

GETHSEMANE

BIBLE-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

WORD ON WORSHIP

Worship arises from grateful hearts, for it is the expression of heartfelt gratefulness towards God. Psalm 100:4 says, "Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise: be thankful unto him, and bless his name."

God welcomes only grateful hearts into His courts for worship. Ungrateful hearts have no right to be in His presence. So let us remember all His benefits as we draw nigh unto God to worship Him (cf. Psalm 103:1-2).

SCRIPTURE MEMORISATION

Encourage

1 Samuel 30:6

...but David encouraged himself in the LORD his God.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Call to Worship

*Hymn 93: To God Be the Glory

*Invocation & Gloria Patri

*Scripture Reading in Unison

3 John 1-8

Hymn 136: Come, Ye Thankful People

Announcements

Hymn 254: Break Thou the Bread of Life

Scripture Memorisation

*Pastoral Prayer

Sermon

Pastor Prabhudas Koshy

"A Prayerful Wish for the Lover of Truth"

3 John 1-2

Holy Communion

Hymn 175: For All My Sin

*Hymn 178: At the Cross

*Benediction & Threefold Amen

**Congregation Standing*



LORD'S DAY WORSHIP

TODAY, 3 JANUARY 2021

NEXT LORD'S DAY, 10 JANUARY 2021

9.30am	Chinese Worship Service is held at Gethsemane Media Centre, 33 Ubi Crescent. (Preacher: Pr Daniel Lim)	
10.00am	Worship Leader: Elder Alan Choy Preacher: Pastor Prabhudas Koshy Musicians: Choong Kai Shuin, Dorcas Koshy Ushers/Greeters: Samuel Yong, Stephen Yap, Chong Khai Siang, Cornelius Koshy, Andrew Teong, Danial Wong	Worship Leader: Elder Ng Poh Kok Preacher: Pastor Prabhudas Koshy Musicians: Ellyzabeth, Sarah Teo Ushers/Greeters: Timotheus Liu, Lijoy George, Jordy Kay, Jonathon Lim, David Tan, Ng Kwan Teng
2.00pm	Worship Leader: Pr Kelvin Lim Preacher: Pastor Prabhudas Koshy Musicians: Low Hui Lin, Titus Ho Ushers/Greeters: Marcus Chui, Lee Kim Lei, Julius Del Rosario, Melvin Mendoza, Jonathon Lim, Diana Chan	Worship Leader: Dn Low Boon Siang Preacher: Pastor Prabhudas Koshy Musicians: Titus Ho, Sarah Kay Ushers/Greeters: Edward Wong, Eunice Wong, Gerry Lee, Melvin Mendoza, Theodore Wang, Violet Quek
6.00pm @ GMC (Amendments to Constitution)	Worship Leader: Pastor Prabhudas Koshy Preacher: Pastor Prabhudas Koshy Musician: Dorcas Koshy Ushers/Greeters: Samuel Yong, Amoz Choy	Worship Leader: Pastor Prabhudas Koshy Preacher: Pastor Prabhudas Koshy Musician: Dorcas Koshy Ushers/Greeters: Juffrey Balicao, Dn Lok Kwok Wah

Duty Roster

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PRESENTATIONS OF PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO CHURCH CONSTITUTION (VIA ZOOM)

Date & Time: Sunday Evenings (January 2021), at 6pm

Presentations of the proposed amendments to the Church constitution will begin in the month of January 2021. It will commence on 3rd January 2021, at 6pm, and will be held over 4 consecutive Sundays. In view of this, the Sunday Evening Teaching Service will be suspended in the month of January.

All members can access the proposed amendments of the Church constitution on the Church website. The link is at: gethsemanebpc.com/Resources/documents/legal/GBPC_Constitution_2021.zip

The documents are password protected. The password will be sent to all members via WhatsApp. If you need any assistance, please contact Bro. Norefel Resuma (9834 7412). Questions and requests for clarifications on the proposed amendments are to be sent to Pastor (pastor.gbpc@gmail.com) or to Elder Francis Lee (francis_savedbygrace@yahoo.com).

3 January 2021

Church: A House Built Upon the Rock

Prabhudas Koshy

Jesus Christ is the firm and steadfast rock of foundation for our life of faith. Insecurity and anxiety plague those who fail to always exercise their trust in Him. However, Christians can prevent spiritual failures in their lives and attain a triumphant Christian life if they maintain faith in Christ, their great Saviour and Shepherd – “and this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith” (1 John 5:4b).

I think of the apostle Peter as an illustration. On one occasion, while Peter was walking on water towards Christ, he noticed the boisterous wind and began to sink. Fear and dread gripped him. Jesus rescued him, but with a rebuke: “O thou of little faith, wherefore didst thou doubt?” (cf. Matthew 14:23-31). But there was a later event in his life in which Jesus taught him what it was to be rock solid in faith. Jesus had asked whom the disciples thought He was, and Peter had answered, “Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God.” Jesus replied, “Blessed art thou, Simon

Bar-jona: for flesh and blood hath not revealed it unto thee, but my Father which is in heaven. And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it” (cf. Matt. 16:15–18).

Many people have understood these words to mean that Jesus was going to build His church upon Peter. The Roman Catholic Church has interpreted Jesus’ words as a promise that Peter would become the first pope, and that the church would be built on Peter and his successors. We rather understand Jesus’ words as referring not to Peter himself but to Peter’s confession of Jesus as the Messiah, the Son of God, and argue that the church is to be built on this confessional foundation.

Peter’s own words in 1 Peter 2:4–8 provide us with his understanding of the above words of Christ to him. He insists that the Rock upon which the church or any individual Christian is to build is Jesus Christ.

⁴To whom coming, as unto a living stone, disallowed indeed of men, but chosen of God, and precious, ⁵ye also, as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house, an holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ. ⁶ Wherefore also it is contained in the scripture, Behold, I lay in Sion a chief corner stone, elect, precious: and he that believeth on him shall not be confounded. ⁷ Unto you therefore which believe he is precious: but unto them which be disobedient, the stone which the builders disallowed, the same is made the head of the corner, ⁸and a stone of stumbling, and a rock of offence, even to them which stumble at the word, being disobedient: whereunto also they were appointed.

Peter's insistence is that Christ is the Rock upon which His people are built up as a church. There is no suggestion whatsoever that he is the rock. In the light of those words of Peter, we can say that Peter (which means "a little stone") wanted us to know Christ Himself is the Rock upon which He builds His church. Peter learned that Jesus is the only possible foundation for a sure and stable Christian life. Peter had biblical grounds for understanding Jesus' teaching this way. He indicated it by three Old Testament quotations.

First, Isaiah 28:16. The prophet Isaiah spoke of God "lay[ing] in Zion for a foundation a stone, a tried stone,

a precious corner stone, a sure foundation". Peter also emphasised that "he that believeth on him shall not be confounded" (1 Peter 2:6). Everyone, who lives by faith on Christ and His Word, will be built up together as a spiritual temple God.

Second, Psalm 118:22. Jesus applied Psalm 118:22 to Himself during His earthly ministry, so Peter had learned to interpret the verse as Jesus did (cf. 1 Peter 2:7). Jesus told a parable about a householder who leased his vineyard to some husbandmen (or farmers). They tried to take over the field for themselves, eventually killing the owner's son, who had been sent to them to collect the profits. Jesus then asked, "When the lord therefore of the vineyard cometh, what will he do unto those husbandmen?" His hearers correctly answered Him that "He will miserably destroy those wicked men, and will let out his vineyard unto other husbandmen, which shall render him the fruits in their seasons." Jesus then applied it to Himself by quoting from Psalm 118:22, "Did ye never read in the scriptures, The stone which the builders rejected, the same is become the head of the corner: this is the Lord's doing, and it is marvellous in our eyes?" (cf. Matthew 21:33-42; Acts 4:11). By this parable, Jesus was teaching that God is the owner of the vineyard. The leaders of Israel were the evil tenant farmers. The servants were the prophets, and the son who was killed was Jesus Christ Himself. Therefore, Christ is also the stone, rejected by the builders, who was to become the capstone (the head of the corner)

of true biblical religion. Christ alone is the only sure foundation for His people.

Third, Isaiah 8:14. By using Isaiah 8:14, Peter added the thought of stumbling to the initial idea of rejection of Christ – “a stone of stumbling, and a rock of offence, even to them which stumble at the word, being disobedient: whereunto also they were appointed” (1 Peter 2:8). Peter also warned that rejecting the Lord Jesus Christ, God’s

anointed Messiah, had a disastrous consequence, i.e. to fall spiritually or be lost forever.

Dear Gethsemaneans, may every one of us be strong in our faith in the Lord Jesus Christ and His Word. Then we shall be like a house well-built on a strong foundation of rock. And it shall be said of us, that “the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell not: for it was founded upon a rock” (Matthew 7:25).

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Testimonies from Combined Retreat of GYF and GYAF

Ruben Skariah

I would like to praise and thank God for the opportunity to attend the combined retreat of GYF and GYAF. During the retreat, I have learnt many precious lessons from the 4 theme messages and 2 morning devotions. Through the morning devotions on the theme, “Offering Spiritual Sacrifices”, taught by Bro Cornelius, I learnt about 4 sacrifices that we need to offer:

- (1) I need to offer the sacrifice of my lips through praise and thanksgiving – “By him therefore let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of our lips giving thanks to his name” (Hebrews 13:15).
- (2) I need to offer the sacrifice of prayer. We are duty-bound to offer up prayers as our daily obligation as priests.

(3) I should offer the sacrifices of repentance and righteousness – “Offer the sacrifices of righteousness, and put your trust in the LORD” (Psalm 4:5). In order for us sinful men to have our spiritual sacrifices accepted by God, we need to first repent of our sins.

(4) Finally, the sacrifice of ourselves for others. I need to pour out my life to be spent for the service of the faith of others.

Through the theme messages on “What Should the Church Leadership Be?” taught by Pastor, I learnt that church leadership consists of divinely designed offices, and men whom God has commissioned to those offices. Hence, leadership in the church ought to be a divine appointment, which is preceded by biblical evidence, and in line with biblical expectations.

I am grateful to God for the fellowship with both youths and young adults that I had during the lunch and dinner breaks. I also thank God for the Bible Reading session on John 21:1-14, which has taught me to read the Bible with more understanding. May God help me to delight in His Word, and grow in faith. All glory to God!

Joey Peh

Truly, thank God for the recent combined YAF-YF Retreat on 25 and 26 December 2020, where the truths about church leadership were clearly expounded.

It was an illuminating study, especially the section on having an intense spiritual desire for the work. “For though I preach the gospel, I have nothing to glory of: for necessity is laid upon me; yea, woe is unto me, if I preach not the gospel!” (1 Corinthians 9:16). The burden to preach was so strong that the apostle Paul described it as being “pressed in the spirit” (Acts 18:5) by a constraining force (cf. 2 Corinthians 5:14).

I also praise the LORD for the morning devotions on “Offering Spiritual Sacrifices”. In particular, Philippians 2:17-18, “Yea, and if I be offered upon the sacrifice and service of your faith, I joy, and rejoice with you all. For the same cause also do ye joy, and rejoice with me”, struck me. The joy bubbling from those who minister and those who are ministered unto—merging as one ceaseless river of praise—is a wonderful sight to behold.

May God stir all His children to serve with gladness, and to receive the service rendered by others in the same body of Christ with much thanksgiving.

Judy Lim

I am very grateful to God for the combined retreat of GYF and GYAF. I thank God for granting our church leaders the perseverance in feeding us with God’s Word amid challenging times, and for the brethren who labour much in planning and making the camp possible.

I learned from the morning devotions that God does not desire “burnt offering and sin offering” (Psalm 40:6), but He delights in “a living sacrifice” (Romans 12:1), “a broken and a contrite heart” (Psalm 51:17), and “the sacrifice of praise” (Hebrews 13:15).

Pastor taught us that God designs church leadership, and every member in the leadership is under His direct supervision. We were taught that a godly leader should serve the Lord “with all humility of mind” (Acts 20:19) and possess Christ-like qualities.

The apostle Paul exhorts, “If a man therefore purge himself from these, he shall be a vessel unto honour, sanctified, and meet for the master’s use, and prepared unto every good work” (2 Timothy 2:21). So, may we respond to our divine calling and continue the good work that the Lord has started in Gethsemane!



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Junior Worshipper's Page

Encourage Yourself in the LORD Your God

*“...but David encouraged himself in the LORD his God.”
(1 Samuel 30:6)*

In life, God’s people will face troubles, one after another. On occasion, many troubles would come together upon them. David, God’s servant, faced severe distress of heart due to unexpected tragedies and hostile situations. That could have been a time of divine chastisement and correction in his life.

David went to help the Philistine king and princes to fight against King Saul of Israel. But he was turned away by the Philistine lords with words of sarcasm and contempt – “What do these Hebrews here? Is not this David?” When he returned with his men to the camp in Ziklag, it was in total devastation. The Amalekites had attacked the camp and taken away their goods, and even their wives and children as captives. At this sight, even his own men, who were with him, turned against him. “And David was greatly distressed; for the people spake of stoning him, because the soul of all the people was grieved, every man for his sons and for his daughters” (1 Samuel 30:6). What an adversity!

“But David encouraged himself in the LORD his God.” His first attempt was to encourage himself. How would he be able to do anything for anyone, if he himself is discouraged and distressed? So, encouraging himself was the best thing he needed to do. I think David might have said, “Why art thou cast down, O my soul? and why art thou disquieted within me? hope thou in God: for I shall yet praise him” (cf. Ps 42:11). David encouraged himself. But note that he encouraged himself “in the LORD his God”. That is the surest way of encouraging oneself.

If you are in trouble (even if your trouble is due to your sin), turn to God who is willing to forgive and restore you. Look nowhere else for help but to the God whom you have offended. He will help all who will trust Him in prayer.



Prabhudas Koshy

COLLECTIONS

LORD'S DAY on 27th December 2020

Tithes: 6,592.00

Offerings: 8,715.00

Designated Gifts: Cebu Building Fund 500.00; 500.00; 500.00; 500.00; 100.00; 100.00; 50.00; 20.00; General Fund 300.00; Bohol Missions 50.00; Cebu Missions 50.00; China Missions 100.00; Pangasinan Missions 200.00; 50.00; Vizag Missions 50.00; Bogo & San Antonio Missions 50.00; Annie Ho 120.00; Cornelius Koshy 100.00; 100.00; Elder Eliezer 120.00; Elder Mah 117.00; Gladys Ratnam 117.00; Matthew Peh 25.00; Pr Daniel Lim 300.00

Non-Sunday Collections
(21st–26th Dec 2020)

Tithes: 1,650.00

Offerings: 7,320.00

Combined Retreat: 300.00; 200.00; 200.00; 120.00; 100.00; 100.00; 50.00; 50.00; 50.00; 50.00; 50.00; 20.00; 20.00; 20.00

Designated Gifts: Cebu Building Fund 20,000.00; 1,001.00, 238.00; BWMM 3,000.00; 100.00; General Fund 720.00; 400.00; Dn Lok 1,000.00; Norefel Resuma 1,000.00; Pr Edsel Locot 100.00; Pr Jeremiah Sim 160.00; Pr Ho Kee How 1,000.00; Pr Sujith Samuel 1,000.00; Pastor Koshy 5,008.00; 1,500.00;

Total Funds Collection
(as of 27th December 2020)

Cebu Building Fund: 305,253.50

GETHSEMANE DEFENDERS MINISTRY SEMINAR (VIA ZOOM)

Topic: Antibodies, Viruses and
Intelligent Design

Speaker: Dr Samuel Gan

Date & Time: Sat, 9 Jan 2021,
2pm–6pm

*The Zoom meeting link will be provided
via Whatsapp Chat.*

YOUNG ADULTS' FELLOWSHIP

Topic: The Book of Ephesians

Speaker: Pastor Prabhudas Koshy

Chairperson: Dn Low Boon Siang

Date & Time: Fri, 15 Jan 2021, 8pm

*The Zoom meeting link will be provided
via Whatsapp Chat.*

LADIES' FELLOWSHIP SEMINAR (VIA ZOOM)

Topic: The Legacy of
the Christian Woman

Speaker: Pastor Prabhudas Koshy

Chairperson: Sis. Carolyn Koshy

Date & Time: Sat, 16 Jan 2021,
2pm–6pm

*The Zoom meeting link will be provided
via Whatsapp Chat.*

COMBINED GYF GOSPEL MEETING (SINGAPORE & KUCHING)

Topic: The Christian's Assurance

Speaker: Bro. Cornelius Koshy

Chairperson: Bro. Gideon Lee

Date & Time: Sat, 16 Jan 2021,
2pm–4pm

Venue: Gethsemane Media Centre
(and via Zoom)

*(Availability of seats at GMC is on a
'first come, first served' basis.)*

ADULTS' FELLOWSHIP

Topic: Study of 1 Thessalonians

Speaker: Pastor Prabhudas Koshy

Chairperson: Dn Lok Kwok Wah

Date & Time: Sat, 23 Jan 2021

Venue: Gethsemane Media Centre

*(Availability of seats at GMC is on a
'first come, first served' basis.)*



GETHESEMANE 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 GETHESEMANE 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 Chinese Worship Service

9.30am @ GMC

Sunday English Worship Service I

10.00am @ SingPost L5 Auditorium (YouTube Live)

Sunday English Worship Service II

2.00pm @ SingPost L5 Auditorium

Sunday Catechism Class

On break

Sunday Evening Teaching Service

6.00pm @ GMC (Zoom: Constitution Amendments)

Campus Bible Studies (via Zoom)

NAFA-Lasalle: Wednesday @ 3.00pm

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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gbi-online.com

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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