

GETHSEMANE

BIBLE-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

11.00AM

18 OCTOBER 2020

VOLUME 33, ISSUE 33

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).

SCRIPTURE MEMORISATION

Elect

Colossians 3:12

Put on therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, bowels of mercies, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, longsuffering.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Call to Worship

Pr Kelvin Lim

*Hymn 26: Come, Thou Fount

*Invocation & Gloria Patri

*Scripture Reading in Unison

Psalm 2

Hymn 129: Since Jesus Came into My Heart

Announcements

Hymn 356: Lead Me, Saviour

Scripture Memorisation

*Pastoral Prayer

Sermon

Pastor Prabhudas Koshy

"What Christ is to the Church—V"

Selected Scripture Verses

*Hymn 67: Praise the Saviour

*Benediction & Threefold Amen

** Congregation Standing*



LORD'S DAY WORSHIP

TODAY, 18 OCTOBER 2020

NEXT LORD'S DAY, 25 OCTOBER 2020

8.30am	Worship Leader: Pastor Prabhudas Koshy Preacher: Pastor Prabhudas Koshy Ushers: Gerry Lee, Edwin Quek, Benjamin Quek, Winnie Yap (Greeter)	Worship Leader: Pastor Prabhudas Koshy Preacher: Pastor Prabhudas Koshy Ushers: Dn Low Boon Siang, Jordy Kay, Jason Low, Lee Kim Lei (Greeter)
9.00am	Chinese Worship Service is held at Gethsemane Media Centre, 33 Ubi Crescent. (Preacher: Pr Daniel Lim)	
11.00am	Worship Leader: Pr Kelvin Lim Preacher: Pastor Prabhudas Koshy Ushers: Dn Lok Kwok Wah, Danial Wong, David Ng, Eunice Wong (Greeter)	Worship Leader: Elder Francis Lee Preacher: Pastor Prabhudas Koshy Ushers: Sean Lee, Andrew Teong, Theodore Wang, Mah Lean Choo (Greeter)
2.00pm	Worship Leader: Elder Alan Choy Preacher: Pastor Prabhudas Koshy Ushers: Dn Low Boon Siang, Andy Lee, Greeters: Pawa Mong Jee, Sunyani	The 2.00pm Worship Service and 6.00pm Evening Teaching Service are cancelled in view of the Annual Congregational Meeting.
6.00pm (Evening Teaching Service @ GMC)	Worship Leader: Pastor Prabhudas Koshy Preacher: Pastor Prabhudas Koshy Ushers: Cornelius Koshy, Amoz Choy	



OUR ONLINE RESOURCES

- For Christian literature, please visit biblewitness.com/magazine to find past issues of our BW Magazine.
- For 24/7 fundamental Christian music, please visit Bible Witness Web Radio at biblewitness.com/webradio/radio-player/
- For our sermons, you may visit our church's YouTube channel at youtube.com/user/gethsemaneipc/ or gbi-online.com
- Finally, you may also follow our church's Facebook page at facebook.com/Gethsemane.BP.Church/ to stay updated with any urgent announcements from our church leaders.

Duty Roster

18 October 2020

My Personal Testimony

Norefel Resuma

“Whatsoever the LORD pleased, that did he in heaven, and in earth, in the seas, and all deep places” (Psalm 135:6). God is sovereign! When I first came to Singapore in 2008, it was merely for economic reasons, but little did I know that the sovereign God has brought me to this “foreign” land for a greater purpose. It never occurred to me that one day I will be working full-time in His vineyard, for I know that I will never be worthy to serve Him. Yet despite my sins and weaknesses, the Lord has been graciously preparing me for the work ahead. Here’s a brief recollection of God’s leading and directing in my life in the past 12 years.

I came to Singapore during the 2008 economic recession, and for the first time I had to experience how difficult it is to find a work. Still looking for a job, I was first brought to Gethsemane by Pr Donald dela Cruz (at that time he was still working as an engineer), to join the Gethsemane Filipino Fellowship (GFF). Thank God for the faithful preaching of God’s Word by Pr Dennis Kabingue and because I was blessed by the biblical teachings I received, I sincerely prayed that the Lord may grant me a pass to stay in Singapore, not so much to earn a living but to learn more of His Word, and grow in my spiritual walk. Though I was then already a believer (having accepted the Lord Jesus during my university days), yet I was

struggling with worldliness and sin, and desperately longing for faithful and deep teaching of God’s Word. Thank God for answered prayer after 4 months. As I stayed in Gethsemane, I started joining the Tuesday Night Prayer Meeting and the English Worship Service on top of the GFF and the Kababayan Bible Study (KBS). I received abundant blessings from the Lord both spiritually and physically. The Lord provided me a wife through the GFF. Who could have thought I will marry a person whom I only got to know for less than a year? Undaunted, I made that momentous decision, having learned and been convicted of the Lord through the faithful preaching of God’s Word by Pastor Koshy.

Fast forward to 2017. Being zealous in the service of the Lord in GFF and continuously growing in the knowledge of Christ and His word with my wife and 3 children through the numerous preaching of God’s Word by Pastor and other preachers, I felt the increasing burden to serve the Lord more but not full-time. I prayed that if it is God’s will for me to serve, the Lord may make it clear. It was also during this time that I started to entertain the idea of exploring opportunities overseas or even returning to the Philippines as living in Singapore for foreigners with families is getting more difficult, especially financially. But all the plans of leaving

Singapore did not come to fruition because every time I tried to take one step forward, the Word of God through Pastor always ministered to me, and I ended up staying on. “My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me” (John 10:27). I learned through the years, in Gethsemane, to humbly accept and submit to God’s Word for it is our guide for Christian living. And to obey God’s appointed under-shepherd in Pastor, having observed how he practised what he preached which is the same example I want to inculcate in my children. These are the main reasons why I remain in Singapore, and Gethsemane in particular, in spite of many other opportunities overseas. But even then, I never planned to stay in Singapore this long.

As time passed by, being convicted of prioritising the Lord, His church and family over work, I started to feel that my work in the company is becoming more and more frivolous. I became less interested with all the technology advancements, and just tried to do whatever is necessary. By God’s grace and strength, we strove as a family to join all the church fellowship meetings on Saturdays and even Bible Witness retreats; never did we miss a church camp since we started joining in 2009! Come 2018, when Pastor announced the Turkey-Israel Bible Study Tour, we prayed that we could join. Everyone, especially the children, was very excited. Not knowing the costs, we kept praying and started saving up. Weeks passed, and after knowing the estimated costs for a family of five, we agreed to drop the idea of joining. But just a little more than a month before the team’s departure, there was a severance package that was offered in the company which I am eligible to take. At that time, it seemed like the Lord was leading us to go back to Philippines for good, so I took it. The amount was more than sufficient to even join the

Turkey-Israel Bible Study Tour (though the timing was quite tight). Again by God’s providence, there were only 5 seats left and so we did a last minute sign-up. Before our trip to Turkey and Israel, Pastor and Sis Carolyn visited and encouraged us, and that resulted in the change of our earlier plan of going back to Philippines for good.

2019 became an exciting year because we had no idea what was to come. Thank God for granting our desire to get a rented home near the church; I was hoping and praying for a new job nearby as well. When Bro Dennis went back to Philippines for good, I was all the more burdened to stay on for the GFF. I prayed that the Lord may call me to serve Him full-time, but deep down I thought the Lord has other plans for me. So I continued applying for work according to my field and experience, while I patiently waited in prayer. Though I had a handful of interviews, yet deep inside I know it’s going to be difficult to get one that would allow me to remain active in my service to the Lord. I’m very convicted that work is only secondary to church and family, and I wanted to be honest in all my interviews when being asked how committed I would be if I were given the position I was applying for. I trusted the Lord that if it is His will for us to stay in Singapore, His providence will prove it – I just need to make sure that I’m doing His will.

Months passed and still no work. Then one day, I got a call from Pastor asking me about my situation. He shared to me about a possible position in the church, but emphasised that I won’t be paid as much as I was getting previously and just told me to pray about it. Though I wanted to serve the Lord right then, I did not want to jump in because I was not sure. I understood that the Lord must call. In my mind, being a

foreigner in Singapore, God's calling for me is to work outside and serve the Lord part-time in the church. So I did not follow up with Pastor, and just continued with all my applications while at the same time serving the Lord in the GFF. Then one day, the Lord tested me – I was about to go for a final interview and a possible contract signing. But as that was scheduled on a Tuesday afternoon, I declined because I may have to miss the prayer meeting. I was moved to Thursday that week but a day before, that company announced a hiring freeze. Coincidence? No, God's providence!

Even then, I was still hesitating to serve the Lord full-time – to the point of literally asking the Lord to allow me to find work before Pastor comes to me again. Around this time, I was also preparing my family if in case the Lord will finally open that opportunity for me. I tried to encourage them to be ready and willing to sacrifice and go through suffering, if the Lord requires.

Then one night, Pastor called and shared that wonderful opportunity being offered to me, backed by the unanimous decision of the Elders. When he then asked for my response, I replied him, "What else can I say? It is God answering my prayer and confirming it through my Pastor and Elders!" I thank the Lord that in God's appointed time, He allowed me to serve Him full-time.

I started serving the Lord full-time in May 2019. It was a mixed feeling of excitement and anxiety. Even until today, I still feel the same way every now and then. I was excited because serving the Lord full-time is a privilege and only available to those whom God has called. And having that understanding is more than enough to motivate me to give

my all as the Lord enables me day by day. Yet at the same time I do feel anxious, for I was responsible for the effective and efficient functioning of the office of GBWL, covering a range of administrative, financial, accounting, systems and managerial tasks. Furthermore, being an engineer by profession, I did not have any prior experience with regard to the office requirements of the church; but thank God for His grace and wisdom. The Lord has sustained me thus far. "I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me" (Philippians 4:13).

On top of my office-related tasks in GBWL, I continue to coordinate the activities of the GFF, and assist Pastor, the Elders and Deacons, preachers, co-labourers and church members on matters relating to the church. I am convicted that as a full-time worker, I must be willing and ready to do whatever is needed for the day. "Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with thy might; for there is no work, nor device, nor knowledge, nor wisdom, in the grave, whither thou goest" (Ecclesiastes 9:10).

Praise the Lord that there is so much work in the Lord's vineyard – it is indeed toil and labour! I earnestly pray that somehow in the course of doing the work, I may be a blessing to Pastor and my co-labourers, and at the same time maintaining a life of holiness as a servant of the Lord Jesus Christ. My greatest fear is not that I may not be able to accomplish the work, but that I may be doing it with unclean hands and an impure heart. God forbid!

Brethren, I seek your prayer that I may be faithful and unwavering in the Lord's calling for me, sanctifying myself daily to be holy and blameless, serving the Lord for His glory.

Junior Worshipper's Page

Disposition of the Elect of God

*“Put on therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, bowels of mercies, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, longsuffering.”
(Colossians 3:12)*

Our salvation is not because of our intelligent choice or good deeds, but because of God’s gracious, loving election of us. He chose us to be saved through Christ, who died to purchase the pardon of our sins. Our faith in Christ is the result of God’s sovereign grace shown towards us in Christ. Hence, all genuine believers are God’s elect.

God elected us to be His “holy and beloved” people. The word “holy” declares that all genuine believers are “set apart”, or “separated”, for God’s purpose and glory. The word “beloved” tells us that all true believers are objects of His special love. So we, who are so greatly loved by God, must joyfully live for His purpose and glory.

It is the will of our God, who has chosen us, that we “put on... bowels of mercies, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, longsuffering”. All of God’s children should put away the spirit of pride, anger, bitterness and violence, and put on the spirit of humility and love, which gives evidence to their election of God and salvation. God elected us in Christ, that He may cast out our sinful pride and all other corruptions of our heart – and then that we may live in holiness, humility, compassion and patience.

Prabhudas Koshy



COLLECTIONS

LORD'S DAY on 11th October 2020

Tithes: 8,765.00

Offerings: 4,257.00

Designated Gifts: General Missions
120.00; 50.00; Cebu Building Fund
50.00; 20.00; YAF 200.00; Charity
Fund 100.00; Cornelius Koshy
200.00; Matthew Peh 25.00

Non-Sunday Collections

(5th–10th October 2020)

Tithes: 3,960.00

Offerings: 3,447.00

Designated Gifts: Cebu Building
Fund 300.00; General Fund 600.00;
Charity Fund 1,000.00; YAF 10.00;
Matthew Peh 30.00

Total Funds Collection

(as of 11th October 2020)

Cebu Building Fund: 218,297.50

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING (ACM) VIA ZOOM

Date & Time: Lord's Day, 25 Oct 2020, 3pm
(You may start logging into the meeting from 2pm.)

Please access the ACM documents using this link:

gethsemaneipc.com/Resources/documents/ACM-Docs-2020.zip

The documents are password protected. The password has been sent to all members by WhatsApp. If you have not received the password, please contact Bro. Norefel Resuma (98347412).

Note: Only registered communicant members who have submitted the proxy forms by 21 October 2020 will receive the unique link and be allowed to join the e-ACM on 25 October 2020.

UPCOMING ZOOM FELLOWSHIP MEETINGS

Links to the meetings will be provided in the respective Whatsapp Groups.

YOUNG MOTHERS' FELLOWSHIP

Topic: The Passion and Purpose of Motherhood

Speaker: Pastor Prabhudas Koshy

Chairperson: Sis. Low Hui Lin

Date & Time: Fri, 23 Oct 2020, 4pm

ADULTS' FELLOWSHIP

Topic: Study of 1 Thessalonians

Speaker: Pastor Prabhudas Koshy

Chairperson: Bro. Lijoy George

Date & Time: Sat, 24 Oct 2020, 4pm

GYAF-GYF COMBINED RETREAT 2020

Topic: What should the Church Leadership Be?

Speaker: Pastor Prabhudas Koshy

Date: 24th to 26th December 2020

Morning Devotions on the topic, "Offering Spiritual Sacrifices", will be taught by Bro. Cornelius Koshy. Please sign up at <https://forms.gle/Dp1JrdRfZJn3Pbhx8>. The mode of meeting will be confirmed in early December.



GETHSEMANE BIBLE- PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Tithes, offerings and love gifts can be sent to the church account using the QR code above or via bank transfer (DBS Current Account 025-011173-7).

FOR GIFTS TO GETHSEMANE BIBLE WITNESS LIMITED

Love gifts to GBWL can be sent using the QR code below or via bank transfer (DBS Current Account 025-904568-2).



OUR WEEKLY MEETINGS

Sunday English Worship Service I

8.30am @ SingPost L5 Auditorium

Sunday Chinese Worship Service

9.00am @ GMC

Sunday English Worship Service II

11.00am @ SingPost L5 Auditorium (YouTube Live)

Sunday English Worship Service III

2.00pm @ SingPost L5 Auditorium

Sunday Catechism Class

2.00pm via Zoom

Sunday Evening Teaching Service (GBI—Nehemiah)

6.00pm @ GMC (YouTube Live)

Campus Bible Studies (via Zoom)

NAFA-Lasalle: Monday @ 2.15pm

SIT: Wednesday @ 4.00pm

SUTD: Friday @ 2.00pm

Staff Prayer Meeting

Tuesday @ 10.15am

Tuesday Night Bible Study & Prayer Meeting

8.00pm @ SingPost L5 Auditorium (YouTube Live)

Seniors' Ministry (via Zoom)

Thursday @ 11.00am (Please contact Pr Jeremiah Sim)

Malayalam Fellowship (via Zoom)

Thursday @ 8.00pm

Children's Ministry Meetings (via Zoom)

Saturday @ 11.00am (younger children)
& 2.00pm (older children)

Place of Worship:

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*

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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