



VOL 13 NO 50

11 December 2022

English Services

Order of Service

Call to Worship

Gloria Patri

Worship in Songs

(8.30am & 10.30am)

Scripture Reading: Luke 1:5-17 & Luke 3:1a, 2-7 ESV

Message: Getting Ready for Salvation

Response Hymn: I Cannot Tell

(3pm & 5pm)

Scripture Reading: Luke 1:26-38 ESV

Message: Mary: She Received Him

Response Hymn: O Come All You Unfaithful

Corporate Life & Prayer

Offering

Benediction

Announcements

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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/xf>

Our Sunday services at a glance

In-Person Sunday Services

8.30am Mandarin service

9.00am Hokkien service

9.30am Tamil Service

8.30am/10.30am/3.00pm/5.00pm

English service

10.30am Mandarin-English service

10.45am Cantonese-Mandarin service

Join Us On Livestream

www.zionbishan.org.sg/chineselivestream

8.30am Mandarin service

10.45am Cantonese-Mandarin service

10.30am Mandarin-English service

Zoom Livestream (ID: 83150901877)

Domestic Helpers Fellowship (DHF)

Bible Study Groups (To join via Zoom, please register at www.zionbishan.org.sg/dhf)

8.45am DHF 1A (in English, for all nationalities) in person in Room 103

8.45am DHF 2 (in Myanmar language) hybrid, in person in The Living Room and via zoom

2.30pm DHF 3 (in Bahasa Indonesia) via zoom

8.45pm DHF 1B (in English, for all nationalities) via zoom

Children/Youth Discipleship Classes

Register interest: www.zionbishan.org.sg/cd-yd

Serving You Today

Speakers:

Mr Danny Chua (8.30am & 10.30am)

Ps Dev Menon (3pm & 5pm)

8.30am

Service Coordinator: Dn Justin Low

Worship Leader: Dn Tay Beng Hwee

Vocalist & Musicians: Morning Team 2

10.30am

Service Coordinator: Eld Foo Say Chiang

Worship Leader: Eld Chuah Chin Yew

Vocalist & Musicians: Morning Team 2

3.00pm

Service Coordinator: Vanessa Lee

Worship Leader: Dn Peter Wang

Vocalist & Musicians: Afternoon Team 1

5.00pm

Service Coordinator: Danny Chua

Worship Leader: Eld Chan Kin Yip

Vocalist & Musicians: Afternoon Team 1

Pastors and Ministry Staff

Rev Dr Alby Yip, <i>Senior Pastor</i>	9844 9536
Rev Dr Dev Menon, <i>Pastor</i>	9829 6051
Rev Ebinezar Mohan, <i>Pastor (Tamil)</i>	8198 9696
Rev Kew See Seong, <i>Pastor (Mand)</i>	9489 4967
Rev Lim Jit Thye, <i>Pastor (Cant-Mand)</i>	9182 6957
Rev Daniel Nge, <i>Pastor (Mand-Eng)</i>	8428 0525
Rev Vernon Quek, <i>Pastor</i>	9796 0196
Rev Ng Zhiwen, <i>Pastor</i>	9092 6095
Rev Paul Yeo, <i>Pastor (Hokkien)</i>	9751 1897
Mrs Emily Quek, <i>Special Projects</i>	9001 2926
Mrs June Tan, <i>Children's Ministry</i>	8388 1883
Mrs Sharon Quek, <i>Overseas Ministries</i>	9788 0195
Mr Danny Chua, <i>AG/Safeguarding</i>	9239 4160
Mr Quek Tze-Ming, <i>Assoc Min Staff</i>	9060 8340
Miss Jacqueline Lie, <i>Youth Ministry</i>	9322 7629
Miss Vanessa Lee, <i>Women's Worker</i>	9880 4507
Mr Joel Khoo, <i>YAs/Discipleship</i>	9368 9221
Rev Dr David Wong, <i>Advisory Pastor</i>	
Rev Dr Quek Swee Hwa, <i>Pastor Emeritus</i>	

Confidential Care & Counselling e-mail:

care@zionbishan.org.sg

Getting Ready for Salvation

Luke 1:5-17 and Luke 3:1-9

11 December 2022

Mr Danny Chua

Introduction: A Gravestone Inscription

John's Message:

"Turn from sin and get your hearts ready – God is coming to you!"

John the Baptist: 3 Clues that God is coming to you

- An Amazing Birth
- An Age-Old Promise
- An Awesome Mission

Our Christmas Reflection:

- *Why* do we need to get ready for salvation?
- *How* do we get ready for salvation?

Questions for Reflection & Discussion:

1. What would you do if God was coming to visit you? How would you prepare yourself?
2. How was John getting people ready to meet Jesus? What was his main message?
3. How are you and your family "preparing the way" for others to meet Jesus this Christmas?

Mary: She Received Him

Luke 1:26-38

An Angel Appears

A King Conceived

The Mechanics Explained

A Servant's Faith

Questions For Reflection & Discussion:

1. What did you remember about the passage or the sermon?
2. Why did God pick Mary?
3. Why did Mary believe God?
4. Why did Jesus have to be born of a virgin?

Prayer Points

Our Church

LR Christmas Outreach (19 Dec)

– We thank God for the opportunity and privilege to be a blessing to our neighbours through our annual Friendship Meal, this year with Sin Ming residents on the 19 Dec (Mon), 6pm-8pm.

Pray for the volunteer befrienders as they visit the residents tomorrow, 12 Dec (Mon) and extend the invitation for them to join us in hearing about the story of Christmas.

Tamil Service - Please pray for our Tamil service's Carol Service by candlelight on Sunday the 18 December at 6pm. We are inviting non-Christian friends to reach out to them with the gospel of Christmas.

Youth Camp 2022: The Bond Identity

(12–16 Dec) – Pray for the 70+ youth campers and leaders as they spend extended time together. Pray for those new to church, that their hearts may be enlightened to the gospel; for our Christian youths to understand their identity as God's children and as essential members of the body of Christ. Pray also for our main speaker, Edric Kwok, as he shares from Ephesians; for the committee and group leaders as they help the youths learn through workshops and games.

Our People

Julie Tang – Julie and her husband, Dennis Wong, are regular worshippers at 10.30am service and have requested prayer for Julie who will be undergoing two complicated heart procedures on 21 December 2022. These procedures carry risks that may

result in lifelong disability and may even be life-threatening. As Julie had a previous stroke and heart failure, please pray for God to sustain her heart and body to go through the procedures successfully without complication and for a speedy recovery. Pray that their faith in Christ will be strengthened even as they go through this trial as a family.

Lim Nan – Pray for Lim Nan and a few others who visited a community of Afghan refugees in Indonesia this week (6-10 Dec). Thank God for a good time of being there and eating with them. Pray that the team will have learnt much and grown in their faith and experience of our loving Father and God. May those they have interacted with be drawn near to Christ.

Our World

India – Pray for good recovery for sister Sonali, wife of brother Cecil, who went for surgery last Thursday to help with the side effects of the medications for her chronic blood disorder. Christmas outreaches are being planned at the moment. Pray that they will be received with open hearts and will bear good fruit of gospel transformation in God's time. Pray also for protection for the partners as they often face resistance and challenges in their communities. Winter has arrived in India. Pray for the provision of blankets for the elderly in this community who often do not have family support.

Last Week

Sunday Service	Attendance	Offering (\$)
English Service 8.30am	135	
English Service 10.30am	377	360.00
English Service 3pm	122	
English Service 5pm	92	
Chinese Service Livestream#	21	
Chinese Service 8.30am	94	2,885.80
Cant/Mand Service Livestream#	4	
Cant/Mand Service 10.45am	50	848.00
ME Service & Zoom	61	
Hokkien Service	57	258.00
Tamil Service	18	794.75
DHF	18	
TOTAL	1049	\$5,146.55

#Livestreaming peak concurrent viewers

Electronic Transfer	\$83,547.78
Use of Premises	\$240.00
Love Gift for 28th Anniversary	\$500.00
WEEKLY TOTAL	\$89,434.33

Weekly offering to meet budget for 2022/23: \$75,045

Land Lease Renewal Fund

Gift No: 1851	\$50.00
Electronic Transfer	\$8,363.60
Weekly Total	\$8,413.60
Total Gift Received To-Date	\$9,325,606.80

Church Family News

1. Pastor Alby is preaching at Emmanuel BP Church this morning.
2. Congratulations to Zack & Phuong on the birth of their first child, Levi Lin, on 29 November 2022!
3. Congratulations to Deborah Loone & Benjamin Wong on their holy matrimony on 10 December 2022!
4. Our deepest condolences to the family of Vera Yeo whose father, Mr Ernest Yeo Khee Boon, went Home to the Lord on 5 December 2022. Please uphold the bereaved family in prayer.

Info for Giving

For tithes and offering:
General & Missions Fund



DBS Current A/C: 070-901056-3
PayNow: T10SS0029GGMF
ZION BISHAN BP CHURCH

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

Indicate "Land Lease Renewal Fund" on back of cheque

(Please provide your CONTACT NUMBER on each cheque)

Looking Ahead

Friday, 16 Dec

8.00pm: Prayer Meeting

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

Saturday, 17 Dec

4.00pm: No Youth Fellowship

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

Sunday, 18 Dec (Reception of Members)

English Worship Services

8.30am

Shepherding Team: Ps Ng Zhiwen &
Eld Sonny Tan

10.30am

Shepherding Team: Ps Alby Yip,
Eld Foo Say Chiang & Eld Chuah Chin Yew

3.00pm

Shepherding Team: Ps Vernon Quek,
Eld Roland Low & Eld Michael Gan

5.00pm

Shepherding Team: Ps Dev Menon,
Eld Chan Kin Yip & Eld Reginald Tan

Christmas Evangelistic Series:

18 Dec – AM SERVICES

“Mary: She received Him”

(Luke 1:26-38) – *Ps Dev* “

PM SERVICES

John the Baptist: He prepared the Way
for Him” (Luke 1:5-17; Isa 40:3-5;
Mal 3:1-3) – *Mr Danny Chua*

Your Response

11 December 2022

*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.*

THANKS FOR YOUR RESPONSE

ON SHEPHERDING

I was ordained as a pastor (i.e. shepherd) on 29th October 2022. Within 2 days, I had to help conduct a wake. 4 weeks later, and still less than a month into my pastoring, I had to conduct a wake and a funeral. Quite a way to start!

But my mind goes back to the day before ordination. On the 28th of October, as I was mulling over what lay ahead for me, the Lord brought the 23rd Psalm to my mind. I shared about it that night with a small group of friends. And then I wrote about it in my testimony of calling, a portion of which I have reproduced below. Perhaps you the reader will have some spiritual insight to what all this may mean. I would be glad to hear from you.

Jesus is my Good Shepherd... he has fed me, brought me by the still waters. He has restored my soul. He also leads me through the valley of the shadow of death and shown me His sure goodness and mercy. He has pastored me.

I have never thought about psalm 23 in this way, until now (since only yesterday in fact). Of shepherds leading the sheep through the valley of the shadow of death. Maybe the sheep had wandered off and were lost in there and needed to be found. Maybe they were frail old sheep, and the valley was the one last journey they had to take to pass through the veil of death (pastors have to do that, don't they).

*But most of all, maybe they were there because the Shepherd **had** to lead them through that valley of the shadow of death. "Behold I send you out as sheep among wolves" (Matthew 10:16). It was the necessary path that leads to the Promised Land.*

But what I find common to all of these scenarios, is that the Shepherd is there with the sheep. In His presence, the sheep needn't be afraid. His rod and staff – signifying both loving discipline and fierce protection – they bring great comfort. He is not afraid of the shadow of death; He is very acquainted with that shadow. He has already been crucified.

Since this is how Jesus shepherds His flock, then so will I have to learn His way. Living by faith in the Son of God who loved me and gave His life for me. Trusting that, even through the valley, surely goodness and mercy will follow me, and us, all the days our lives.

Gracestoration: Grace for the Rest of Your Life Women of Zion (WOZ) Retreat, 8 to 9 October 2022

“The ministry of Gracestoration began as a response to the great need among Christians for restoration and renewal. These lessons are designed to encourage believers to ‘re-enjoy’ a dynamic relationship with Jesus, and in turn, equip believers to reach out to others in their sphere of influence with the transforming message of God’s restoring grace.” <http://gracestoration.org/>



34 participants started arriving at Village Hotel Katong around 830am. The session started at 9am with an opening prayer and worship in song. There was an ice breaker where participants introduced themselves. This was followed by a series of lectures and hands-on sessions by our effervescent workshop facilitator, Mrs. Persis Lim. Each participant was given a set of cards – Gracestoration, to work on.

The discipling tools comprise a loose-leaf notebook featuring 20 lessons. Persis could only cover the first five lessons, given the limited time. We were strongly encouraged to study the remaining lessons on our own and to refer to Gracestoration website for a deeper understanding of the ministry. The documents are available for free download. Gracestoration is supported by the voluntary gift of friends.

The afternoon session ended with designing cards for friends. Persis raised our awareness to reach out to those who would need a word of encouragement.

As daylight morphed into the velvety night, participants engaged in a series of charade and table games. It was a night of fun, laughter, and camaraderie.

The following morning, Serene Ho, a licensed tour guide and our very own WOZ member, took us on a delightful Katong food and heritage tour.

3 Key Takeaways

1 Grace as resource for restoration and renewal

- Resting Grace – transfer your burdens to Christ in stages.
- Entrusting Grace – let go and trust that Christ will take over.
- Freeing Grace – liberate yourself by embracing God’s grace.
- Cleansing Grace – acknowledge your sin before God can refine you.
- Corrective Grace – tap on God’s grace to have victory over Satan.

2 It is good to have friends but even better to have a few close friends

Close friends are people:

- you can tap on for help without feeling guilty.
- you can share deeply without fear of judgement.
- who know all about you and still love you.
- who cheer you on, uphold you, and understand your struggles.
- who exhibit Christ-like behaviour.

3 “Staying bitter is like taking poison and waiting for the other person to die”

(Source: Grace nugget)

- Forgiveness is not reconciliation.
- We forgive for our own healing so that we can move on.
- Do not be too eager to forgive. It takes courage and grace.

Acknowledgement

Hugs to Mrs Persis Lim and the Retreat Organising Team for making this retreat edifying, fun and entertaining.

Reported By Rosie Wee

12 Oct 2022

Announcements

ZION BISHAN CHRISTMAS SERMON SERIES (2022)

God with us: People around the Birth

Who is this Jesus? And how does His life affect me? People have been asking these questions since the first Christmas; from His Ancestors, to the Prophets, to John the Baptist, to His mother Mary, and the Wise Men. This Christmas season, we explore their answers. Perhaps you, and the friends you invite, may find your own responses to Jesus. (*with meals after both Christmas Day Services)

DEC 18:

AM: "Mary: She received Him"
(Luke 1:26-38) – *Ps Dev*

PM: "John the Baptist: He prepared the Way for Him" (Luke 1:5-17; Isa 40:3-5; Mal 3:1-3)
– *Mr Danny Chua*

DEC 25: Christmas Day; 10.30am and 4.30pm

"They Looked for Him"
(Matt 2:1-12) – *Ps Alby*

DEC 31: Watchnight Service

"He came; He is coming"
(Rev 21:3-5; 22:12, 20) – *Ps Ebi*

CHRISTMAS MEAL

10.30 am Service: Lunch
4.30 pm service: Dinner

We welcome all to join us for a meal after service. In order to facilitate catering, please sign up at <https://bit.ly/ZBChristmas>

Registration closes **Today**



TAMIL SERVICE

Kindly invite your Tamil speaking non-Christian friends and relatives to our **Carol service by candlelight on Sunday the 18 Dec** at 6pm at MPH Level 1, followed by a fellowship dinner. Please inform Ps Ebi Mohan @ 81989696 on or before 15 Dec if you're bringing your friends (for catering purposes).

CONSOLIDATION OF AFTERNOON CONGREGATIONS

From 25th December 2022, the 3pm & 5pm will be officially consolidated into a single congregation, meeting at **4.30PM** every Sunday. Beginning from that same Christmas Sunday, there will also be #dinnerchurch every week after service.

IMPACTAUS CONFERENCE

Fri, 6 January 2023, 9am-2pm

ImpactAus is an annual conference that aims to help students and graduates live out the gospel whether they are heading Down Under for the first time, continuing as students, or returning to Singapore.

Location: Aperia, The Annex

Tickets cost \$20

Find out more and sign up at:

<https://www.projecttimothy.com/events/impactaus-2023>

SENIORS RETREAT (English Language Only)

"Spur One Another On Towards Love and Good Deeds" (Hebrews 10:24, 25)

Seniors can still live out God's calling! Enjoy an extended time of bonding and fellowship!

16 to 18 Feb 2023, Malacca

Speaker: Ps Eric Kwan

Fee: \$250 per pax (twin sharing) (signed up by 31 Dec 22) \$270 per pax after 2022

Sign up form: <https://bit.ly/3E5FHub>

WOMEN OF ZION

**BIBLE STUDY - Starting in January 2023
on the book of James**

Ladies, sign up with Lydia (8338 3982)