



Not one word has failed
JOSHUA 23:14

English Services & Livestream

VOL 11 NO 47
22 November 2020

Order of Service

Call to Worship

Meditative Hymn: Great is Thy Faithfulness

Scripture Reading: Joshua 24:1-5; Hebrews 4:1-13 ESV

Message: Joshua - God's...

Response Hymn: Before the Throne of God

Corporate Life & Prayer

Offering

Benediction

Announcements

Note: Holy Communion will be served at 10.30 and 1pm in-person services

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Welcome

We are pleased to welcome you to worship with us! If you are new to Zion Bishan, do drop us a note on our contact form and our hospitality team will get in touch with you in the coming week.

<http://www.zionbishan.org.sg/rf>

Our Sunday services at a glance

In-Person Sunday Services

(Registration required):

www.zionbishan.org.sg/phase-2

8.30am Mandarin/Cantonese service

9.30am Tamil/Hokkien service

10.30am/1.00pm/3.00pm/5.00pm

English service

Join us for our livestream

www.youtube.com/zionbishan

8.30am Mandarin & Cantonese service

10.30am English service

Join us for Zoom Services

(Registration required):

www.zionbishan.org.sg/services

8.45am Domestic Helpers Fellowship 1
(English, Tagalog & Myanmar groups)

9.30am Tamil service

10.30am Mandarin-English service

2.30pm Domestic Helpers Fellowship 2
(Indonesian groups)

Join Children/Youth Discipleship Classes

(Registration required):

www.zionbishan.org.sg/cd-yd

Serving You Today

Speakers: Pastor Alby Yip
(10.30am & 1pm, 3 pm & 5 pm)

AV: Wee Aik Koon, Ewen Tjoeng, Nurman Kusanda, Matthaues Lim

Pianists: Goh Su-Ling, Evangeline Chai

Songs for personal worship and reflection:
www.zionbishan.org.sg/songs-for-reflection

10.30 am & 1 pm: Mercy & Grace Cluster Services with HC

(Register at www.zionbishan.org.sg/mercy-grace)

Pastors: Zheng Haoren & Dev Menon

Elders: Elder Roland & Elder Chin Yew

Deacons: Dn Danny & Dn Sunil

Staff: Li Hui & Vernon

3pm & 5pm: Hope & Peace Cluster Services

(Register at www.zionbishan.org.sg/hope-peace)

Pastor: Zheng Haoren

Elders: Elder David & Elder Sonny

Deacons: Dns Siew Choo & Dn Joseph

Staff: Sharon, Tze Ming & June

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 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 Vernon Quek, *Young Adults/AGs* vernon

Mr Linus Koe, *Family Ministry/Media* linus

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

Joshua - God's ...

Joshua 24:1-5; Hebrews 4:1-13

22 November 2020

Pastor Alby Yip

Introduction

Unfailing Promise

Undying Patience

Unfolding Plan

Conclusion

Questions for Reflection and Discussion

1. How has God's faithfulness played out in your life?
2. What must you do in areas of your life that test God's patience?
3. How do you see your life fitting into God's plan?
4. What is the most important lesson you learnt in the book of Joshua?
Why?

Prayer Points

Our Church & People

December – As we approach the end of the year, and into the time of advent, pray for the many church activities happening in the upcoming month:

Evangelistic Sermon Series (p.6) – Titled ‘More than you think...’, pray for our preaching team as they prepare to speak to our church. Pray for the Spirit to move our hearts to invite friends and family to come and hear the gospel.

Children and Youth Discipleship

Retreats – Thank God for the service of the many teachers in the Children’s and Youth Ministries. Pray for a fruitful time in their retreats as they discuss how to meet the challenges for the next year.

Youth Camps – Pray for both the English and Chinese service Youth Camps coming up at the end of the year. As they conduct their day-camps, pray that it will be a safe and spiritually enriching time for the youths.

Tamil Christmas Outreach (12 Dec) – Pray for Ps Ebi and our Tamil brethren as they prepare to share the gospel with contacts through our befrienders program and others at this evangelistic service.

In-person Services – After 4 months of staying at home, we shifted into 3 months of meeting monthly in 50-person groups and now are moving into our 3rd month of 100-person fortnightly services. Thank God for the Pastors and Elders

who have faithfully shepherded their Clusters through these changes thus far.

As we now prepare for weekly 200-person services, pray for every AG, family and individual to return and settle into a new Sunday routine. May the physical gathering of saints be a rich blessing to everyone present, as we come together to worship and meet with a Holy God.

Our World

West Nepal – Our ministry partner requests prayer for healing of brother B, who is still not fully recovered from dengue and typhoid. Pray also for Sister G, who is a teacher with this organisation and was 8 months pregnant. She was diagnosed with Covid last week and is warded in ICU. Sadly, this past Monday, doctors had to perform an emergency C-section to remove her baby who had died in her womb. Brother B, conducted a simple burial for the baby that day. Pray that God will comfort sister G and her husband in their grief and for sister G to recover fully from the Coronavirus.

East Indonesia – Our ministry partner is praying for opportunities to share the good news to an unreached people group here. There are no known believers in this small community of 30,000-100,000 people, most of whom hold on to traditional beliefs. Thank God for the field workers serving here. Pray that God will lead them to people whose hearts are open to hear and receive the gospel.

Last Week

| Service | Attendance | Offering (\$) |
|--------------------------|------------|-------------------|
| English 10.30 Livestream | *353 | |
| English Services# | 251 | 2,200.00 |
| Mand/Cant 830 Livestream | *63 | |
| Mandarin Service | 73 | 10.00 |
| Tamil Zoom&in-person Svs | 25 | |
| ME Zoom | 62 | |
| DHF Zoom | 23 | |
| TOTAL | 850 | \$2,210.00 |

*Peak concurrent viewers/#All in-person services

Electronic Transfer \$42,976.40

WEEKLY TOTAL \$45,186.40

Weekly offering to meet budget for 2020/21: \$62,189

ZB COVID-19 Mission Relief Fund

Total Received to-date \$223,145.04

Giving Received from 2 Nov to 8 Nov \$11,874.22

Amount Disbursed to-date \$148,524.27

Land Lease Renewal Fund

Gift Nos. 1604-1607 \$1,900.00

Interest Free Loan (#LL003-3-5/20, #LL006/20) \$620,000.00

Electronic Transfer \$19,872.24

Weekly Total \$641,772.24

(Weekly Target: \$113,854)

Total To Date \$6,104,092.86

Info for Giving

For tithes and offering:

General & Missions Fund

DBS Current A/C: 070-901056-3

PayNow: T10SS0029GGMF

ZION BISHAN BP CHURCH

To donate towards the

ZB COVID-19 Mission Relief Fund:

General & Missions Fund

(Use information above)

Indicate "CV19 MRF" in remarks

To give towards the

Land Lease Renewal Fund:

General Project 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

22 November 2020

Thank you for joining us today!
If there's anything you would like the church to know, do reach out to us online or via email.

Get in touch with us:

- If you are joining us for the first time
- to find out more
- to request prayer
- to provide feedback
- to send a word of encouragement

You may find our response form www.zionbishan.org.sg/rf

Or email us at office@zionbishan.org.sg

Confidential care & counselling matters, please email care@zionbishan.org.sg

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

Church Family News

1. Mdm Tan Puay Hoon accepted Christ and was baptised just before she went Home to the Lord on 16 November. She is the aunt of Adeline & Selena Heng. Pray for God's comfort and peace to be with the family. Pray also for the salvation of those who have yet to come to Christ that they may be touched by God just as the late Mdm Tan.

Looking Ahead

Friday, 27 November

8 pm: Zoom Prayer Meeting

(Register at www.zionbishan.org.sg/fpm)

Saturday, 28 November

4 pm: Youth Fellowship

(Register at www.zionbishan.org.sg/yf)

Sunday, 29 November

(10.30am live-stream only)

“Comfort is coming!” Isaiah 40:1-11

Mr Vernon Quek

An evangelistic Christmas Series 2020:

'More than you think...'

Sun, 6 December – More than a Dream Destination

Sun, 13 December – More than Santa Claus

Sun, 20 December – More than a Public Holiday

Christmas, 25 December – No Ordinary Present

Sun, 27 December – More than a Family Gathering

Watchnight, 31 December – More than a Fairytale

Please take note

Next Sunday, 29 Nov, there will be no 1, 3 & 5pm services. Do join us at 10.30am for our livestream on www.youtube.com/zionbishan

Silence and Covid-19

Shusako Endo's novel *Silence*, adapted into a film in 2016, tells the story (fictional, but based on historical personalities) about the experiences of Portuguese priest Rodrigues, who, along with his fellow priest Garrpe, arrive in Japan as missionaries in 1639. This is a time of intense persecution for the Japanese Christians, who have grown in number during a peaceful time which is now over. These believers have been driven underground, but local government officials seek them out by forcing suspected Christians to deny Christ by trampling on *fumi-e* - carved representations of Christ. Those who refuse are imprisoned and killed by being hung upside-down and bled to death slowly.

Having seen both martyrdoms and recantations of local Christians, Rodrigues wonders why, amidst all this brutality, he experiences only silence from Christ. Eventually Rodrigues and Garrpe are themselves captured. But instead of torturing the priests, the officials torture the local Christians in the presence of the Rodrigues, and tell him that all he needs to do to end his flock's suffering is to renounce his faith. Rodrigues struggles. He is ready to suffer and die for his own faith. But is he being self-centred, unmerciful, by refusing to step on the *fumi-e*, when doing so will end the suffering and death of others? In his inner conflict, the silence of Christ appears deafening.

I will not spoil the story for you by revealing the end. But one of the questions it raises has remained with me: What if the most Christian thing one can do (self-giving for others to live), is to give up Christianity itself? Or at least, to give up the privileges or beloved forms of Christian life?

In these days of Covid-19, the Church has experienced restrictions: cessation (for a time) of congregational worship, wearing masks, no meeting in person in larger groups, no singing, no eating together. These go against what we are used to enjoying. As the weeks drag on into months, we are understandably chafing against these. But what if giving up these beloved forms of Christian life is in fact a self-giving act, so that the virus is contained, so that others may live? *What if the most Christian thing to do is actually to stop doing Christian church as we have always done?*

I get angry when I hear of some (Western) churches confidently saying that these Covid restrictions amount to persecution, they will obey God and not Caesar, and carry on as if the pandemic doesn't exist. I think they insult the memory of true martyrs who suffer for the faith. On the other hand I despair when I hear how some Christians have become so used to not meeting in person, and love the ease and comfort of on-demand livestream and recordings. That mindset can work against the

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

In-Person Sunday Services

We continue to conduct in-person Worship Services for up to 100 people – up to 50 each in the upper and lower sanctuaries.

Each Cluster Pair may come for worship twice a month. The service schedule may be viewed at

www.zionbishan.org.sg/service-schedule

Please register for services by your specific Cluster link below:

Light & Joy Clusters:

www.zionbishan.org.sg/light-joy

Faith & Patience Clusters:

www.zionbishan.org.sg/faith-patience

Hope & Peace Clusters:

www.zionbishan.org.sg/hope-peace

Mercy & Grace Clusters:

www.zionbishan.org.sg/mercy-grace

Communion will be served at 1030am and 1pm services only.

If you are unsure of which Sunday you should register for, do contact your AG leader or any of our pastors.

TraceTogether Token or App is required for SafeEntry.

Child and Infant Baptism

Email office@zionbishan.org.sg to register by 1 Dec.

10 Square Week by AG49 Fundraiser for the LLRF

Make a \$20 gift (or more) from Sunday 22-29 Nov towards a target of \$10,000. Every \$20 entitles you to one face mask sponsored by AG49. Please order through your AG leaders.

Is God calling you to serve? Contact your Cluster Leader

Serve your church family at your next in-person service! We are looking for ushers, PA personnel, CD & YD leaders.

Contact your Cluster Leader or email dev@zionbishan.org.sg and we'll link you up!

ZB COVID-19 Mission Relief Fund

In the light of the prolonged impact of the pandemic, Session has decided to extend the duration of the Mission Relief Fund to 31 Dec 2021. We thank God for all who have given towards this and we encourage members who have been affected by the pandemic to approach the Pastors and Elders for assistance.

CE Table Host Training 30 Dec, for 4 Wednesdays, 7.40pm

Is it time for you to share Jesus with someone? Train to be a Christianity Explored Table Host! Sign up with vernon@zionbishan.org.sg

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embodied commitment to “stir up one another” that the New Testament presupposes for Christian life (Heb 10:24-25).

Somewhere in between these two extremes is the way of wisdom. How do we love one another in these times? How do we spread the Gospel and not Covid? Let's pray for us to hear wisdom when Christ is speaking. He is not silent.