

ZION BISHAN DECEMBER SERIES
CHRISTMAS: MORE THAN YOU THINK...



English Services & Livestream

VOL 11 NO 49
6 December 2020

Order of Service

Call to Worship

Meditative Hymn: Come Thou Long Expected Jesus

Scripture Reading: Mark 1:1-15 ESV

Message: More than your dream destination - The Kingdom is here!

Response Hymn: O Holy Night

Corporate Life & Prayer

Offering

Benediction

Announcements

Note: Holy Communion will be served at all in-person services this Sunday

	<i>page</i>
TODAY	2
SERMON NOTES	3
PRAYER POINTS	4
NEWS	5
LOOKING AHEAD	6
WORD IN SEASON	7
ANNOUNCEMENTS	8

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: Mr Ng Zhiwen (10.30 am & 5 pm),

Pastor Ebi Mohan (1 pm & 3 pm)

AV: Soh Kok Hong, Matthias Lim, Jonathan Teo, James Kok, Benny Ling, Ivan Lim

Pianist: Tammy Low

Songs for personal worship and reflection:

www.zionbishan.org.sg/songs-for-reflection

10.30 am & 1 pm: Light & Joy Cluster Services with Holy Communion

(Register at www.zionbishan.org.sg/light-joy)

Pastor: Alby Yip

Elders: Eld Michael Gan & Eld Reginald Tan

Deacons: Dn Kin Yip & Dns Peck San

Staff: Emily & Jacqueline

3 pm & 5 pm: Faith & Patience Cluster Services with Holy Communion

(Register at www.zionbishan.org.sg/faith-patience)

Pastor: Dev Menon

Elders: Eld Foo Say Chiang & Eld Jeffrey Lim

Deacons: Dn Benjamin & Dns Li Hwee

Staff: Linus & Zhiwen

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

More than your dream destination - The Kingdom is here!

Mark 1:1-15

6 December 2020

Pastor Ebi Mohan/Mr Ng Zhiwen

Introduction

1. " Prepare the way of the Lord" (v2-8)
2. "You are my beloved Son" (v9-13)
3. "The kingdom of God is at hand" (v14-15)

Conclusion

Discussion Questions:

1. More than you think... what have you learned or discovered afresh about Christmas?
2. What does it mean that Jesus has come?
3. How can I prepare myself to celebrate Christmas this year?

Prayer Points

Our Church

December Sermon Series – As we begin our evangelistic Christmas series, pray that as the gospel is preached from our pulpit, ears will be open to receive God’s Word. Pray for the Spirit to open the hearts of those who are hearing the gospel for the first time and for them to see that Christmas is “more than you think...”

Tamil Christmas Outreach (12 Dec) – Pray for our Tamil service as they also prepare to share the gospel next week. Pray that the contacts made through our befriender programs will bear fruit and bring many to hear about Christ.

The Next Lap – We thank God that, in the midst of the pandemic, He is leading us towards a new Vision for growth. Pray for the Pastors and Elders to be of one mind as they communicate this Vision to the AGs and members. Pray also for the Ministry Staff and BOD to be of one heart as they work out the many details of running the ministries to be in line with this renewed Vision.

Our People

Children and Youth Discipleship Leaders – Thank God for these faithful teachers of God’s Word who have spent a challenging year continuing the hard work of building up the faith of our next generation. Thank God for the children’s

leaders retreat yesterday (5 Dec). Pray that our teachers will be continually encouraged and built-up in their love and service of Christ. Pray also for the youth leaders retreat coming up on 2 Jan.

Pray also for the children and youth to learn as much as they can in their one hour each week they have with their discipleship leaders. Pray that they will grow their faith at home too.

Our World

West Nepal – Since mid-Nov, Sister G, a teacher with our ministry partner, was in critical condition due to what the doctors in Nepal thought was COVID. She lost her 8-month old baby in her womb on 16 Nov and has been in critical care since. Her condition worsened on 27 Nov so she was brought to Lucknow, India. Thank God she has been properly diagnosed with Hypokinesia. She is now on the right medication and responding well. Pray for speedy recovery and God’s comfort and peace upon G & husband over their lost baby.

North East India – Pray for Ps R’s wife who is hospitalised for COVID. She is still in intensive care. Pray for her lungs to heal.

Ps DK went Home to the Lord yesterday at his home in. He had been ill and depressed for some years since the death of his wife, youngest daughter, then eldest son in recent years. We thank God that he is now safe with the Lord and loved ones.

Last Week

Service	Attendance	Offering (\$)
English 10.30 Livestream	*383	
English Services#	123	2,040.00
Mand/Cant 830 Livestream	*93	250.00
Cantonese Service		500.00
Tamil Zm & In-Person Svs	28	592.00
ME Zoom	53	
DHF Zoom	29	
TOTAL	709	\$3,382.00

*Peak concurrent viewers/#All in-person services

Electronic Transfer \$38,215.16

WEEKLY TOTAL \$41,597.16

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

ZB COVID-19 Mission Relief Fund

Total Received to-date **\$244,170.04**

Giving Received from 23 Nov to 29 Nov \$20,285.00

Amount Disbursed to-date \$149,015.07

Land Lease Renewal Fund

Gift Nos. 1617-1626 \$22,625.00

10-Square Week Fund Raising Project 17,505.00

Interest Free Loans (#LL012/20) 5,000.00

Electronic Transfer \$29,420.75

Weekly Total \$74,550.75

(Weekly Target: \$113,854)

Total To Date \$6,308,663.51

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: 070-901055-3

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

6 December 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.

Looking Ahead

Friday, 11 December

8 pm: Zoom Prayer Meeting

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

Saturday, 12 December

4 pm: Youth Fellowship

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

Sunday, 13 December

English Services:

10.30 am & 1 pm: Hope & Peace Cluster Services
with Holy Communion

(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

3pm & 5pm: Mercy & Grace Cluster Services

(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

An evangelistic Christmas Series 2020:

'More than you think...'

13 Dec, Sunday

The Best Gift Ever

Ps Dev Menon / Eld David Leong

20 Dec, Sunday

More than a Public Holiday

Ps Alby Yip / Dn Paul Yeo

25 Dec, Friday (Christmas)

No Ordinary Present

Ps David Wong / Mr Ng Zhiwen

27 Dec, Sunday

More than a Family Gathering

Ps Zheng Haoren / Ps Dev Menon

31 Dec, Thursday (Watchnight)

More than a Fairytale

Ps Ebi Mohan / Mr Quek Tze-Ming

When Life Meets Death

Have you ever wondered what lies behind the door of death, seriously? Not in the third or even second person. It is asking yourself that ultimate question, "What awaits me when I breathe my last?"

I have been asking myself that often. And this question was accentuated many times over the past three weeks. I had conducted six wake and funeral services and attended one other of a close friend of mine. It was emotionally draining but it was also spiritually sobering whenever I am in Mandai Crematorium.

There are two sets of doors there that always bring about a lot of emotions. For those who have been there, you will remember the door which swings open when the casket is brought into the service hall. Everyone will stand in respect of the arrival of the deceased for the final time. It marks the last time a welcome is extended for any human.

The second set of doors is the one at the viewing gallery. It is the final door the physical body of a human will pass. It marks also the final time we send off anyone. As the carriage carrying the casket neared the door, it will swing open and reveal the furnace that will eventually consume the human body and reduce it to ash.

We see the same two sets of doors in this season of Christmas. The first one was when God the Heavenly Father opened to send His Son away from the heavenly abode to the world of sin. The second was when God opened to allow the graves of Hades to consume Him. But we thank God that there were yet two more set of doors that God is in control.

It was the door of resurrection from death and the door of ascension for Christ to return and to be seated at the right hand of God. It is in God and through Christ that these "extra" two sets of doors are made available to believers that we may return to our Heavenly Father. Have you known Christ, really? And if you have, have your loved ones known Christ that they too may have these two "extra" sets of doors to heaven opened for them?

Let's open the door of our hearts to Christ this season of Advent, if you have not, that Christ may open the door of salvation to you. Let's also pray and endeavor to reach out to our loved ones that they too may come to experience Christ in a personal way that they too may not be locked in the first two sets of doors. That in Christ, they may enjoy the comfort of having the second two sets of doors opened for them to the Eternal Rest.

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 all services on 6 Dec and subsequently 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.

Christmas Service 2020

25 Dec, Friday, 4 Service Timeslots

We are planning to run four services on Christmas Day to allow more of us to come for Christmas Service in person. Please keep a look out for the service registration links which will be sent out soon!

Stewardship Sunday 2021

All Departmental heads, please submit the names of your committee members, helpers, and others for our annual compilation, by 14 Dec, to doreen@zionbishan.org.sg

Sale of Christmas Cards For Land Lease Renewal Fund

AG31 has launched a sale of handmade and illustrated Christmas cards to raise funds for the LLRF. Receive a free Christmas sticker pack when you pre-order before 12 Dec!

Please pre-order the cards at tinyurl.com/therenewalco.

The catalogue can be viewed at <https://www.instagram.com/therenewalco/>

For more information, please contact AG31 at therenewalco@gmail.com.

Is God calling you to serve? Contact your Cluster Leader

Come Zion Members and Serve the church family at the in-person services.

Contact your Cluster Leader or email dev@zionbishan.org.sg

CE Table Host Training 30 Dec, for 4 Wednesdays, 7.45pm

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