

GETHSEMANE

BIBLE-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

A WORD ON WORSHIP

We worship on the first day of the week after the tradition of early Christians (Acts 20:7; 1 Corinthians 16:2). The first day of the week was also known as "the Lord's day" (Revelation 1:10). "The Lord's day" means the day pertaining to the Lord. It was the day of Christ's resurrection (Matthew 28:1-6; Mark 16:1-8; Luke 24:1-8; John 20:1), and it was also the day the risen Christ appeared to His disciples as they gathered together (John 20:19). Obviously, those reasons have led Christians to meet for worship on the first day of the week. The writings of the early church fathers also bear witness to those facts. So, let us also according to this biblical tradition, rejoice and worship the Lord.

SCRIPTURE MEMORISATION

Defence

Psalm 94:22

But the LORD is my defence;
and my God is the rock of my refuge.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Call to Worship

Elder Alan Choy

*Hymn 23: O Splendour of God's Glory Bright

* Invocation & Gloria Patri

* Responsive Scripture Reading

Psalm 127

Hymn 372: More Holiness Give Me

Collection of Offerings

* Doxology & Prayer

Hymn 330: How Firm a Foundation, Ye Saints

Scripture Memorisation

* Pastoral Prayer

Sermon

Pastor Prabhudas Koshy

"Christ's Law of Marriage"

Matthew 19:1-6

*Hymn 474a: O Perfect Love

* Benediction & Threefold Amen

** Congregation Standing*



TODAY, 25 FEBRUARY 2018

NEXT LORD'S DAY, 4 MARCH 2018

9.00 – 10.00am		CHURCH CHOIR & CHILDREN'S CHOIR	CHURCH CHOIR & CHILDREN'S CHOIR
		MALAYALAM FELLOWSHIP	MALAYALAM FELLOWSHIP
10.30am	CHINESE SERVICE	Worship Leader: Pr Daniel Lim Preacher: Pr Daniel Lim Musician: Angeline Wong Flowers: Tay Soon Thian Refreshments: Roscelle Lim Ushers: John Peh & Chan Tuck Whye	Worship Leader: Gan Chin Hwi Preacher: Pr Daniel Lim Musician: Gan Sze Huey Flowers: Francis Tan Ushers: Chong Ah Huat & Francis Tan
	ENGLISH SERVICE	Worship Leader: Eld Alan Choy Preacher: Pastor Prabhudas Koshy Musicians: Eunice Choy, Jeremy Teo Ushers: Dn Lok Kwok Wah (i/c) Samuel Yong, Andrew Teong Marcus Peh, Randy Laurencio Arvind Pawa, George Chee Greeter: Stephanie Lee AV Ministry: Crew No. 4 Flowers: Choy Luan Kheng Refreshments: Catherine Choy, Cecilia Siah Edeliza Ballega, Khoo May Ping Junior Worship: Lee Kim Lei, (Evelyn Lee) Melissa Mah, (Corliss Ooi) Eld Ng Poh Kok	Worship Leader: Eld Ng Poh Kok Preacher: Pastor Prabhudas Koshy Musicians: Sarah Lee, Dorcas Koshy Ushers: David Tan (i/c) Amoz Choy, Lee Shing Shyan Lijoy George, Stephen Yap Chong Khai Siang, Linus Kok Greeter: Aileen Tan AV Ministry: Crew No. 1 Flowers: Gina Sim Refreshments: Roscelle Lim, Corliss Ooi Chong Shu Mun, Jolyne Cho Junior Worship: Kamala, (Eunice Choy) Neo Kian Seng, (Jasmine Tan) Eld Alan Choy
1.30pm	FILIPINO SERVICE	Worship Leader: Norefel Resuma Preacher: Pr Samson Hutagalung Musician: Ayn Tindaan Usher: Randy Laurencio Refreshments: Janet Carbajosa	Worship Leader: Eric Delina Preacher: Pr Dennis Kablingue Musician: Duaine Kablingue Usher: Anthony Evangelista Refreshments: Rowena Delina
3.30pm	LIONS HOME	Venue: 9 Bishan Street 13 English Speaker: Pr Jeremiah Sim Dialect Speaker: Stephen Yap	Venue: 487 Bedok South Ave 2 English Speaker: Arvind Pawa Dialect Speaker: Pr Kelvin Lim

25 February 2018

God of Patience and Consolation

Prabhudas Koshy

Patience is one of God's perfections. In the Christian, patience is a grace wrought by the work of the Holy Spirit; and it is cultivated and perfected through suffering and sorrow. But in God, patience is an essential attribute of His being, a part of His nature, so perfect that He needs no nurturing of it through some disciplinary process. God is never without patience. He is infinitely patient.

In Exodus 34:6, the LORD Himself proclaimed, "The LORD, The LORD God, merciful and gracious, longsuffering, and abundant in goodness and truth." Numbers 14:18 says, "The LORD is longsuffering, and of great mercy, forgiving iniquity and transgression, and by no means clearing the guilty, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation." In Nehemiah 9:17, we read, "thou art a God ready to pardon, gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and of great kindness, and forsookest them not" (cf. Psalms 86:15; 103:8; 145:8; Joel 2:13; Jonah 4:2; Nahum 1:3).

How can we define God's patience? It can be described as God's restraint of His wrath and power against man's sins. In other words, it is descriptive of His forbearance of the wicked. As the prophet Nahum wrote, "The LORD is slow to anger and great in power" (Nahum 1:3). Patience denotes the moderation of His provoked justice; His forbearance to revenge immediately the injuries He meets with daily in such a rebellious world.

While explaining the patience of God, Stephen Charnock, the "prince of puritans", wrote, "Men that are great in the world are quick in passion, and are not so ready to forgive an injury, or bear with an offender, as one of a meaner rank. It is a want of power over that man's self that makes him do unbecoming things upon a provocation. A prince that can bridle his passions is a king over himself as well as over his subjects. God is slow to anger because He is great in power. He has no less power over Himself than over His creatures." Puritan writers like Charnock have explained the patience of

God as His power over His own passions when dealing with man.

When a person does not have the power to resent an offence or to punish defiance, though he would very much desire to do so, his forbearing is not patience, but simply weakness. That person is merely bound by his frailty. But it is not the case with God's patience. God is all-powerful; He is always capable of bringing His righteous wrath upon transgressors at any time at His will. He could damn all His enemies in one breath. Yet, He arrests His wrath from instantly destroying men, and that is because He is patient. So, patience is not a weakness in God, but His perfect and powerful virtue. Octavius Winslow, a preacher-friend of Charles Spurgeon, wrote, "The power of God is more manifest in His patience to a multitude of sinners than it could be in creating millions of worlds out of nothing; this was a power over Himself."

God's Patience Towards a Provocative Human Race

If we think about the immensity of mankind's innumerable and despicable sins that provoke God every single moment, we would then have a glimpse of the limitless nature of God's patience. Man's provocation of God is great, universal and constant. Every second,

billions of people cast themselves into every kind of wicked imaginations, having no reverence for the holy and just God. The more we realize the enormity of humanity's rebellion, the more we wonder at the immeasurably vast patience of God that restrains His just vengeance against their sins. If not for His patience, the earth would be filled with ruined cities and slain bodies of rebellious people. Psalm 78:38 reminds us, "But he, being full of compassion, forgave their iniquity, and destroyed them not: yea, many a time turned he his anger away, and did not stir up all his wrath."

Man should be careful not to think of God's patience that restrains the quick execution of the divine wrath against all his sins as God's condoning of sins. God hates all sins though He is long-suffering with the sinner. Sooner or later, God's wrath would fall upon the sinner. So, let the sinner repent while His patience provides him another occasion by the restraining of His holy wrath against his sins.

God's early warnings of the coming judgment against men's sins are also a manifestation of His patience. Instead of immediately punishing sinners, God is seen sending a warning to them. The warning is gone forth, but the execution lingers. In this regard, God's dealing with the city of Nineveh is a good

example of His patience. God said about Nineveh that “their wickedness is come up before me” (Jonah 1:2b). So God sent Jonah to that city and told them, “Yet forty days, and Nineveh shall be overthrown” (Jonah 3:4b). Instead of sending instant punishment for their sins, God set a forty-day period before He would execute His threat. This was certainly a sign of God’s patience and mercy towards that city. This expression of His patience, through threat or warning of judgment after a period of time, provided Nineveh with an opportunity to repent from its sins. Impenitent sinner! God is giving you space and time to repent, and He expects you to repent lest you perish!

So often, God’s patience also makes His punishment of sinners lighter than His threatening against them. The stroke is made lighter than what the crime deserves by His patience. If God would exhaust the vials of His displeasure upon sinful man, who can bear? His patience towards us has made His punishment less severe than our provocations warrant. The sword of His vengeance is dipped in heaven’s tender mercies and patience, so that we might not quickly be consumed by His wrath.

It is even more wondrous that His patience is still awaiting the repentance of many more gruesome sinners. But for the infinite restraint God puts upon Himself, this

fallen world could not exist a moment. Thus the patience of God works for the salvation of man. “...God, willing to shew his wrath, and to make his power known, endured with much longsuffering the vessels of wrath fitted to destruction: and that he might make known the riches of his glory on the vessels of mercy, which he had afore prepared unto glory” (Romans 9:22-23).

Peter spoke of God’s amazing patience towards the transgressors of Noah’s time – “Which sometime were disobedient, when once the longsuffering of God waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was a preparing” (1 Peter 3:20). It is also the case today. Like Noah and his family who embraced the Lord’s enormous patience that manifested in their days, we should also quickly turn away from our sins to the Lord for redemption and sanctification. We will do well if we remember Peter’s words that “the longsuffering of our Lord is salvation” (2 Peter 3:15).

Even though He is aware of all the innumerable provocations of all men, He has been patient with them. Oh, what patience and mercy has He been showing to sinful men! So, sinner, rejoice in His patience and quickly turn from your sin to Christ for forgiveness. Delay no longer!

Let the LORD be Your Defence

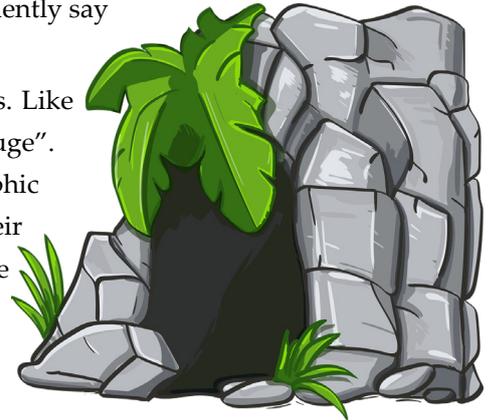
“But the LORD is my defence; and my God is the rock of my refuge.”

Psalms 94:22

Children, do you know that the LORD is the Great Defender of all those who trust in Him? We are not strong enough to defend ourselves against the attacks of Satan and all his armies (demons, the world, false teachers, etc.). Being aware that we are surrounded by very powerful and evil enemies of our souls, we realise that we cannot defend ourselves. We are too weak to protect ourselves. Our enemy, the devil, and his hosts would easily trounce us.

If you trust in the LORD, you have the LORD as your Defender against all the temptations and trials that Satan would unleash against you. You have no need to fear. You can confidently say that “the LORD is my defence”.

The LORD is a strong shelter to all who pray to Him in their troubles. Like the psalmist, you can also say of the LORD, “my God is the rock of my refuge”. Ancient people hid in the clefts and caves of the rocks to escape catastrophic winds, lightning and other destructive forces of nature. Rocks were their natural fortifications in times of calamities. Likewise, we must hasten to the LORD for our defence. When you are sad or afraid, encourage yourself in the LORD, saying, “The LORD is my defence, and He will keep me safe in Himself, for the LORD is my rock and refuge.”



COLLECTIONS

LORD'S DAY on 18 February 2018

Tithes: 6,954.00

Offerings: 6,839.30; RM10.00

Building Fund (Project): 50.00; 70.00; 210.00; 100.00; 1,000.00; [1,000.00 (Chinese Service)]

Designated Gifts: General Fund 50.00; Care Ministry 100.00; 90.00; Rev Ephrem 254.00; GBPC (Ethiopia) 30.00; Pr Engida 102.00; Dn Imane 100.00; Pr Donald 50.00; Eld Eliezer 40.00; Pr Edsel 31.00; Dn Kelvin 50.00; Pr Kee How 100.00; 200.00; Annie Ho 50.00; 50.00; Angeline Wong 50.00; Pr Dennis 50.00; Gladys Ratnam 100.00; Arnold Diaz 50.00

SPECIAL FUND UPDATE

(as of 18 February 2018)

Building Fund (Project): \$2,516,771.20

**Give generously
towards our
Church Building Fund.**

*"Every man according as
he purposeth in his heart,
so let him give;
not grudgingly, or of necessity:
for God loveth a cheerful giver."
2 Corinthians 9:7*

AV MINISTRY

Pastor would like to meet all brethren serving in the AV Ministry after the worship service today. Brethren who are keen to help out in the AV Ministry can also attend this session.

SUNDAY EVANGELISM

There will be an evangelism session today at
Blk 549 Bedok North Street 1
Singapore 460549

Please meet @ 1.30pm at the foyer.

(GBI class and Children's Bible Study are cancelled in view of this.)

SCRIPTURE MEMORISATION PROGRAMME

The next set of 25 verses is ready for collection. Please take a copy of the memory verses from the reception table. The memorisation test for this second set of verses will be held on the last Sunday of May.

14TH BIBLE WITNESS RETREAT

14-16 March 2018 (Wed-Fri)

Theme: "Heavenly-Mindedness"

Speaker: Pastor Prabhudas Koshy

Venue: Pulau Springs Resort, Johor

Registration closes 28th Feb 2018!

Please approach Dn Lok or Bro Hendrick Foo for any additional information.

GETHSEMANE YOUTH FELLOWSHIP

Topic: Study of 1 Timothy 4:1-5

Speaker: Pastor Koshy

Chairman: Bro Jeremy Teo

Date & Time: Sat, 3 Mar 2018, 4pm

Venue: Home of
Mr & Mrs Chong Khai Siang
89 Woo Mon Chew Road
Singapore 455163

PASTORAL VISITATION

HOUGANG REGION

Date & Time: Fri, 9 Mar 2018, 8.00pm

Venue: Home of Mr & Mrs Lijoy George
Block 35 #04-04, Hougang Ave 7
Singapore 538802

GETHSEMANE LADIES' FELLOWSHIP SEMINAR

Topic: "The Beauty of Holiness"

Speaker: Pastor Koshy

Date & Time: Sat, 17 Mar 2018,
2.00-5.30pm

Venue: City Beach Resort

For more details, please avail yourself of the seminar flyers. Kindly sign up at the reception table or via this link <http://goo.gl/forms/OpWNBDVSeF>.

Youths are strongly encouraged to join this seminar.

There will be a separate programme for children aged 4 to 12.

SUNDAY FELLOWSHIP LUNCH

Those who would like packet lunch after worship service for the month of March 2018, kindly place your order with Sis Aileen Tan.

GETHSEMANE B-P CHURCH 30TH ANNIVERSARY THANKSGIVING

Date: Lord's Day, 25 March 2018

Let us prayerfully and joyfully praise God for His goodness towards us for the past 30 years. Buffet lunch will be catered. Adults and children aged 10 & above - \$10/person(subsidised), children under 10 - free. To facilitate the ordering of food, please sign up at the reception table today.

Thanksgiving Musical

Date & Time: Lord's Day, 25 March 2018 @ 2pm

In thanksgiving to God's unceasing faithfulness upon our church, the Youth Choir has lovingly put together a musical celebrating 30 years of faithful pulpit ministry. Pamphlets are available at the reception table. Do take a copy to invite your friends and loved ones.

CHURCH CAMP 2018

Theme: Church - A Caring Communion of Saints

Date: 4-8 June 2018 (Mon-Fri)

Trial sizing of the Church Camp T-shirts will commence in March 2018. It will be done at 1.15pm every Sunday, beginning on 4th March 2018. The final day of sizing will be on the 25th March 2018. All campers must submit their registration forms before proceeding to the T-shirt sizing. If you have any questions, you may approach Elder Francis Lee.

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 Night Bible Study & Prayer

8.00pm @ L5 Auditorium, SingPost Centre

Wednesday Lunch Hour Bible Study

1.00pm @ Bible Witness Bookroom

Thursday Seniors' Ministry

11.00am (Please contact Pr Jeremiah Sim)

Campus Bible Study

2.30pm on Tuesdays @NAFA
Study Break @SUTD

Friday Morning Prayer

7.45am - 8.30am @ Church Resource Centre

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
prayer item

Our Office

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Our Websites

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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
Elder Francis Lee
Deacon Daniel Lim
Deacon Lok Kwok Wah
Deacon Kelvin Lim
Deacon Low Boon Siang