

# GETHSEMANE

BIBLE-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

## A WORD ON WORSHIP

Those who seek God in true worship shall not be devoid of truth. Just as Abraham's servant had testified that God "hath not left destitute my master of his mercy and his truth" (Genesis 24:27), the psalmist has also declared that "his truth endureth to all generations" (Psalm 100:5). Furthermore, we who abide in Christ have this promise to be guided by His truth, for "grace and truth came by Jesus Christ" (John 1:17). Let us therefore confess: "O LORD, thou art my God; I will exalt thee, I will praise thy name; for thou hast done wonderful things; thy counsels of old are faithfulness and truth" (Isaiah 25:1).

## SCRIPTURE MEMORISATION

*Door Open*

### **Revelation 3:8**

I know thy works: behold, I have set before thee an open door, and no man can shut it: for thou hast a little strength, and hast kept my word, and hast not denied my name.

## ORDER OF WORSHIP

### **Call to Worship**

*Elder Mah Chin Kwang*

Hymn 20: All People That on Earth Do Dwell\*

### **Invocation & Gloria Patri\***

**Responsive Scripture Reading\*** *Romans 15:9-29*

Hymn 93: To God Be the Glory

### **Collection of Offerings**

Gethsemane Youth Choir *God So Loved the World*

### **Doxology & Prayer\***

Hymn 187: It Is A Thing Most Wonderful

### **Scripture Memorisation**

### **Pastoral Prayer**

### **Sermon**

*Pastor Prabhudas Koshy*

"The Parable of Mustard Seed"

*Matthew 13:31-32*

### **Holy Communion**

Hymn 184: Rock of Ages

Hymn 173: There is a Fountain\*

### **Benediction & Threefold Amen\***

*\* Congregation Standing*



## TODAY, 5 FEBRUARY 2017

## NEXT LORD'S DAY, 12 FEBRUARY 2017

9.00 – 10.00am		CHURCH CHOIR & CHILDREN'S CHOIR		CHURCH CHOIR & CHILDREN'S CHOIR	
		MALAYALAM FELLOWSHIP		MALAYALAM FELLOWSHIP	
10.30am	CHINESE SERVICE	<b>Worship Leader:</b> Pr Daniel Lim <b>Preacher:</b> Pr Daniel Lim <b>Musician:</b> Gan Sze Huey <b>Flowers:</b> Roscelle Lim <b>Ushers:</b> Lawrence Ng & Robert Ooi	<b>Worship Leader:</b> Gan Chin Hwi <b>Preacher:</b> Pr Daniel Lim <b>Musician:</b> Angeline Wong <b>Flowers:</b> Winnie Yap <b>Refreshments:</b> Maggie Ho <b>Ushers:</b> John Peh & Lawrence Ng		
	ENGLISH SERVICE	<b>Worship Leader:</b> Elder Mah Chin Kwang <b>Preacher:</b> Pastor Prabhudas Koshy <b>Musicians:</b> Jollyn Low, Jasmine Low <b>Ushers:</b> Cornelius Koshy, Linus Kok Jason Low, Low Chip Hung Marcus Lim, John Peh <b>Greeter:</b> Mah Lean Choo <b>AV Ministry:</b> Crew No. 2 <b>Flowers:</b> Lee Kim Lei <b>Refreshments:</b> Violet Quek, Chairine Chayadi Lim Hua See, Chong Shu Mun <b>Junior Worship:</b> Pr Dennis Kabingue, (Stella Tan) Pawa Mong Jee, (Priscilla Toon) Samuel Yong	<b>Worship Leader:</b> Elder Alan Choy <b>Preacher:</b> Pastor Prabhudas Koshy <b>Musicians:</b> Eunice Choy, Sarah Lee <b>Ushers:</b> Ng Kwan Teng, Theodore Wang Benny Skariah, Cayson Chok Timotheus Liu, Chan Tuck Whye Sally Lum <b>Greeter:</b> Crew No. 3 <b>AV Ministry:</b> Crew No. 3 <b>Flowers:</b> Jessie Ng <b>Refreshments:</b> Yeo Geok Hien, Rachel Teo Lok Qian Hui, Mary Ong <b>Junior Worship:</b> Pr Kelvin Lim, (Lok Qian Hui) Melissa Mah, (Cecilia Siah) Stephanie Lee		
1.30pm	FILIPINO SERVICE	<b>Worship Leader:</b> Eric Delina <b>Preacher:</b> Pr Dennis Kabingue <b>Musician:</b> Chloe Pawa <b>Usher:</b> Jordan Ballega <b>Refreshments:</b> Edeliza Ballega	<b>Worship Leader:</b> Norefel Resuma <b>Preacher:</b> Pr Dennis Kabingue <b>Musician:</b> Duaine Kabingue <b>Usher:</b> Jomart Tindaan <b>Refreshments:</b> Joy Del Rosario		
3.30pm	LIONS HOME	<b>Venue:</b> 487 Bedok South Ave 2 <b>English Speaker:</b> Edwin Quek <b>Dialect Speaker:</b> Pr Jeremiah Sim	<b>Venue:</b> 9 Bishan Street 13 <b>English Speaker:</b> Elder Mah Chin Kwang <b>Dialect Speaker:</b> Pr Kelvin Lim		

5 February 2017

# Serving God

*Prabhudas Koshy*

“Ye cannot serve the LORD” (Joshua 24:19) – that was exactly what Joshua asserted to the Israelites who had said, “therefore will we also serve the LORD; for he is our God” (v. 18). It must have been a crushing statement to a people who expressed their zeal to serve the LORD. But why such a staggering admonition? Why would Joshua tell them that they cannot serve the LORD?

John Calvin commented that such a harsh mode of rebuke was necessary “in order to rouse a sluggish people, rendered more lethargic by security... Joshua does not deter them from serving God, but only explains how refractory and disobedient they are, in order that they may learn to change their temper.”

Serving God is not what we do when and however we like. It demands absolute surrender to God’s will. At His bidding, we must set out to do all that He says with faithfulness and zeal. We cannot decide when and how we would serve Him, for it is God’s sole prerogative as the Sovereign One.

Serving God begins with an acknowledgment that we are incapable of serving Him on our own. It is what the theologians have called the doctrine of “moral inability”. Our impure hearts and unclean hands are an abomination to the most Holy God. This is what Joshua meant when he said to the people, “Ye cannot serve the LORD: for he is an holy God; he is a jealous God; he will not forgive your transgressions nor your

sins” (v. 19). Offering something to God or doing something in the LORD’s name would not be regarded as a service, if those who render them do not repent and put away their sins.

So Joshua warned them earlier, “Now therefore fear the LORD, and serve him in sincerity and in truth: and put away the gods which your fathers served on the other side of the flood, and in Egypt; and serve ye the LORD” (Joshua 24:14). Service demands absolute consecration to God.

If God be served at all, He must be served alone. Nothing and no one should be allowed to take first place in our hearts, except the LORD. No other claimant can be our God. This was also Jesus’ admonition when He said, “No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon” (Matthew 6:24).

Today, in the church, many come to serve God, but their hearts hanker after the gods of

our time – wealth, luxury, carnal pleasure, head-knowledge, fame, etc. How can God ever be pleased with their service? Jesus warned, “This people draweth nigh unto me with their mouth, and honoureth me with their lips; but their heart is far from me. But in vain they do worship me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men” (Matthew 15:8-9).

If God be served at all, He must be served in sincerity and truth. God will search through and through every form of service offered to Him, and hence it must be sincere and “clean every whit”, or it will not be acceptable to Him. Every service rendered to God must be born out of obedience to His Word. The service to our holy God must be rendered with humility and resolve of heart (cf. Acts 20:19), with faith and prayer (Hebrews 11:6), with all our strength and might (Ecclesiastes 9:10; Romans 12:11), and with gladness and thanksgiving (Psalm 95:2; 100:2; Colossians 3:23). ■

# Testimony of God's Mercies

Dear Pastor,

I am writing a personal testimony about how God has been gracious and merciful towards me over the past 9 years ever since I was diagnosed with psoriasis. In a nutshell, psoriasis is an auto-immune skin condition whereby the immune system attacks the body's own tissues, causing inflammation on the skin and potentially on the joints as well. On the inflamed parts of the skin, the skin cells are on an overdrive, reproducing at a much faster rate than normal. Because of this rapid build-up of skin, the top layer of the skin will turn flaky and fall off. Currently, nobody knows the exact cause or has found a definite cure for this skin problem.

Living with psoriasis can be a little inconvenient. Sometimes, the affected area on the skin can get itchy and will bleed easily when scratched. I will sometimes wake up the next morning to find small bloodstains on the bed sheet. If I do not clean the room regularly, the floor will be littered with flaky skin.

I want to praise God for His hand of grace towards me, for helping me to accept my skin condition as it is and to learn how to live with it.

At times, I would feel depressed thinking about my skin condition and become more self-conscious about my own appearance. However, the Lord quickly reminds me of His words to the apostle Paul in 2 Corinthians 12:9 – “My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness.” Secondly, I also want to thank God that my skin condition serves as a reminder of the ugliness of sin and the need to always lead a life that is holy in God's sight. Thirdly, I want to thank God for the brethren in the church who are concerned about me and have offered me advice and supplements to help me improve my skin condition.

Should it be the Lord's will that I should live with this condition for the rest of my life, I pray for the Lord's grace to continue to strengthen my faith. I pray also that I will think less about my earthly body which is prone to infirmities and corruption, and look forward to the glory and joy of Christ's presence in heaven (1 Corinthians 15:52-54).

All glory be to God!

Best regards,  
Ernest Lim

# LESSONS FROM SPARROW & SWALLOW

*Psalm 84:3*

*“Yea, the sparrow hath found an house, and the swallow a nest for herself, where she may lay her young, even thine altars, O LORD of hosts, my King, and my God.”*

**H**ere we have a beautiful poem or song in which a godly man talks about his joy and enthusiasm of being in God’s house. To express his feelings for God’s house, he uses two birds that he found making nests in God’s house. The birds were a sparrow and a swallow. These little birds made their nests on the altars in God’s house. The psalmist was so amazed to see how these two birds happily found rest in God’s house.

The sparrow has found a house and the swallow a nest for herself. These little birds, by the instinct and direction of nature, make nests for themselves in houses, while other birds do so in the woods. These little birds find a safe place for their own rest and also to lay their young.

The psalmist, being stirred by the scene of the birds making nests in God’s house, quickly burst into a beautiful song to talk about his desire to be in God’s house to worship, pray and serve God. He would rather live in God’s house than in places where sin and trouble would destroy his soul.

How about you, children? Where do you love to have your activities? Do not wander away into the world of sin. Stay close to the church and participate in the church activities.

The worship, fellowship and ministries of the church are designed to protect and nurture our souls. May you all grow in the love and goodness of the Lord’s house, even the church.



Swallow  
taken from



Sparrow  
taken from



*Prabhudas Koshy*

## COLLECTIONS

LORD'S DAY on 29 January 2017

**Tithes:** 2,630.00

**Offerings:** 7,556.10

**Bldg Fund (Project):** 3,000.00; 2,000.00;  
1,000.00; 300.00; 300.00; 50.00; 50.00; 1.00

**Designated Gifts:** TGCM (local) 50.00;  
Missionary Conference (2017) 200.00;  
150.00; 50.00; GBPC (Ethiopia) 100.00;  
Diana Koh 100.00; 100.00; Melissa Mah  
100.00; Dn Lok Kwok Wah 100.00; Pr  
Daniel Lim 20.00; Pr Kelvin Lim 300.00;  
30.00; Pr Dennis Kablingue 30.00; Pr Ho Kee  
How 20.00; Kenneth Wong 40.00; Andrew  
Koh 10.00; Sharon dela Cruz 10.00

### NON-SUNDAY GIFT

**General Fund:** 400.00

### SPECIAL FUND UPDATE

*(as of 29 January 2017)*

**Building Fund (Project):** \$2,113,640.70

**Missionary Conf Fund 2017:** \$8,595.00

.....

*"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*

## PASTORAL VISITATION PAYA LEBAR REGION

**Date:** 10 Feb 2017

**Time:** 8.00pm

**Venue:** Home of Bro Samuel Gan  
1 Butterworth Lane, #12-02, Dawn Ville  
Singapore 439444

## GETHSEMANE MEN'S FELLOWSHIP

**Speaker:** Pastor Koshy

**Chairman:** Bro Benny Skariah

**Date & Time:** Sat, 11 Feb 2017, 4.00pm

**Venue:** TGCM premises  
202B, Ponggol Seventeenth Avenue

*(Take LRT from Punggol MRT station to  
Punggol Point LRT station.)*

Children aged 4-12 will have a separate  
programme (4.00-5.30pm).

## GETHSEMANE CHINESE GOSPEL RALLY

**Speaker:** Pr Daniel Lim

**Date:** Sat, 1 April 2017

**Time:** 2.00-4.00pm

**Venue:** City Beach Resort  
8 Port Rd, Singapore 117540

This is a wonderful opportunity to invite  
your loved ones, relatives and friends to  
hear the Gospel message.

Please register at the reception table.

## GETHSEMANE LADIES' FELLOWSHIP

**Women & Gospel Missions**

**Speaker:** Pastor Koshy

**Chairperson:** Sis Angeline Wong

**Date & Time:** Sat, 18 Feb 2017, 3-5pm

**Venue:** Home of Sis Mah Lean Choo  
45A Jalan Senang  
Singapore 418335

*Transport from Kembangan MRT station  
at 2.40pm.*

Children aged 4-12 will have concurrent  
GCM Programme.

## TEACHERS' TRAINING SESSION

*conducted by*

*Gethsemane Children's Ministry*

This training is for church members who  
would like to serve as teachers and assistant  
teachers of our various programmes for  
children.

**Date:** 26th February 2017

**Time:** 1.30pm to 3.00pm

**Venue:** Powder Room, Level 6  
SingPost Centre

Kindly sign up at the reception table today.

# MISSIONARY CONFERENCE 2017

Theme: "That the Truth of the Gospel Might Continue with us"  
(Galatians 2:5)

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

**Venue:** Hilton Kuching

### Camp Fees (excluding airfare):

Single \$500/camper	Child (4-11) \$135 (with bed)
Twin-sharing \$360/camper	Child (4-11) \$75 (without bed)
Triple-sharing \$360/camper	Child (below 4) Free (without bed)

Please collect the registration form from the reception table and submit the completed form to Bro Ernest Lim / Bro Matthew Mah by 30 April 2017. Payment can be made from 19 March 2017.

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.



*Gethsemane Seniors' Ministry  
Day Trip to Pontian on 12 January 2017*

## POST-WORSHIP ACTIVITIES

Please stay back after worship to join us for:

### Refreshments & Fellowship

12.30pm – 1.30pm

### Bible Study (Adults, Youths & Children)

1.30pm – 3.00pm

## WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

### Tuesday Night Bible Study & Prayer

8.00pm @ L5 Auditorium, SingPost Centre

### Wednesday Lunch Hour Bible Study

1.00pm @ Bible Witness Bookroom

### Wednesday Night GBI-Online

7.45pm-9.15pm @ TGCM

### Thursday Seniors' Ministry

11.00am (Please contact Pr Jeremiah Sim)

### Friday Morning Prayer

7.45am – 8.30am @ Church Resource Centre

### Friday Campus Bible Study

4.30pm-5.30pm @ NAFA  
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

Tel: 6741 1910

Fax: 6741 1016

### Our Websites

gethsemanebpc.com  
biblewitness.com

### Our Pastor

Pastor Prabhudas Koshy

Mobile: 9001 1119

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