

From Sorrow to Joy

Christmas Advent Series 2023

ENGLISH SERVICES

VOL 14 NO 52
24 December 2023

Order of Service

Call to Worship

Gloria Patri

Worship in Songs

AM: Hark the Herald Angels Sing; Oh Holy Night

PM: O Little Town of Bethlehem; Hark! the Herald Angels Sing

Reception of Members

Scripture Reading: Luke 2:1-20 (ESV)

Message: From Oppression to Joy

Response Hymn: Joy Has Dawned

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

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

Speaker: Mr Quek Tze-Ming

8.30am

Service Coordinator: Dn Justin Low

Worship Leader: Dn Justin Low

Vocalist & Musicians: Morning Team 4

10.30am

Service Coordinator: Dn Charles Chia

Worship Leader: Eld Michael Gan

Vocalist & Musicians: Morning Team 4

4.30pm

Service Coordinator: Vanessa Lee

Worship Leader: Dn Herman Low

Vocalist & Musicians: Adhoc Team

Pastors and Ministry Staff

E-mail: *user ID* followed by @zionbishan.org.sg

Rev Dr Alby Yip, <i>Senior Pastor</i>	<i>alby</i>
Rev Dr Dev Menon, <i>Pastor</i>	<i>dev</i>
Rev Ebinezar Mohan, <i>Pastor (Tamil)</i>	<i>ebi</i>
Rev Lim Jit Thye, <i>Pastor (Cant-Mand)</i>	<i>jtlim</i>
Rev Daniel Nge, <i>Pastor (Mand-Eng)</i>	<i>daniel</i>
Rev Vernon Quek, <i>Pastor</i>	<i>vernon</i>
Rev Ng Zhiwen, <i>Pastor</i>	<i>zhiwen</i>
Rev Paul Yeo, <i>Pastor (Hokkien/Mand)</i>	<i>paul</i>
Mrs Emily Quek, <i>Special Projects</i>	<i>emily</i>
Mrs June Tan, <i>Children's Ministry</i>	<i>june</i>
Mrs Sharon Quek, <i>Overseas Ministries</i>	<i>sharon</i>
Mr Danny Chua, <i>AG/Safeguarding</i>	<i>danny</i>
Mr Quek Tze-Ming, <i>Assoc Min Staff</i>	<i>tzeming</i>
Miss Jacqueline Lie, <i>Youth Ministry</i>	<i>jacqueline</i>
Miss Vanessa Lee, <i>Women's Ministry</i>	<i>vanessa</i>
Mr Joel Khoo, <i>YAs/Discipleship</i>	<i>joel</i>
Mr Timothy Ong, <i>Missions Education</i>	<i>timothy</i>
Rev Dr David Wong, <i>Advisory Pastor</i>	

Rev Dr Quek Swee Hwa, *Pastor Emeritus*

Confidential Care & Counselling e-mail:

care@zionbishan.org.sg

From Oppression to Joy

Luke 2:1-20

Introduction

Oppression: The Way of the World

Joy: The Gift of God

Conclusion

Questions for Reflection:

1. The Gospel of Luke gives the historical setting of the birth of Jesus (Luke 2:1-4). What implications does this setting tell us about the world into which Jesus came?
2. Why do you think the “manger” is mentioned repeatedly in this passage? Why is a manger especially fitting as a sign for the shepherds (Luke 2:12)?
3. In what areas in the world do you see oppression? In what areas in your life do you experience oppression? How does Jesus turn oppression into joy?

Prayer Points

Our Church

Reception of Members – We praise God for the 50+ adults and children who are being received across all our English Congregations today! Thank God for the 12 table hosts who journeyed with them over 3 months. We pray that these new members will continue to be discipled and eventually to disciple others within their respective AGs. We also pray for the parents to learn what it means to disciple our own children. Do make the effort to get to know the ones being received at your congregation.

SMO Learning Journey (26-31 Dec)

A team of 12 youths and adults will be heading to Bacolod, Philippines, to come alongside Student Missionary Outreach in their year-end outreach activities. The team will be joining in an evangelistic youth camp, *Camp Forever*, and will be doing community outreach to share Christmas joy through songs, skit and crafts. Pray for the team as they serve, that they will see how God is working among the Filipino youths, and especially through the steadfast ministry of SMO.

LR Christmas Outreach – Thank God for the portrayal of the parable of the prodigal son through skit to Sin Ming residents on 18 Dec (Mon). The LR

staff were grateful for the logistic helpers, drivers and befrienders who also had meaningful conversations with the residents. Pray for timely and prompt follow up with the residents there, that they will continue to want to know Jesus.

Our World

Malaysia – One partner is hosting a youth camp with a theme “Follow Jesus” for more than 100 Orang Asli youths and co-workers on the last few days of Dec. Pray for a safe journey and fruitful time with our partner for brothers Sam and Chye Ann as they visit our partner for a short while during this camp. May this camp strengthen the faith of the youths in these Orang Asli churches.

Myanmar – Thank God that our partner was able to provide some rice distribution over the past week to their neighbourhood in Yangon. This is timely help because many in Myanmar are facing more hardship. Channel NewsAsia (19 Dec) reported that 1/3 of Myanmar’s population (or 18m people) now requires humanitarian aid, a situation made much worse since the coup 3 years ago. Pray for God’s mercy and grace for the people of Myanmar.

Last Week

Sunday Service	Attendance	Offering
English Service Livestream*	23	
English Service 8:30am	142	\$1,012.00
English Service 10:30am	423	
English Service 4:30pm	225	
Chinese Service livestream*	9	
Chinese Service 8:30am	85	\$890.00
Cant/Mand Service 10:45am	51	\$835.00
ME Service	66	\$1,847.00
Hokkien Service	57	\$571.00
Tamil Service	15	\$299.00
DHF	18	
TOTAL	1114	\$5,454.00

*Livestreaming peak concurrent viewers

BSF Men	\$759.75
BSF Women	\$909.10
Electronic Transfer	\$70,487.70
Weekly Total	\$77,610.55

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

LAND LEASE RENEWAL FUND

Electronic Transfer	\$7,756.30
Weekly Total	\$7,756.30

TOTAL GIFT RECEIVED TO-DATE **\$10,104,807.01**

Church Family News

1. Brother Danny Chua is preaching at Hebron BP Church's Christmas Eve service today.
2. Pastor Dev is preaching at Shalom BP Church this morning.
3. Pastor Alby will be on leave 27-30 Dec 2023.
4. Church Office will be closed on 26 Dec 2023.

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, 29 Dec

8.00pm: Prayer Meeting

Register at www.zionbishan.org.sg/fpm

Saturday, 30 Dec

4.00pm: Youth Fellowship

Register at www.zionbishan.org.sg/yf

Sunday, 31 Dec

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

Watchnight Service: **10pm to 12mn**

Testimonies start at 10pm

Advent Series: From Sorrow to Joy

25 Dec (Christmas) 10.30am & 4.30pm

- From Humiliation to Joy

Ps Alby Yip

31 Dec - The Second Christmas

Ps Vernon Quek

Your Response

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 at 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.

ZION BISHAN ENGLISH SERVICE

RECEPTION OF MEMBERS

8.30am Congregation

Adult Baptism

1. Lee Chok Yew (Mr)

Reaffirmation of Faith

2. Katelyn Goh Xi-Ern (Ms)

Transfer of Membership

3. Dawn Ong Siew Hong (Ms) – *Paya Lebar Methodist Church*

10.30am Congregation

Adult Baptism

1. Malcolm Shiau Zi Yi (Mr)
2. Natanael Tan Tiong Oon (Mr)
3. Lim Kwee Eng (Mdm)
4. John Wong Tian Ren (Mr)

Reaffirmation of Faith

5. Brennan Nathanael Ting (Mr)
6. Emma Ng Zhuo En (Ms)

Transfer of Membership

7. Grace Chow Choy Hing (Mrs) Ng Guan Pow – *The People's Bible Church*
8. Juay Wei Tian (Mrs) Amos Seah – *All Saints' Church*
9. Kenneth Poon Chee Hoong (Mr) – *Bethel Baptist Church*
10. Pauline Quek (Mrs) Kenneth Poon Chee Hoong – *St. James' Church*
11. Derek Tay Mee Sing (Mr) – *Covenant Presbyterian Church*
12. Christina Ng Khoon Eng (Mrs) Derek Tay Mee Sing - *Covenant Presbyterian Church*
13. Vanessa Leow Chun Hui (Mrs) Issac Wong Kai Jie – *Emmanuel Methodist Church, Selangor, Malaysia*

Child Baptism

14. Ethan Jay Wong Sheng Yao – s/o Issac & Vanessa Wong
15. Goh Kai Xi Sonia – d/o Joshua & Shu Ling Goh
16. Jude Gabriel Patrick – s/o Timothy & Joanna Patrick
17. Hope Koh En Yi – d/o Wilbur & Zhihui Koh
18. Elijah Choong Yi Ze – s/o Meng Hang & Gloria Choong
19. Goh Jing Kai Isaac – s/o Matthias & Jean Goh
20. Goh Jing Xuan Krisa - d/o Matthias & Jean Goh

4.30pm Congregation

Adult Baptism

1. Marc Tang Qing Yang (Mr)
2. Tin Wei Heng (Mr)
3. Lee Youzheng (Mr)
4. Lesley Cai Wanling (Mrs) Lim Wei Ri
5. Lim Jianyi (Mr)
6. Fiona Sia Pei Ling (Ms)

Reaffirmation of Faith

7. Jenn Low Zhi En (Ms)
8. Evan Seet Eu-An (Mr)
9. Benjamin Bay Yung Ern (Mr)
10. Dayna Tan Si Wei (Ms)

Transfer of Membership

11. Lim Wei Ri (Mr) – *Marine Parade Christian Centre*
12. Daryl Eng Ser Kiat (Mr) – *Church of Our Saviour*
13. Cheryl Lee Shi-Ying (Ms) – *Calvary Baptist Church*
14. Hong Hui Shi (Mrs) Lee Jen Wei – *Calvary Baptist Church*
15. Dorothy Kang Shi Wei (Ms) – *Logos Christian Church*
16. Goh Jia Hui (Mr) – *Yishun Christian Church (Anglican)*
17. Sim Chew Aik Germaine (Ms) – *Hope Church Singapore*
18. Diana Yeo Mui Kheng (Dr) – *The Vine Church*
19. Ng Bee Lim (Dr) – *Zion Serangoon Bible-Presbyterian Church*
20. Aaron Tan Yeqiang (Mr) – *Church of the Ascension*
21. Pang Hwee Lun (Mrs) Aaron Tan Yeqiang – *The Crossing Church*
22. Mark Lai Junyang (Mr) – *Bedok Methodist Church*
23. Laura Chew Yi Mei (Mrs) Mark Lai Junyang – *Wesley Methodist Church*
24. Daniel Yee Weishan (Mr) – *St Helen's Church, London*
25. Stacey-Ann Lee Wanpei (Mrs) Daniel Yee Weishan – *St Helen's Church, London*
26. David Chua Kim Huat (Prof) – *Bethesda Hall Ang Mo Kio*
27. Sim Bee Joo (Mrs) David Chua Kim Huat - *Bethesda Hall Ang Mo Kio*

Child Baptism

28. Hannah Teh En Hui – d/o Lence & Natalie Teh
29. Mikaela Chua Shi En – d/o Danny & Charis Chua
30. Charis Leong Hui-Yi – d/o Jason & Gayle Leong
31. Wang Ning Beth – d/o Dn Peter & Dawn Wang

A Growing Church Family

Today, we at Zion Bishan have the great joy of receiving 66 people across our eight congregations to be members in our church family.

This is the largest reception of members that we've had in recent years, and we thank God for each and every new member who has been baptised, reaffirmed their faith or transferred their membership today – it is certainly God working through His Spirit that has brought each of them.

Membership in a local church like Zion Bishan is meant to be a tangible reflection that we are members of the wider Church, the Body of Christ. So, as we receive new members into Zion Bishan, it is a good time for both the new members and those of us who are receiving them to remember what it means to be fellow members of Jesus' Body.

The Apostle Paul helps us with this in Ephesians Chapter 4:

Rather, **speaking the truth in love**, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, from whom the whole body, joined and held together by every joint with which it is equipped, **when each part is working properly, makes the body grow so that it builds itself up in love...**

Therefore, having put away falsehood, let each one of you **speak the truth** with his neighbor, **for we are members one of another**.¹

The apostle here shows us twice what fellow members of the Body do: they speak the truth in love to one another. Notice that this is the way that Christ grows and matures His Body, by saints showing His love and lordship to each other.

This should change the way we view each reception of members at Zion Bishan. Here is real cause for celebration: more saints to share the goodness of Jesus with, and more fellow members to point us to how good He is with their words and lives. What a blessing to have more fellow members of the body to grow and mature with!

As we witness so many joining us as members today, I wonder if there are one or two new members whom we can commit to growing in such healthy relationship with? To speak to them the truth that is Jesus and likewise, to be encouraged in return.

Let me leave you with the words that are said on behalf of the Zion Bishan family to those transferring membership:

'I hereby receive you into our fellowship, to worship God with us, to grow in Christ with us, to serve through the power of the Holy Spirit with us.'

May the Lord continue to mature and build us to be the church He desires us to be!

¹ Ephesians 4:15-16, 25 (ESV)

Announcements

CHRISTMAS SERVICE

Join us this Christmas
tomorrow **25 Dec 2023!**

2 Services: 10.30am & 4.30pm

- Pre-service Carol Singing:
10am & 4pm
- Followed by Bento Lunch/Dinner

WATCHNIGHT SERVICE 2023

31 Dec 2023 (Sun)
10pm to 12mn @ Sanctuary
Testimonies start at 10pm

*Join us for a time of testimony sharing,
worship, and hear from His Word to gain
strength to continue living for Him in the
coming year.*

If you'll like to share your testimony but
can't be there in person, please send it to
Ps Ng Zhiwen (zhiwen@zionbishan.org.sg)
or **Dns Debbo (debbole@gmail.com)**

If you are not able to make it for service,
but would still like for your family to reflect
on the year together, a **New Year's Eve
Family Devotion** will be made available
here: <https://shorturl.at/hjklL>

WOZ PRAYER & PRAISE 2024

6 Jan 2024 (Sat) 3-5pm
@ Queenie's Place

Come to bless and be blessed!
Thank God for the past year and look
forward to serve Him in the New Year.

Ladies, contact **Lydia @ 8338 3982** to
register.

BE A BLESSING TO SENIORS

13 Jan 2024 (Sat) 10.30am
3rd Floor Conference Room

In this session, Ps Alby and team will share
the vision of **SENIORS360**, various
opportunities and equipping tools
available, through which you can make a
difference in the lives of seniors.

Open to all Zion members and worshippers
with a heart to reach seniors.

There is no age requirement!

Register by **6 Jan 2024**.
<http://tinyurl.com/s360jan24>

ZB WOMEN'S WEEKEND

13 Jan 2024 (Sat), Chapel
9am-1pm (Including Lunch)

Theme: Putting on Christ Together
Speaker: Ms Vanessa Lee

Inviting all ladies in Zion Bishan (13 y/o and
above), to join us for a time of encouraging
one another through a Bible talk from
Colossians 3. There will be worship, tea and
a time for fellowship and discussion!

*As saints, we have all been raised with the
supreme Christ, who is now seated at God's
right hand in heaven! Yet, what does that
mean for our day-to-day living in this
earthly life, until He appears in glory? And
how does that shape the way we relate to
one another as sisters in the body of Christ?*

Please register at bit.ly/zbwomen

For more information, do approach
Vanessa Lee or Dns Debbo.