

GETHSEMANE

BIBLE-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

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

Door, Opened

1 Corinthians 16:9

For a great door and effectual is opened unto me,
and there are many adversaries.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Call to Worship

Dn Low Boon Siang

*Hymn 34: Crown Him with Many Crowns

***Invocation & Gloria Patri**

***Responsive Scripture Reading**

Acts 20:27-35

Hymn 432: How Good is the God We Adore

Collection of Offerings

Gethsemane Church Choir

***Doxology & Prayer**

Hymn 299: My Saviour

Scripture Memorisation

***Pastoral Prayer**

Sermon

Pastor Prabhudas Koshy

"The Predecessors of Apostates"

Jude 11

*Hymn 411: Stand Up for Jesus

***Benediction & Threefold Amen**

** Congregation Standing*



LORD'S DAY WORSHIP AT 11.00AM

TODAY, 9 FEBRUARY 2020

NEXT LORD'S DAY, 16 FEBRUARY 2020

<p>Worship Leader: Dn Low Boon Siang Preacher: Pastor Prabhudas Koshy Musicians: Ellyzabeth, Sarah Lee Ushers: Benny Skariah Juffrey Balicao, Edward Wong Andrew Teong, Timotheus Liu Greeter: Eunice Wong AV Ministry: Zacharias Tan, Goh Yong Wei John Zhang Flowers: Evelyn Lee Refreshments: Catherine Choy, Cecilia Siah Nydel Fernandez, Lim Hua See Junior Worship: Lee Kim Lei, (Lok Qian Hui) Gina Sim, (Corliss Ooi) Pr Kelvin Lim</p>	<p>Worship Leader: Pr Jeremiah Sim Preacher: Pastor Prabhudas Koshy Musicians: Choong Kai Shuin, Sarah Teo Ushers: Dn Low Boon Siang Nikko Sario, Theodore Wang Julius Del Rosario, Marcus Lim Greeter: Aileen Tan AV Ministry: Aidan Kang, Jumar Balicao Rowell Gabriel Flowers: Alice Chee Refreshments: Lena Chan, Mary Ong Rachel Teo, Edeliza Ballega Junior Worship: Cornelius Koshy, (Adeline Chong) Elder Mah Chin Kwang, (Jasmine Chng) Pr Kelvin Lim</p>
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Chinese Worship Service is held concurrently at 11.00am at the foyer area.

OTHER SUNDAY MINISTRIES

TODAY, 9 FEBRUARY 2020

NEXT LORD'S DAY, 16 FEBRUARY 2020

2.00pm	FILIPINO FELLOWSHIP <i>Preacher: Pastor Prabhudas Koshy</i>	FILIPINO FELLOWSHIP <i>Preacher: Pr Samson Hutagalung</i>
	MALAYALAM FELLOWSHIP	MALAYALAM FELLOWSHIP
	CATECHISM CLASS	CATECHISM CLASS
	YOUTH CHOIR PRACTICE	YOUTH CHOIR PRACTICE
3.30pm	LIONS HOME MINISTRY As a precautionary measure against the coronavirus, the management of the Lions Home for the Elders has temporarily suspended our entry into the premises. Please pray that the elderly in the homes will continue to encourage themselves in the LORD during this period.	
6.00pm	EVENING TEACHING SERVICE (GBI) @ GMC	EVENING TEACHING SERVICE (GBI) @ GMC

9 February 2020

Pestilences! Pestilences!

Prabhudas Koshy

Two days ago, the CNN reported: “As the coronavirus outbreak continues spreading across Asia and the rest of the world, grief and anger are cutting through the noise, after the death of Chinese whistleblower-doctor Li Wenliang.” In Singapore, as of Friday (7th February 2020), about 33 people have been reported as having contracted this deadly virus. Channel News Asia reported on Friday, “Coronavirus outbreak: Singapore raises DORSCON level to orange; schools to suspend inter-school, external activities.” The World Health Organisation (WHO) has now declared the virus outbreak a global emergency.

As the fear of pestilence grips the people of our city-nation, we must be prepared to face whatever come our way. Yes, we must observe good hygiene practices as a precautionary measure. But even

more importantly, let us also be spiritually ready as we face this time of emergency.

PESTILENCE IN THE BIBLE

What does the Bible say about “pestilence” or “plague”? The Hebrew and Greek words for “pestilences” (Heb. *deber* and Gk *loimós*) in the Bible refer to contagious epidemic disease. Pestilence is often associated with other calamities (e.g. Exod. 9:3–15; Leviticus 26:25; Habakkuk 3:5; Luke 21:11). It is recorded as a judgment or punishment sent by God, rather than a naturally occurring phenomenon.

In the Bible, pestilence (Heb. *deber*, *māwet*; Gk. *thánatos*) usually refers to divine intervention in human history in the form of human sickness to punish the rebellious conduct of people. God had pronounced that pestilence will be brought upon

Israel for her neglect of her covenant obligations to God. In the case of His covenant people Israel, it served as a scourge to bring about repentance and obedient behaviour.

- Leviticus 26:25 – “And I will bring a sword upon you, that shall avenge the quarrel of my covenant: and when ye are gathered together within your cities, I will send the pestilence among you; and ye shall be delivered into the hand of the enemy.”
- Deuteronomy 28:21 – “The LORD shall make the pestilence cleave unto thee, until he have consumed thee from off the land, whither thou goest to possess it.”

The Lord destroyed 70,000 Israelites after David’s census, which was out of prideful confidence in the number of their people (2 Samuel 24:13–15).

Certain prophets of Israel, like Jeremiah and Ezekiel, who proclaimed divine sentence on the rebellious Jews, almost always predicted pestilence as part of a list of scourges that would befall them: “the sword, the famine, and the pestilence” (Jeremiah 24:10, cf. 14:12, 27:8, etc.). The enemies

of Israel could also be the objects of this form of judgment (Psalm 78:50; Ezekiel 28:23; 38:22).

As for ancient Israel, when pestilence was sent as a punishment for sin, it was not applied indiscriminately upon all. The one who remains faithful was promised divine protection from its effects.

- Psalm 91:1-3 – “He that dwelleth in the secret place of the most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty. I will say of the LORD, He is my refuge and my fortress: my God; in him will I trust. Surely he shall deliver thee from the snare of the fowler, and from the noisome pestilence.”

Jesus mentioned “pestilences” as part of the signs of His coming. They will, according to the Book of Revelation, reach unprecedented proportions, causing great pain and distress upon the earth during the seven-year Tribulation prior to Jesus’ return to this earth.

- Matthew 24:7 – “For nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom: and there shall be famines, and pestilences, and earthquakes, in divers places.”

- Luke 21:11 – “And great earthquakes shall be in divers places, and famines, and pestilences; and fearful sights and great signs shall there be from heaven.”

OUR READINESS

In recent history, Singapore had encountered pandemics, such as SARS (Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome) in 2003, swine flu (H1N1) in 2009. According to the National Library Board’s Infopedia, an estimated 415,000 people were infected with H1N1 influenza in Singapore, and there were at least 18 fatalities. Now, we are facing another crisis.

How shall we prepare ourselves to face such an outbreak of diseases in our present times?

Firstly, let us pray for God’s mercy to protect us and heal those who are infected by this disease. Let us remember in our prayers doctors, nurses and all medical professionals who work hard to attend to the sick and also to prevent the spreading of the disease. “Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding,

shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus” (Philippians 4:6-7).

Let us act responsibly by taking all necessary precautions to avoid being infected and also to prevent the spreading of the disease. Please pay attention to put into practice the advice given by the government’s medical authorities as precautionary steps.

If any among us become afflicted, let us be comforted that the Lord is with all those who trust Him. Even in death, the Lord is with His people. So we can assuredly say, like David, “Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me” (Psalm 23:4).

If a believer dies due to this outbreak, he will certainly be with the Lord. “We are confident, I say, and willing rather to be absent from the body, and to be present with the Lord” (2 Corinthians 5:8). So, let us humbly seek and worship Him. Let us also labour for Him, “knowing that of the Lord ye shall receive the reward of the inheritance: for ye serve the Lord Christ” (Colossians 3:24). ❀

Junior Worshipper's Page

Opportunity Amidst Adversity

*“For a great door and effectual is opened unto me, and there are many adversaries.”
(1 Corinthians 16:9)*

Paul wrote this epistle (First Corinthians) from the city of Ephesus (cf. 1 Corinthians 16:8). It was a city filled with idolatrous religions. It was the centre of the worship of the Greek goddess, Diana (or Artemis). The famous temple of Diana was situated in Ephesus. Many immoral practices were tolerated in the name of that religion. There were also exorcists and various occult practitioners.

Through Paul's preaching, many have left their paganism and turned to Christ. When many turned to Christ, the businesses of those who made a living out of selling idols and other religious objects were affected. That had provoked the idolatrous city-dwellers to great wrath. They in turn unleashed great opposition to Christian activities and persecution of Christians.

Though religious animosity increased, Paul noticed that “a great door and effectual” was opened unto him. Apparently, more and more people were eager to hear the Gospel and rejoice in its truths. Paul did not allow hostility to dampen his zeal for the preaching of the Gospel. Like the apostle Paul, we too must press on even though some would reject or oppose our Christian faith and activities. Adversity may be intense, but God can open for us great and effective doors!

In the work of the Gospel, when opposition arises, we must not be dejected, but rather persevere, counting every opportunity to spread the Gospel as a divinely opened door for an effective ministry.

Prabhudas Koshy



COLLECTIONS

LORD'S DAY on 2nd February 2020
(11.00am service)

Tithes: 6,624.00

Offerings: 9,681.00

Designated Gifts: General Fund 1,000.00; 720.00; Missionary Conf. 500.00; 120.00; 50.00; Pr Zhu Xin Kai 400.00; GBPC-Ethiopia 500.00; Cebu Building Fund 50.00; GBI-Ethiopia 200.00; Gladys Ratnam 50.00; Dn Daniel Lim 200.00; Matthew Peh 50.00

(6.00pm Teaching Service)

Offerings: 1,142.00

FOR NON-SUNDAY GIFTS TO THE CHURCH

Use the QR code below (through PayLah! or PayNow) to send in your non-Sunday love gifts to Gethsemane Bible-Presbyterian Church.



PASTORAL VISITATION

CENTRAL/SOUTH REGION

Date & Time: Fri, 14 Feb 2020, 8.00pm

Venue: Home of Mr & Mrs
Kwok Kian Yi

Blk 7, Jervois Close, #08-12
Singapore 249103

If you live in this region, please check that your name is on the list placed at the reception table. If it is not, please add it in.

LADIES' FELLOWSHIP SEMINAR

Topic: Biblical Response to
Inter-Denominational Activities

Speaker: Pastor Prabhudas Koshy

Chairperson: Elder Francis Lee

Date & Time: Saturday, 15 Feb 2020,
2.00pm–6.00pm

Venue: SingPost Level 5 Auditorium

All are welcome. Please register
early at <https://tinyurl.com/GLF-seminar-2020>.

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

GETHSEMANE DEFENDERS' MINISTRY (GDM) SEMINAR

Topic: Flat Earth Controversy &
Evidence for a Young Earth

Speakers: Bro. Samuel Gan &
Pr Ho Kee How

Chairperson: Bro. John Zhang

Date & Time: Saturday, 29 Feb 2020,
2.00pm–5.30pm

Venue: Gethsemane Media Centre
Please sign up at the reception table.
*(There will be a programme for children
aged 4-12.)*

18TH BIBLE WITNESS RETREAT

Theme: "Church—A People in Prayer
(Part III)"

Speaker: Pastor Prabhudas Koshy

Venue: Hotel Jen Puteri Harbour,
Johor, Malaysia

Dates: 18th-20th March 2020

Please sign up quickly at the
reception table.

*Registration closes on
23rd February 2020.*

32ND CHURCH ANNIVERSARY THANKSGIVING SERVICE

Date & Time: Lord's Day, 29th March 2020, 10.00am

Venue: Swissotel Merchant Court Hotel

Payment: Adults \$35; Children (aged 3-12) \$20;
Free for children under the age of 3

There will be a buffet lunch after the service. Please sign up through the online link <https://tinyurl.com/GBPC-Anniv> and make your payment to Sis. Aileen Yan. Registration closes on 8th March 2020. For any clarifications, please approach Elder Francis Lee.

MISSIONARY CONFERENCE 2020

Dates: 8th to 12th June 2020 (Monday – Friday)

Venue: Holiday Inn Resort, Batam, Indonesia

Registration is now open. Please sign up through the online form available from this link (<https://qrqo.page.link/eUrr1>) or scan the QR code at the side. Alternatively, you may take the registration form from the reception table. If you have any question, please approach Elder Choy.



Additionally, the church would require \$40,000 (amount approved by the Session) to fly in and accommodate all our missionaries. Please give to the Missionary Conference Fund as the Lord leads you.

WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

Campus Bible Study

NAFA-Lasalle: Mondays @ 1.00pm
SUTD: Fridays @ 1.30pm

Tuesday Night Bible Study & Prayer

8.00pm @ L5 Auditorium, SingPost Centre

Thursday Seniors' Ministry

11.00am (Please contact Pr Jeremiah Sim)

Saturday Church Choir Practice

2.00pm @ Gethsemane Media Centre

Sunday First Worship Service

8.30am @ L5 Auditorium, SingPost Centre

Sunday Children's Choir Practice

9.30am @ L6 Powder Room, Singpost Centre

Sunday Lions Home Ministry

Suspended until further notice

Sunday Teaching Service (GBI)

6.00pm @ Gethsemane Media Centre

PRAISE & PRAYER ITEMS

Please send your praise and prayer items for publication in the church prayer list to Bro. Norefel at norefel.gbwl@gmail.com latest by 10.00am every Tuesday.

Time & Place of Worship:

11.00am

Singapore Post Centre,
Level 5 Auditorium,
10 Eunos Road 8,
Singapore 408600
(next to Paya Lebar MRT Station)

Prayer Hotline:

8138 8139

SMS or WhatsApp
your prayer item

Our Office:

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Singapore 408584
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Our Websites:

gethsemanebpc.com
biblewitness.com
gbi-online.com

Our Pastor:

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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