

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 41
8 October 2023**

Order of Service

Call to Worship

Gloria Patri

Worship in Songs

AM: Before the Throne of God Above; Salvation Belongs to Our God;
There is a Higher Throne

PM: There is a Higher Throne; How Great is Our God; Salvation Belongs to Our God

Scripture Reading: Revelation 7:1-17 ESV

Message: Sealing God's People

Response Hymn: We Have a Lamb

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

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, register at www.zionbishan.org.sg/dhf

8.45am DHF 1A (in English, for all nationalities) *in-person at Room 103 (and upon request via Zoom)*

8.45am DHF 2 (in Myanmar language) *in-person in The Living Room and via Zoom*

2.00pm DHF 3 (in Bahasa Indonesia) *via Zoom*

8.45pm DHF 1B (in English, for all nationalities) *upon request via Zoom*

Children/Youth Discipleship Classes

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

Join us on Telegram / WhatsApp

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),
Mr Quek Tze-Ming (4.30pm)

8.30am

Service Coordinator: Dn Justin Low

Worship Leader: Eld Sonny Tan

Vocalist & Musicians: Morning Team 2

10.30am

Service Coordinator: Dn Mervyn Phan

Worship Leader: Dn Tiew Chew Meng

Vocalist & Musicians: Morning Team 2

4.30pm

Service Coordinator: Joel Khoo

Worship Leader: Dn Herman Low

Vocalist & Musicians: Afternoon Team 2

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 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

Sealing God's People

Revelation 7:1-17

Ps Alby Yip / Mr Quek Tze-Ming

Introduction

God's People in Formation (7.1-8)

God's People in Victory (7.9-17)

Conclusion

Questions for Discussion and Reflection:

1. Who makes up the 144,000 that John hears will be sealed (vv. 4–8)? Why are they described like this (see Numbers 1)? What benefit might the “seal” offer to those marked with it?
2. Who makes up the great multitude that John sees (v. 9)? What is their response to what God and the Lamb have done for them (vv. 14–15)?
3. When in your life have you experienced God as Lamb or God as Shepherd?
4. How does this passage help us understand how God is involved in our lives in the midst of great suffering or difficulty?

Prayer Points

Our Church

Combined Leaders' Retreat - Praise God for the annual Combined Leaders' Retreat yesterday (7 Oct, Sat) where the Pastors, Elders, BOD, Staff and AG Leaders from all 8 congregations came together for a time of reflecting on Zion Bishan's current state in response to the letters to the 7 churches in Revelation, as well as to review and build on our transition to a congregational model. Please continue to pray for God to sustain all current leaders, and to raise many more godly leaders who teach and model Jesus to all the saints at Zion Bishan.

Children's Day - We thank God for each child who has been learning and growing in His word. We pray that they will learn to love the Lord and live under His kingship with all their hearts and minds, in spite of the growing negative influences that may lead them away from Him. Pray for their parents and spiritual families to disciple their hearts well and be good models of what it means to live a Christ-centred life. Pray for our children that their lives will be rooted in Christ and His word and be a shining light for Jesus in this dark world.

ZBCS Leaders' Retreat - Praise the Lord that the Zion Bishan Chinese Service (ZBCS) had a wonderful Leaders' Retreat on 16 Sep, held at the Yio Chu Kang Grassroot Club. The retreat was organised to remind us of Zion Bishan's Next Lap vision, to share the key learnings in the development and equipping of the ZBCS congregations, and to encourage more to step forward in active service to the Lord. Attendees were organised into cross-congregational groups to share observations and learnings on the dynamics and platforms for relationship building, organisation of task force for running of events, and effective leading of AGs, many of which will be translated into initiatives and work plan for the coming year. Please continue to pray for the ZBCS ministry, for more to submit to the Lord's calling to serve, and to

reach out to the many Mandarin, Cantonese and Hokkien speaking in the neighbourhood communities.

Peer Support Training – Praise God for the 13 peer supporters who attended an equipping workshop on family violence, conducted by Dn Ching Hong last Saturday. It was a good time of learning how to recognise and better support their peers in such situations. We thank God for the work that our peer supporters are doing, and we pray for more to come alongside.

Our World

Nepal – (Reuters) Two earthquakes of magnitude 6.3 and 5.3 rocked western Nepal on Tue (3 Oct), injuring 17 people, damaging homes and triggering landslides in many places. Praise God that our partners and team currently there were kept safe even amid reports of heightened religious tensions. Today, Priscilla and Rachel are joining Joey in the coming week. Pray that God may use them to deepen the faith of our partners' youths. Also departing today is Janet and Weng who will also be going to help with special needs education training for our partner's centre workers. Pray for safe travels and a good time of training for them.

India – A glacial lake situated in North Sikkim at 17,000 ft burst on early Wednesday (4 Oct) morning due to incessant rains and possibly the earthquake in Nepal. It has claimed 19 lives thus far, over 100 are still missing and affecting more than 22,000 people as the flash flood swept away villages and submerged towns. Our partner reported that the affected families of their church in Sikkim managed to run to safety but have lost their entire properties and homes. They thank God for the strong unity and bonding among their churches and are committed to help these families restore their livelihood and homes. Pray that believers from within their churches will donate generously and may such relief efforts point others to the love of God shared among them.

Last Week

Sunday Service	Attendance	Offering
English Service Livestream*	22	
English Service 8:30am	158	\$1,160.50
English Service 10:30am	473	
English Service 4:30pm	239	
Chinese Service Livestream*	8	
Chinese Service 8:30am	100	\$1,433.00
Cant/Mand Service 10:45am	71	\$507.00
ME Service	60	\$917.00
Hokkien Service	58	\$559.00
Tamil Service	15	\$2,055.75
DHF	20	
TOTAL	1224	\$6,632.25

*Livestreaming peak concurrent viewers

BSF Men's Contribution	\$717.50
BSF Women's Contribution	\$976.25
Use of premises	\$240.00
Electronic Transfer	\$63,917.94
Weekly Total	\$72,483.94

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

LAND LEASE RENEWAL FUND

Gift No: 1877	\$50.00
Electronic Transfer	\$5,071.60
Weekly Total	\$5,121.60

TOTAL GIFT RECEIVED TO-DATE **\$9,995,940.23**

Church Family News

1. Pastor Dev is preaching at Emmanuel BPC this morning.
2. Pastor Vernon is preaching at Mt Carmel BPC this weekend (Saturday evening and Sunday morning).

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, 13 October

8.00pm: Prayer Meeting

Register at www.zionbishan.org.sg/fpm

Saturday, 14 October

4.00pm: Youth Fellowship

Register at www.zionbishan.org.sg/yf

Sunday, 15 October

Worship Services at **8.30am, 10.30am**
and **4.30pm**

Revelation Series:

15 Oct – The Seven Trumpets Part 1

(Rev 8:1- 9:20)

Ps Ng Zhiwen (8.30am & 10.30am)

Ps Dev Menon (4.30pm)

22 Oct – The Seven Trumpets Part 2

(Rev 9:1- 9:22)

Ps Ng Zhiwen (8.30am & 10.30am)

Ps Dev Menon (4.30pm)

5 Nov – Interlude 2a: Eat this Scroll

(Rev 10:1-11)

Ps Alby (8.30am & 10.30am)

Ps Vernon Quek (4.30pm)

12 Nov – Interlude 2b: The Two Witnesses

(Rev 11:1-13)

Ps Alby (8.30am & 10.30am)

Ps Vernon Quek (4.30pm)

Your Response

8 October 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

A Book of tears...

When I first read the Revelation, it engaged my mind. My imagination came alive with the awesome visions, and I got engrossed with trying to figure out what they meant, like what one does with a puzzle book. But my heart was not engaged.

The truth is, I had not thought much about the state of the church, which the Revelation assumes *as a given* and occasionally lets us in on what's going on.

In this book, Christians are martyrs, witnesses to Jesus, even unto death. It begins with the Churches in Smyrna and in Philadelphia. They struggled against nasty powerful opposition. Some would pay with their lives (2:10). Time and time again, God's people in the Revelation are called to endure patiently and to hold fast to Christ. I find that the Revelation is filled with the tears of the saints.

The Church is in a holy war; they are suffering, and they are crying. I'm coming to grips with what it means to suffer as a Christian, to be oppressed *because* of loyal devotion to Jesus. Now I realize that this is a book that doesn't want to be merely understood. It must also be *felt*. I am learning to put myself in the shoes of the Church, and somehow share in their suffering.

Some of us may have such a story in our lives, but I suspect many of us do not think we have such an experience. That does not mean that we are spared from the enemy. We are simply facing different tactics – more of seduction than of outright persecution. But we are all in the same war. And we all hurt even when we do not clearly see the cause.

It's just more obvious with the suffering persecuted church. When I read of their tears, I learn to feel and to identify with them (as they identify with Christ in His suffering). John wept loudly because no one was found worthy to open the scroll (5:4). The souls of those who were slain for their witness cry out to God, "How long?" (6:9-10). The Christian life is a way marked with tears, and I groan along with them all.

Part of my discipleship journey through the Revelation has been to recognize this. Since then, God's word has become even more alive and 'real'. I am finding this book to be a light that reveals the truth about following Jesus in this broken and hostile world.

I am also finding in it a wellspring of consolation. Because while the Revelation speaks of many tears, it promises that these tears will one day be wiped away by the hand of God (7:17; 21:4). I'm longing for that day.

"Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted." Matthew 5:4

... and of tears being wiped away

Announcements

ZION BISHAN 29th ANNIVERSARY SERVICE & DINNER

Join us in celebrating our 29th Anniversary service happening on **Sat, 28 Oct**. The service will **start at 4pm**, and end with dinner in the Fellowship Hall.

Please register for dinner at bit.ly/ZB29 by **15 Oct** at \$5/seat or \$50/table of ten. *You are encouraged to sign up by tables.*

WOZ OF ZION LADIES BIBLE STUDIES

All ladies are invited to join a Bible study group (via zoom) on the First Book of Peter.

1st session **26 Oct**,
10am -12pm

Subsequent sessions on
1st and 3rd Thursdays

Workbook cost: \$12

WhatsApp **Lydia @8338 3982** to register.

ZBCS YOUTH CAMP

19-22 Dec, at Church

Christianity Unpacked

Speaker: Pastor Yap Kim Sin
Advisory Pastor, Zion Serangoon BP Church

Camp fees:

\$30 first timer

\$50 on or before 14 Oct

\$60 after 14 Oct

Register at

<https://tinyurl.com/meyouthcamp23>

X3A

Struggling with sexual temptation?

X3A is a men's group for support and encouragement.

Contact Ps Dev

[**\(dev@zionbishan.org.sg\)**](mailto:dev@zionbishan.org.sg)

for more information.