

THE REVELATION OF JESUS CHRIST

REV 1:3

**BLESSED IS THE ONE
WHO READS ALOUD, HEARS
AND KEEPS THE WORDS OF THIS
PROPHECY, FOR THE TIME IS AT HAND**



ENGLISH SERVICES

VOL 14 NO 35
27 August 2023

Order of Service

Call to Worship

Gloria Patri

Worship in Songs:

AM: Open the Eyes of My Heart; Glorious Christ; He Will Hold Me Fast

PM: Christ our Hope in Life and Death; Behold our God; Your Word

Scripture Reading: Revelation 2:12-29 ESV

Message: Holding Fast: Pergamum & Thyatira

Response Hymn: O Great God

Mission Focus; 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:

www.zionbishan.org.sg/rf

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/4.30pm English service

10.30am Mandarin-English service

10.45am Cantonese-Mandarin service

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

Join us on Telegram / WhatsApp (94225703)

Keep up to date with our latest bulletin and church announcements:

www.zionbishan.org.sg/broadcasts

Serving You Today

Speakers: Ps Alby Yip (8.30am & 10.30am),
Ps Vernon Quek (4.30pm)

8.30am

Service Coordinator: Dn Joseph Chan

Worship Leader: Dn Justin Low

Vocalist & Musicians: Morning Team 4

10.30am

Service Coordinator: Dn Tiew Chew Meng

Worship Leader: Eld Michael Gan

Vocalist & Musicians: Morning Team 4

4.30pm

Service Coordinator: Vanessa Lee

Worship Leader: Eld Roland Low

Pastors and Ministry Staff

Rev Dr Alby Yip, Senior Pastor	9844 9536
Rev Dr Dev Menon, Pastor	9829 6051
Rev Ebinezar Mohan, Pastor (Tamil)	8198 9696
Rev Kew See Seong, Pastor (Mand)	9489 4967
Rev Lim Jit Thye, Pastor (Cant-Mand)	9182 6957
Rev Daniel Nge, Pastor (Mand-Eng)	8428 0525
Rev Vernon Quek, Pastor	9796 0196
Rev Ng Zhiwen, Pastor	9092 6095
Rev Paul Yeo, Pastor (Hokkien)	9751 1897
Mrs Emily Quek, Special Projects	9001 2926
Mrs June Tan, Children's Ministry	8388 1883
Mrs Sharon Quek, Overseas Ministries	9788 0195
Mr Danny Chua, AG/Safeguarding	9239 4160
Mr Quek Tze-Ming, Assoc Min Staff	9060 8340
Miss Jacqueline Lie, Youth Ministry	9322 7629
Miss Vanessa Lee, Women's Worker	9880 4507
Mr Joel Khoo, YAs/Discipleship	9368 9221
Mr Timothy Ong, Missions Education	9271 5785
Rev Dr David Wong, Advisory Pastor	
Rev Dr Quek Swee Hwa, Pastor Emeritus	

Confidential Care & Counselling e-mail:

care@zionbishan.org.sg

Holding Fast: Pergamum & Thyatira

Revelation 2.1-11

Ps Alby Yip (8.30am & 10.30am)

Ps Vernon Quek (4.30pm)

Intro: Lessons for the churches... (Part 2)

Today's Big Question: What are you holding fast to? (2:13,14,15,24,25)

Church #3: Pergamum (v12-17)

✓ Holding fast to Jesus, even in the face of martyrdom (v13)

✗ Holding the teaching of Balaam & the Nicolaitans (v14-16)

- Eating food sacrificed to idols
- Practicing Sexual immorality

⚠ Repent! Or war with the sword of my mouth will come (v16)

Church #4: Thyatira (v18-29)

✓ Works of love, faith, service and endurance that come from holding fast (v19,25)

✘ Tolerating (Holding) Jezebel's teaching and works (v20-24)

- Practicing sexual immorality – committing adultery with her (Gen 2:24)
- Eating food sacrificed to idols

⚠ Repent! Or great tribulation and dead children will come (v22-23)

Conclusion: Compromise or Conquer?

But to the one who hears and holds fast... 📖

- Hidden Manna & a White Stone with a new name (v17)
- Authority over the nations & the Morning Star (v24-29)

What the Church most needs: to Hold fast to Jesus! (1:9-20)

Questions for Discussion and Reflection:

1. What would someone looking at the way you live say you were holding fast to in life?
2. Pergamum & Thyatira struggled with compromise. In what areas of your life do you struggle in compromising with the world around us? How does today's passage and what we saw in Revelation 1's vision of Jesus help you to hold fast to Him and not to the world?
3. What areas might we as a local church in Zion Bishan be slowly compromising in? What are some practical ways we can encourage each other to hold fast to Jesus in these areas?

Prayer Points

Our Church

FM Trip to Mongolia – Pray for the team, comprising of members from our English and Chinese services, that this trip to Mongolia will be one of relationship building, learning and encouragement. From English services we have SQ, Annabel and Dn Beng Hwee. From Chinese services, we have Ps Kew, Ps Paul, and brother Wenxi. Pray for good health to adapt to the environment and a safe trip. Pray also for our contact there, that he would have the strength and ability to continue sharing the gospel to fellow Mongolians. The team leaves on 24 Aug and returns on 29 Aug.

Look Into Full-Time (LIFT) – Thank God that more than 15 participants signed up for yesterday's LIFT event, where they got to hear from the Bible and from the pastors/ministry staff about joys and sacrifices of full-time, paid Gospel ministry and our apprenticeship scheme. Pray that these participants will continue to grow in Jesus and have His wisdom to navigate any spiritual and practical steps ahead of them as they consider these things. Let us also pray that the Lord of the harvest will convict and inspire many more workers in Zion Bishan to join the urgent work of building up the local church and going forth into the unsaved world for Jesus.

NextGen Malaysia – Ps Vernon, Jacqueline, Joel, and Timothy will head up to Malaysia on Tuesday for a 4 day conference that seeks to equip young leaders to handle and teach the Bible. Pray for Ps Vernon as he preaches from John's Gospel, and for the other staff as they facilitate groups and lead workshops. Pray that it will be a time

of mutual encouragement with our Malaysian brethren as we sit under God's Word together.

Children's Ministry – The Children's Ministry celebrated Teachers' Day with the teachers on 26 Aug 2023 and 10 Sep 2023. We thank God for the 53 teachers and 14 volunteers who have committed their time this year to disciple the children in Zion Bishan by teaching the bible faithfully and accurately to the youngest amongst us. Pray for the teachers and volunteers that they continue to grow in their understanding of God's Word, to have soft hearts that are shaped by what God says and deepen their relationship with and love for God.

Our World

India – Two partners are conducting Sunday school teachers training and pastors training soon. May these trainings be used by the Lord for the equipping of the workers here in this field. In the Hindi belt, our mission partner is getting opportunities to start new work in 2 areas, pray that God will open the way for it.

Indonesia – Our southern neighbour just celebrated its Independence Day on 17 Aug. According to Joshua Project, it has 787 people groups and 193m (or 70%) of its population of 280 million are considered unreached. Pray for the country to continue to enjoy peace and prosperity and for our partners and our missiology school alumni to persevere in doing the good works that God has prepared in advance for them to do.

Last Week

Sunday Service	Attendance	Offering (\$)
English Service Livestream*	23	
English Service 8:30am	200	2,256.00
English Service 10:30am	510	
English Service 4:30pm	254	
Chinese Service Livestream*	8	
Chinese Service 8:30am	90	1,013.00
Cant/Mand Service Livestream*	1	
Cant/Mand Service 10:45am	51	388.00
ME Service	58	1,074.00
Hokkien Service	56	595.00
Tamil Service	14	386.00
DHF	20	
TOTAL	1285	\$5,712.00

*Livestreaming peak concurrent viewers

Electronic Transfer \$57,440.87
WEEKLY TOTAL \$63,152.87

Weekly offering to meet budget for 2022/23: \$75,000.98

Land Lease Renewal Fund

Electronic Transfer \$6,662.60
Weekly Total \$6,662.60

Total Gift Received To-Date \$9,839,074.26

Church Family News

Our deepest condolences to the family of the late Mr Edward Heng who went Home to be with the Lord on 24 Aug 2023. He was the father of Adeline and Selena Heng, father-in-law of Timothy Hia and grandfather to Gareth, Emily and Abigail.

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

Session Meeting (15 Aug 23) Highlights:

1. Elder Chan Kin Yip will assume the office of Assistant Honorary Treasurer when Elder Roland's term ends in November. We recorded our thanks to Elder Roland.
2. As per ongoing efforts to fine-tune our policies and practices, we have tightened matters relating to written-off assets with a two-tiered approval system.
3. The Investment Committee reported healthy surpluses from our investments. The surpluses were ploughed back for further investments. It is noted that there is a downward trend in interest yields.
4. Pastor Paul Yeo has taken over leadership of the Mandarin Service. Pastor Kew See Seong will relinquish his service end of September.
5. The 2024 Good Friday Service will be a combined service among all 11 BPCIS churches to be held at ACS Independent at Dover Road.
6. As part of the effort to make Zion Bishan a more inclusive church, our Enabling Ministry in partnership with Koinonia Inclusion Network (KIN) will be holding a series of Leadership Engagement Workshops and seminars to educate and encourage all in Zion Bishan towards greater understanding and acceptance of all who are differently-abled.

Your Response

27 August 2023

*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

Leaders Loved by Christ

Basic AG Leaders Equipping Course 2023

As Zion Bishan presses on ahead with The Next Lap vision in mind – to present every member mature in Christ, we continue to face an immense task ahead of us. As we prayerfully toil to welcome visitors, evangelize the unbelieving, and strengthen the saints in our midst, one thing becomes more and more urgent.

We need more and more godly men and women proclaiming Jesus, admonishing and teaching everyone with all wisdom from the Lord (Col. 1:28). Godly believers who personally disciple others, and who model a gospel culture are our God's way of forming missional communities, as we especially see throughout the book of Acts.

But we must be careful. The pressing kingdom needs should not cause us to operate like a 'machine'. What I mean is this: we must be cautious not to function like a cold, 'disciple-factory'. As we build up under-shepherds and equip Word teachers, we must be wary of unconsciously trying to 'produce' AG leaders one after another (or frantically multiply AGs one after another) as though that were the goal in and of itself.

No, we ought to diligently reflect on the kind of Jesus-followers we are nurturing. We ought to be attentive to the kind of teachers and under-shepherds we are cultivating. What kind of people, or what kind of Christians are they?

One of our central goals as the people of God is to help one another gaze so often and so deeply at the beauty of God revealed in Christ (Ps 27:4; 2 Cor. 3:18). Indeed, so much that God's goodness and love, and indeed Christ Himself overflow from our lives endlessly in loving discipleship and organic mission.

So, yes, in AG Leaders training, we equip leaders and potential leaders for the tiring work of shepherding their members, and the faithful teaching of the Word. *But underneath it all, we "struggle with all God's energy that he powerfully works within us" (Col. 1:28) to help every AG Leader always delight in Jesus and grow in deeper intimacy with Him.*

Echoing Jesus' words "out of the overflow of the heart the mouth speaks" (Matt. 12:34) the Puritan Richard Sibbes believed that those who enjoyed Jesus the most would naturally speak most of Him to the church and to the world. Such Christians who sing God's praises and words to all around them are like birds who sing the loudest when the sun rises in the morning and warms them. As Christ's love warms believers' hearts, we sing and declare Him loudly. This must be true most of all for those who are models and imitators of Christ in positions of shepherding and leadership within His church.

This is why in BAGLE, we talked about whether (or not) we are enjoying Jesus. We spend the very first session reflecting on our walks with Jesus, and only later on do we engage with the role of an AG Leader.

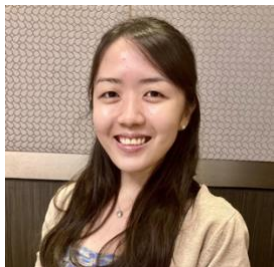
Here are some of the reflections by participants from the course that recently ended:



Dn Herman Low (AG77, 4.30pm Congregation): I realised that in discipleship, we tend to be overly concerned about how God's word is applied and often times use that as a yardstick to determine if we are good leaders. The truth is that God's word is slowly changing our hearts and often times the transformative results may not be so apparent and immediate.



Amanda Ang-Phan (AG2, 10.30am Congregation): Hearing from the current AG leaders who shared their struggles in AG-leading reminded me that AG ministry is hard work and sacrifice. Yet experiencing their joy of seeing the fruit of their labour was inspiring. Caring for an AG is like caring for a child - long tough days, needing to ask God for strength and patience to persevere, but seeing results if we faithfully plod at it. I was reminded to be in it for the long haul and not to get discouraged when nothing seems to be happening.



Teo Huiqing (AG50, 4.30pm Congregation): One truth that stuck with me was this: the chief source of joy is that my name is written in heaven (Luke 10:20) and that I am His child, and not in how well (or poorly) ministry seems to be going. I pray that my heart will always find joy in this truth for as long as I live!



Soh Kok Hong (AG23, 10.30am Congregation): From my conversations with the other leaders and our reading of Elijah in 1 Kings 19, I was reminded that we are living out God's agenda and not our own. It is difficult to live this truth when we live in a result-driven society that demands a different mindset. It is a struggle to unlearn a mindset that is so ingrained into me by the world - but it is good that there are other AG leaders who will be there to help remind me of this important truth.



Dn Mervyn Phan (AG2, 10.30am Congregation): It struck me how Jesus was very personal in Discipleship. This means that like the analogy of 'the trellis and vine', a lot of the 'structures' (programs) that we seem to be building may be for nothing if we do not tend the 'vine' (personal discipleship). The efforts, plans, ministries and AG work that we do must go toward building each other up with Christ in mind.

Please continue to pray for our AG Leaders, that each of them will be grounded in the matchless love of Jesus and that all their ministry will overflow out of their joyous relationship with Him!

Announcements

SENIORS360 DIM SUM HOUR & OUTREACH

Make your own snow skin mooncakes

9 Sep (Sat) 10.30am,

In-person at Fellowship Hall

Come join us at this upcoming SENIORS360 event with Mdm Elsie Neo and her friends from AG15 for a hands-on session on snowskin mooncake making. Bring some home to share with your family and friends. Do invite your non-Christian friends along!

Sign up by 3 Sep via link:

<https://tinyurl.com/26832urw>

ANTIOCH SUMMIT

7-9 Sep 2023

Want to know how you can get more involved in God's Mission in Asia and beyond? If you are a missions worker preparing to go, a potential goer or just exploring and eager to know more, sign up for this conference and witness the launch of the next decade of Missions for the Church in Singapore.

Sign up and find more info at

<https://sep7-9summit.antioch21sg.org>

REVELATION NOTE-TAKING BOOKLETS

As we begin a new sermon series, we want to encourage every member to hear and remember God's word well. Booklets containing the Revelation text with note-taking space are available at the registration table.

There are two sizes: **A4** with larger font size (**\$3**); **A5** with smaller font size (**\$1.50**). Please make payment via PayNow to the QR code at the table.

CHRISTIANITY EXPLORED

7 Wednesdays, beginning **13 Sep 2023**,
Dinner begins at 7:20pm

Join us for this informal course that aims to help people understand who Jesus is through Mark's Gospel, an eyewitness account of the life of Jesus. Invite your friends to come with you and see why Jesus is the best news that one can ever receive!

Register at <https://bit.ly/CEzionbishan>
or contact Joel (joel@zionbishan.org.sg)
for any enquiries.

CHILDREN'S DAY-CAMP 2023

21-24 Nov (Tues – Fri) 9am to 12pm
For children 4 to 11 yo. Camp fee: \$20

Come join us and discover how God keeps his promises, saves his people and is powerful through the books of Exodus and John!

For those interested please sign up at
<https://bit.ly/childrensdaycamp23>

Contact **June Tan 8388 1883** (8.30/10.30)
or **Dns Cassandra 9336 6920** (4.30) for all enquiries.