse especially in adversity: “And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.” I have thought and taught about this verse on many occasions. When appropriate, I have shared this with people who are going through challenges in their lives.

I have clung on to God’s promise when my children were suddenly hospitalized and with Vivienne’s increasing bodily pains. But Romans 8:28 took on a very personal dimension at the strike of 12 midnight between 2019 and 2020. I was in Chiang Mai accompanying Shawn who after winning the softball championships was given a night out for the New Year countdown.

I stayed near him and his teammates in case they needed help. But as it turned out, when everybody was celebrating with fireworks and wishing-lanterns ushering in the new decade, rogue fireworks exploded in my palm causing a deep gash between the thumb and index finger and lacerations on my middle finger. Lots of people were surrounding me, but I felt so alone.

However, my eyes were somehow drawn up to the sky when the initial shock subsided. But my gaze was directed beyond the fanfare of the fireworks and scintillating glitter of the wishing-lanterns. Within the yonder darkness, I experienced the comforting embrace of Romans 8:28.

My middle finger’s wound is still recovering and I still have some way to go to regain the use of my dominant right hand. To be honest, I have yet to experience the full extent of the “all things work together for good” behind what has happened. However, in the course of these past 33 days, I have encountered many showers of God’s grace on my dry land of anguish.

A sudden prompting to buy travel insurance before the flight. I was sent to a rather small hospital, but the surgeon did the best procedure, as attested by three top Singaporean surgeons. Concerned Christians whom I did not know visited and prayed for me in a foreign hospital. Shawn’s team-mate’s parents happened to be on my rescheduled flight and were most helpful. Church members prayed, visited and cooked for my family. Colleagues gladly shouldered my duties at a moment’s notice, and many more.

My cup overflows. Our usual understanding of Romans 8:28 is limited to what “good” will happen for us in our sufferings. Perhaps the “all things” is really about how God works through the whole Body of Christ to fulfil His purposes and not just solely for my benefit. But to be sure, I believe that there are still things which God would have me grasp.

>> continued on last page

Announcements

CNY Thanksgiving

Hongbao Offering

Today

We are having our annual *hongbao* offering; this year's collection goes to LLRF.

Jesus on the Silver Screen:

Portrayals of Jesus and Christ

Figures in Film

BGST Course at Zion Bishan

Tuesdays, 4 Feb – 5 May, 7.15–10.00 pm

What do portrayals of Jesus in modern films say about contemporary society?

Lecturer: Quek Tze-Ming.

For more info: bgst.edu.sg/course/85

Kairos Course:

God, the Church and the World

9 Saturdays: 15 Feb – 4 Apr, 9.30 am –

12.30 pm; 11 Apr, 9 am – 5 pm

Level 4, Auditoriums 1 & 2

Get deeper into God's plan in the Bible, and how we can live according to His purposes.

Nine sessions include worship, devotions, short lectures, videos, group discussions, and other specially designed activities.

Subsidised cost for Zion Bishan registrants: \$30 (for refreshments and all materials).

Register at the booth, or contact Sharon:

sharon@zionbishan.org.sg

Extraordinary Congregational Meeting (Budget Approval)

23 February, 1.30 pm, Sanctuary

For all communicant members only.

Please inform the church office if you will be overseas. Child care provided for children aged 3–10.

Vacancy for Youth Ministry Staff

We are currently on the lookout for a full-time Youth Ministry Staff at Zion Bishan.

The person will be involved in running our regular youth ministry programs, including Youth Discipleship and Youth Fellowship, as well as discipling teenagers on a personal basis. The applicant should be a committed Christian, from 25–45 years of age, who has served in some form of youth ministry for at least 2 years. Training will be provided through the EXCEL apprenticeship scheme.

More details can be given upon request.

Please email your application to Pastor

Dev: dev@zionbishan.org.sg

Couples Retreat:

Love in Every Season

23–25 May, Le Grandeur Hotel, JB

Come, learn and enjoy time together with your spouse. Learn ways to deepen your friendship and mend fissures so that your marriage remains respectful and engaging. More info at the registration table.

>> *continued from previous page*

To this end, I seek your prayer as I enter into a season of rest. Pray for Vivienne as she shoulders much of what I used to do especially with her own ill health. Pray for my physical recovery and pray more so for spiritual renewal that I may return stronger and more determined for God's service that He may work out His purposes for me and for Zion Bishan.

You may use the tear-off response slip on p5 to sign up for activities.

Please approach the Info Desk if you would like to find out more.