

GETHSEMANE

BIBLE-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

"Not my will, but Thine, be done" – Luke 22:42



A WORD ON WORSHIP

Worship is the tribute which we pay to the King of kings, who has saved us and made us His people. We acknowledge His sovereignty over us, and our dependence on Him. Let us be filled with inward reverence and praise, that we may offer them outwardly in songs, prayers, meditation of His Word and service unto His glory. May we come to Him with a true heart, confessing, "The LORD our God will we serve, and his voice will we obey" (Joshua 24:24).

Come let us
Adore
Him

Pastor and the Session
would like to wish all
members and worshippers
this day

*A Blessed &
Joyous Christmas*



ORDER OF WORSHIP

Hallelujah Chorus *Combined Adults' and Youth Choir*

Call to Worship

Dn Francis Lee

Hymn 157: Hark! the Herald Angels Sing*

Invocation & Gloria Patri*

Responsive Scripture Reading*

Matthew 1:18-25

Hymn 152: Joy to the World!

Collection of Offerings

Voices of Gethsemane

Doxology & Prayer*

Hymn 164: O Come, All Ye Faithful

**Baptism, Affirmation of Faith & Transfer of
Membership**

Pastoral Prayer

Sermon

Pastor Prabhudas Koshy

"His Birth was on This Wise"

Matthew 1:18

Hymn 168: Who is He in Yonder Stall?*

Benediction & Threefold Amen*

** Congregation Standing*

TODAY, 25 DECEMBER 2016

NEXT LORD'S DAY, 1 JANUARY 2017

9.00 – 10.00am		CHURCH CHOIR & CHILDREN'S CHOIR	CHURCH CHOIR & CHILDREN'S CHOIR
		MALAYALAM FELLOWSHIP	MALAYALAM FELLOWSHIP
10.30am	CHINESE SERVICE	Worship Leader: Gan Chin Hwi Preacher: Pr Daniel Lim Musician: Eunice Choy Flowers: Francis Tan Refreshments: Jennifer Goh Ushers: Chan Tuck Whye & Francis Tan	Worship Leader: Gan Chin Hwi Preacher: Pr Daniel Lim Musician: Dyllis Teo Flowers: Lee Kim Lei Ushers: Jonah So & Cayson Chok
	ENGLISH SERVICE	Worship Leader: Dn Francis Lee Preacher: Pastor Prabhudas Koshy Musicians: Chloe Pawa, Jollyn Low Ushers: Andy Lee, Marcus Peh Benny Skariah, Cayson Chok Amoz Choy, Julius Del Rosario Greeter: Sally Lum AV Ministry: Crew No. 1 Flowers: Stephanie Lee Refreshments: Stella Tan, Nancy Lau Edeliza Ballega, Cecilia Siah Junior Worship: Pr Dennis Kabingue, (Eunice Choy) Dn Low Boon Siang, (Cornelius Koshy) Andrew Koh	Worship Leader: Eld Alan Choy Preacher: Pastor Prabhudas Koshy Musicians: Chloe Pawa, Ellyzabeth Cornelius Koshy, Edwin Quek Jason Low, Low Chip Hung Marcus Lim, John Peh Low Siew Lian AV Ministry: Crew No. 1 Flowers: Katherin Wu Refreshments: Violet Quek, Chairine Chayadi Lim Hua See, Chong Shu Mun Junior Worship: Dorothy Ng, (Jollyn Low) Pr Kelvin Lim, (Corliss Ooi) John Peh
1.30pm	FILIPINO SERVICE	Worship Leader: Norefel Resuma Preacher: Pr Dennis Kabingue Musician: Duaine Kabingue Usher: Anthony Evangelista Refreshments: Tomei Tan	Worship Leader: Eric Delina Preacher: Pr Dennis Kabingue Musician: Duaine Kabingue Usher: Jordan Ballega Refreshments: Rhodora Resuma
3.30pm	LIONS HOME	Venue: 9 Bishan Street 13 English Speaker: Pr Jeremiah Sim Dialect Speaker: Kenneth Wong	Venue: 487 Bedok South Ave 2 English Speaker: Eld Mah Chin Kwang Dialect Speaker: Pr Kelvin Lim

25 December 2016

WHEN CHRIST'S BIRTH WAS FIRST PROMISED

Genesis 3:15

Dennis Kabingue

When God first revealed to our first parents His plan to send Christ into this world, it was a most momentous time. When the first Gospel announcement was made, our first parents had been found guilty of rebellion and were responsible for the fall of God's creation, particularly Adam. By eating the forbidden fruit, they had forged an unholy alliance with Satan and transgressed God's commandment in Genesis 2:16-17 – "And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, Of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat: but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die."

Imagine the commotion, fear and guilt troubling their hearts and minds as they found themselves dead in trespasses and sins. They were still alive, yet spiritually dead, being alienated from God. This consequence, God had emphatically warned Adam earlier. Everything changed in a twinkling of an eye as their spiritual death cut them off from God's

presence. Their hearts were corrupted and their souls perverted. For the first time, they experienced falling into the abyss of sin and being locked up in spiritual darkness. Having no power to reverse God's judgment, they also realised that the world around them had been corrupted and become a hostile environment. In sorrow and fear, they realised firsthand the sad reality of sinning against God; but it was too late, and there was nothing that they could do!

{Dear friends, as matter of application of the above historical truth in our life, may it remind you that disobedience to God would end up in tragedy and misery. If we do not learn our lessons early in life, we are going to waste many of our opportunities in the Lord and reap His displeasure. The only way to live a blessed life is to follow the principle which King David adopted in his life: "Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee" (Psalm 119:11). By avoiding sin,



we receive His blessings. “The LORD is the portion of mine inheritance and of my cup: thou maintainest my lot. The lines are fallen unto me in pleasant places; yea, I have a goodly heritage” (Psalm 16:5-6).}

Oh, how relieved our first parents must have been when they first heard directly from God His plan to redeem them from their sins. They must have been overwhelmed to hear what God said in Genesis 3:15 – “And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel.” What a wonderful blessing to hear God’s commitment to save them. After they had rebelled against God, He visited them not just to pronounce them guilty, but also (above all) to proclaim that God will give His Son Jesus Christ to be their Saviour! In that first proclamation of the Gospel, God did not reveal a lot of details about Christ being born as man’s Saviour. Nonetheless, Christ, the Son of God, was introduced as “her seed”. (Surely, the Holy Spirit would have given our first parents the understanding of the Gospel, as it was announced to them). As such, we have every reason to believe that they were saved that day as they looked to Christ as their Saviour and Lord by faith!

Since we are privileged today to have the whole counsel of God in our hands, let us consider why God introduced Christ as “her seed”.

Firstly, it was to impart the knowledge that the Messiah would come as one of us. This understanding is certainly supported by the later revelations in the Scriptures. The apostle John says, “And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth” (John 1:14). Hebrews 2:14-18 also declares the same truth: “Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, he also himself likewise took part of the same; that through death he might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil; and deliver them who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage. For verily he took not on him the nature of angels; but he took on him the seed of Abraham. Wherefore in all things it behoved him to be made like unto his brethren, that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in things pertaining to God, to make reconciliation for the sins of the people. For in that he himself hath suffered being tempted, he is able to succour them that are tempted.”

Secondly, it was to impart the idea that Christ's coming would be by means of a virgin conception and birth. We know this from the angel's word to Joseph in Matthew 1:20-21 – "Joseph, thou son of David, fear not to take unto thee Mary thy wife: for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Ghost. And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name JESUS: for he shall save his people from their sins." Thus, He will be born as an unblemished, perfect God-Man to offer a perfect sacrifice for our redemption.

What a grand plan which God's wisdom has devised to work out our salvation. Christ came as "her seed" to present Himself as our representative, undefiled by Adam's sin. Since Christ was perfectly holy, He was able to offer Himself as the Lamb of God, the perfect sacrifice to appease God's wrath. On the cross, the old serpent's seed (the ungodly children of Satan) may have bruised His heel (wounded and killed Christ). Nonetheless, what appeared to be His defeat actually turned out to be a fatal blow on Satan's head when Jesus resurrected, destroying the power of sin, death and Satan over us. Just as God has proclaimed in Genesis 3:15, Christ's coming accomplished the defeat of Satan and our salvation. Now that we are no more dead in trespasses and sins, and thus no more locked up in spiritual darkness and sins, let us "Stand fast therefore in the liberty wherewith Christ hath made us free, and be not entangled again with the yoke of bondage" (Galatians 5:1). ■



GETHESEMANE BIBLE INSTITUTE (GBI-ONLINE)

ECCLESIOLOGY (Systematic Theology V)
by Pastor Koshy

Topics to be covered:

- Universal Church
- Local Church
- Church Government
- Sacraments of the Church
- Church Membership
- Covenants: The Old & New, Israel and the NT Church, etc.

Day: Every Wednesday night,

Time: 7.45pm-9.15pm

Duration: 11th Jan – 17th May 2017

Venue: TGCM premises

(Transport from Punggol MRT station at 7.30pm.)

Only 14 places available.

Please register at the reception table today!



Illustration by Melissa Neo

GOD'S WORD SHALL NEVER FAIL

Isaiah 40:8

*"The grass withereth, the flower fadeth:
but the word of our God shall stand for ever."*

Everything on this earth, no matter how beautiful and glorious it may be, will soon wither and fade away. The things that we have achieved and cherished in life will also vanish from our grip. In other words, nothing of this world endures forever.

All mighty men, who once ruled the world with great power, withered and faded away like the grass and flowers. Those who love and care for us will also soon be gone. This can be very troubling to us. But if we trust in God and His Word, which shall never pass away, we will find our strength and comfort.

It will do us good if we acknowledge that everything passes away, except the Word of God. Only the Word of God will endure for ever. We don't doubt the permanence of God's Word because God the Almighty has clearly said that it will stand forever. Jesus said, "Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away" (Matthew 24:35). God will both preserve His Word and bring to pass all that it says.

All that the Bible has declared are true, and therefore all its promises and prophecies will be fulfilled. Not one word will fail. So we should trust all of God's promises. People and their promises may fail, but God's promises in the Bible shall never fail. Amen.

Prabhudas Koshy

COLLECTIONS

LORD'S DAY on 18 December 2016

Tithes: 9,320.00

Offerings: 7,059.40

Bldg Fund (Project): 4,500.00; 3,000.00;
250.00, 50.00

Designated Gifts: Missionary Conference (2017) 150.00; TGCM (Local) 200.00; 100.00; GBI (Ethiopia) 50.00; Pastor Koshy 500.00; 200.00; Daniel Lim 200.00; Andrew Koh 200.00; Kenneth Wong 200.00; Eric Delina 50.00; Sujith Samuel 100.00; 50.00; Ajay Daram 50.00

NON-SUNDAY GIFT

General Fund: 1,270.00

Bldg Fund (Project): 7,000.00; 5,000.00;
1,000.00;

Bible Witness: 4,000.00; 1,000.00; 350.00

TGCM (local): 4,000.00; 1,000.00

Sharon dela Cruz: 400.00

SPECIAL FUND UPDATE

(as of 18 December 2016)

Building Fund (Project): \$2,100,386.20

"And now, behold,

*I have brought the firstfruits of the land,
which thou, O LORD, hast given me.*

*And thou shalt set it before the LORD thy God,
and worship before the LORD thy God"*

Deuteronomy 26:10

YOUTH CAMP

Theme: Serving God

Venue: Boys' Brigade Campsite
1200 Sembawang Road
Singapore 758526

Dates: 26th-28th December 2016

*There will be a camp briefing immediately
after the worship service today for all
participants.*

WATCHNIGHT SERVICE

Date: Sat, 31st Dec 2016

Time: 7.00-10.00pm

Venue: The Girls' Brigade Centre
795 Upper Serangoon Road
Singapore 534667

Chairman: Eld Mah Chin Kwang

Speaker: Pastor Koshy

Pianists: Eunice Choy & Dorcas Koshy

Ushers: Samuel Yong, Stephen Yap,
Gerry Lee, Randy Laurencio,
Ho Kee How, Linus Kok

How to get there?

*At Serangoon MRT station (Exit B), take
bus no. 101, 107 or 153. Alight at the 3rd
bus stop and walk back about 5 mins to
GB Centre.*

Please come prepared for a time of
praise and thanksgiving.

BAPTISM, AFFIRMATION OF FAITH & TRANSFER OF MEMBERSHIP

Infant Baptism:

1. Sarah-Anne Teong Eu Ern (daughter
of Mr & Mrs Andrew Teong Ming Chye)

Baptism:

1. Kng Bee Eng Cassy; 2. Ho Kum Fong;
3. Lim Jun Hong Darrell; 4. Lim Yu Lin
Natalie; 5. Dahlia Soh Cai Min

Affirmation of Faith:

1. Lok Qian Ning; 2. David Susano
Kabingue

Transfer of Membership:

1. Lim Sim Choong, James; 2. Yeo
Poh Choo Jessica; 3. Ricky Yang Teng
Chew; 4. Stella Seah Lin Fong; 5. Seah
Poh Eng

SUNDAY EVANGELISM

*There will be an evangelism session today at
Blk 21 Chai Chee Road
Singapore 461021
Please meet @ 1.30pm at the foyer.*

SUNDAY FELLOWSHIP LUNCH

Those who would like packet lunch after
worship service for the month of January
2017, kindly place your order and make
payment to Sis Aileen Tan.

MISSIONARY CONFERENCE 2017

Date: 5-9 June 2017 (Monday-Friday)

Venue: Hilton Kuching

Participants are advised to book plane tickets on their own as soon as possible. Arrival at the hotel must be by 5pm on Monday, 5th June 2017. The conference will end at 12 noon on Friday, 9th June 2017.

FAR EASTERN BIBLE COLLEGE

BASIC THEOLOGY FOR EVERYONE

January – April 2017

Monday Night Class

“Genesis”

by Rev Dr Quek Swan Yew

Commencing on 9 January

Thursday Night Class

“Systematic Theology IV - Eschatology”

by Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo

Commencing on 5 January

Registration forms are available at the reception table.

DELAYED!

Due to some unforeseen circumstances with the printer, the publications team apologise for the slight delay in the completion of the printing of Pastor’s devotional book.

Every family (Gethsemaneans and regular worshippers) will get a free copy. Additional copies can be purchased by worshippers at \$15 per copy when the book is first made available. Actual price is S\$20.



POST-WORSHIP ACTIVITIES

Please stay back after worship to join us for:

Refreshments & Fellowship

12.30pm – 1.30pm

Bible Study (Adults, Youths & Children)

Cancelled in view of Evangelism

WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

Tuesday Campus Bible Study

NAFA Semestral Break

Tuesday Night Bible Study & Prayer

8.00pm @ L5 Auditorium, SingPost Centre

Wednesday Lunch Hour Bible Study

Resume in January 2017

Wednesday Night GBI-Online

Semestral Break

Thursday Seniors’ Ministry

11.00am (Please contact Pr Jeremiah Sim)

Friday Morning Prayer

7.45am – 8.30am @ Church Resource Centre

Friday Campus Bible Study

SUTD Semestral Break

Sunday Lions Home Ministry

For enquiry, contact Pr Jeremiah Sim

For more information, please call the church office at 6741 1910.



Bible Witness Magazine



Bible Witness Web Radio



Church Weekly

Time & Place of Worship

10.30am

Level 5 Auditorium

Singapore Post Centre

10 Eunos Road 8

Singapore 408600

(next to Paya Lebar MRT station)

Prayer Hotline

8138 8139

SMS or WhatsApp

your prayer item

Our Office

510 Geylang Road, #02-06

Singapore 389466

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Our Websites

gethsemanebpc.com

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Our Pastor

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Email: pastor.gbpc@gmail.com

Our Session

Pastor Prabhudas Koshy

Elder Mah Chin Kwang

Elder Alan Choy

Elder Ng Poh Kok

Deacon Daniel Lim

Deacon Lok Kwok Wah

Deacon Kelvin Lim

Deacon Francis Lee

Deacon Low Boon Siang