



CHURCH of CHRIST
— PASIR PANJANG —

FOCUS

12 July 2020

2020 Year Theme:
Be Strong and Courageous! Joshua 1:9

Worship Theme: Israel's plight and God's response - Chain Reaction
Today's scripture texts: Ex 1:8-2:10; Rom 12:1-8; Ps 124

This week's theme offers us a new encounter with salvation. What a story of Israel's plight and God's response! In Exodus, we read the famous story of Moses' rescue from death, how he was brought into the family of Pharaohs, and how he was saved so that he might save the Israelites. It is a chain reaction we are blessed to witness.

The Romans reading seems a bit out of place compared with these other readings, but it does reflect on the community of faith, and on God's work in and through it. Here, God's people are called to offer themselves completely (as sacrifices) to God, and to trust in God's transformation, God's community and God's gifting – all of which, it can be argued, are given by God to save, protect and empower God's church, and through it, the world. In the end, however, we have to choose whether we will trust in God's saving activity among us enough to offer ourselves as living sacrifices, to throw our lot in with the others who make up God's Church, and to give ourselves and our abilities to serve God's saving purpose in the world. It's a challenge we cannot avoid this week.

Furthermore, Psalm 124 is a song in which God's saving, protecting love is celebrated. Let us celebrate like how the psalmist will celebrate for our God is good.

May we encounter salvation as we worship this week, and may we become not just recipients but also agents of salvation in the world. It is unfortunate that salvation has largely been framed in terms of "going to heaven when we die". While life eternal or abundant is certainly a promise of God's work, salvation is not just a future hope; it is an evacuation from the world. The passages this week all speak about God's saving work, but they all do so in reference to what is happening in the lives of people now. Moses was not saved by going to heaven, but by God's activity in his earthly life. And he was called to save God's people, the Israelites, not by giving them a guarantee of heavenly bliss, but by leading them out of slavery in Egypt.

As a Church we really need to hear this call of God, and bring our gifts and our connections (as Romans teaches) and offer them to be agents of God's salvation for the people in our communities and families now. This means that we cannot just preach about avoiding hell and finding heaven when people die. We need to help them to discover heaven in their lives now. Our calling is to enable people in all circumstances and walks of life to find God, to find heaven, to find salvation in their daily reality – whether it is freedom from poverty or domestic violence; whether it is healing of a relationship, or a mind or a body; whether it is the discovery of a new dignity, or a new work opportunity or a new home. In every community the "gates of hell" are at work in people's lives and the pain and destruction that results can be seen easily.

However, if we as Church take our calling seriously, we will become known as the bringers of salvation, and lives and communities will be transformed. Then, when we begin to speak about eternity, people may be more inclined to listen.

EVENTS

Online Bible Class & Worship

12 July

9.30 am Bible Class
The Parable of the Lost Sheep by Kelvin Koo

11.00 am Worship
Israel's plight and God's response - Chain Reaction by John Then

Wed Online Bible Class

15 July

7.30 pm
Daniel Chapter 12
Lesson 13 The End times
Teacher: Lim Lian Chye

Zoom Prayer Warriors

8.00 pm
Every 2nd & 4th Tue
Lim Lian Chye



Use this QR code to access
Online Worship



RESUMPTION OF IN-PERSON CONGREGATIONAL WORSHIP SERVICE ON 19 JULY 2020. RELIGIOUS SERVICES OF ONLY UP TO 50 PEOPLE WILL BE ABLE TO RESUME WITH STRINGENT SAFE MEASURES IN PLACE (READ PAGES 2 AND 3).

AS SUCH, THE ONLINE WORSHIP AND BIBLE CLASSES WILL CONTINUE UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.

YOU can join us in worship by going to www.ppcoc.org and click on our **Online Worship** under Resources tab or Quick Links. You can also check the **Donate** tab on how to make bank transfers to the church for tithes and offerings.

Resumption of In-Person Congregational Worship Service

We are happy to announce that in-person congregational worship service will resume from **19 July 2020**. Although the worship service will be conducted with restrictions, coming together still has benefits aside from worship; for instance, giving members the opportunity to see one another physically and to conduct fellowship outside of the worship and church premises (with compliance within the 5 persons regulation). It also gives the church an opportunity to prepare for further easing of restrictions in the future. In order to comply with the limitations and requirements for the resumption of worship services and to ensure that it is conducted in a safe and organized way, please take note of the following main points:

- Up to **50 persons** are allowed for in-person congregational worship (excluding church staff and supporting workers – eg. men to serve) – please refer to procedure below on how the 50 persons will be selected.
- Only the **11.00 am worship service** will be conducted in-person. Live streaming of the worship service will continue.
- Sunday Bible class will be uploaded online from 8.00 am and the Wednesday Bible Class from 7.30 pm.
- Worshippers have to observe a 1 metre safe distance between others if they are worshipping individually. You may also worship in groups of no more than 5 persons, adhering to the 1 metre safe distancing between groups.
- All person present must wear a face mask at all times.
- Singing is not allowed (as this is considered a higher risk activity).
- There will be no reception or mingling between worshippers, before, during or after each worship service.
- There will not be a children class so children will have to sit with their parents or guardians if they are attending.
- You may park your car along the church driveway. If you park at the Alpha carpark, please note that the bus shuttle service will not be available.

Note: We seek your patience and understanding as we implement the procedures and measures. The leaders will continue to monitor and review them as necessary so that all of us can continue to worship together safely and in compliance with the authorities' guidelines.

Do's and Don'ts for attending the worship services

Do

- Ensure that you wear a mask throughout the service except when partaking of the communion.
- Continue to practice good hygiene.
- Comply with the safe management measures (i.e. use of Safe Entry, Trace Together, temperature screening).
- Follow the signages for entry and exit from the church premises.
- Exercise safe distancing when using the toilet facilities and avoid queues from forming.
- Inform the church leaders or staff immediately if you feel unwell during the worship service. They will advise and assist you accordingly.

Don'ts

- Attend the service if you are feeling unwell, are undergoing quarantine or have been in contact with a confirmed COVID-19 case.
- Mingle amongst worshippers, before, during or after each worship service.

Conduct of the Worship Service

- If you are attending individually, please keep at least 1m safe distance from the others.
- If you are attending as a group, you may be seated together (up to 5 persons) and keep at least 1m safe distance between groups and other individuals.
- As singing is not allowed, songs with congregational singing will be shown on the screen for all the segments with songs (i.e. opening and closing songs, communion songs, etc.).
- Disposable communion sets will be pre-positioned on the pews. Leave the used items on the pews and these will be collected and disposed after the worship service.
- You are encouraged to continue with the online giving or PayNow. If you need to give in cash, there is a collection box at the rear of the auditorium that you can deposit your cash before you leave.

Procedure for Selection of 50 worshippers

- Each week, members are to submit their intention to attend the coming Sunday's worship service before 12 noon Friday. Submission will be through the online form on the ppcoc.org website.
- You can submit as an individual or as a family or group if you are planning to come together.
- Please submit only if you have the intention and are able to attend the worship service. As we are only allowed up to 50 persons, we want the allocated slots to be optimally used.
- Balloting on the submitted names will be conducted on Friday afternoon.
- Those names chosen will get to attend the coming Sunday's worship service.
- Those names not chosen will have priority for the following Sundays' worship service.
- Results of those chosen during the ballot will be made known to them on Friday or Saturday. If you have not been contacted, it means that your name is not chosen.
- There will be no replacement if the member is unable to attend. Please don't swop names as it will add to the administrative workload for the leaders and staff.
- You will need to submit your name/group every week so that it can be matched with the rollover names from previous week/s.

Other Information

- Solemnizations, funeral services, baptisms can be conducted at the church premises subject to restrictions on the number of people attending and in compliance with safe management measures. Details will be provided to members who wish to have the above activities.
- The church office will be opened during the week with the staff working on split shifts.

JOIN US ONLINE

← → ↻ 🔒 ppcoc.org/live-stream/



<https://www.ppcoc.org/live-stream/>

Donate



Family News, Concerns & Prayers

12 July 2020

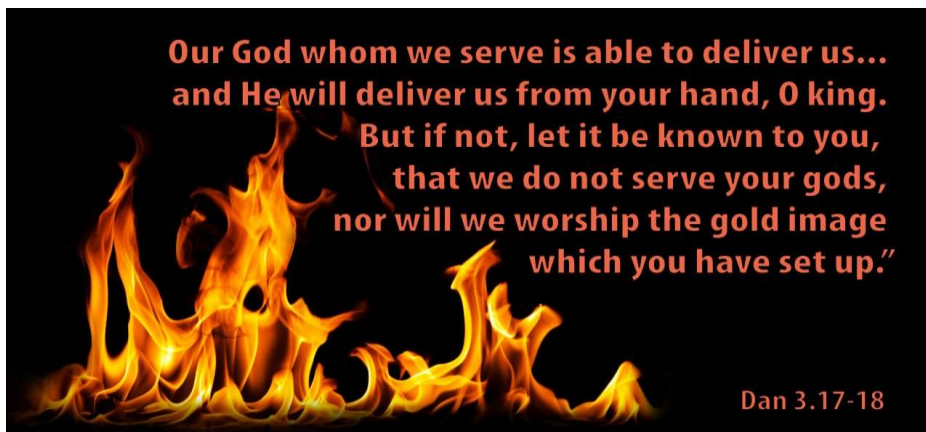
Members who intent to worship at the church premises on Sunday are to register and submit the online form on ppcoc website each week. Or they may use the QR code to do so.




Uphold prayer for **Loy Hwee Seiu**. He will be going to Bukit Batok Care (nursing) Home next week.

Uphold prayer for **Janet Gant**. Praying for God's favour for kidney stones removal surgery and wellness on 29 July.

Uphold prayer for safe and smooth delivery of **Josephine & Johnston Seah**, their first born due on 14 July.



SUNDAY GIVING




FACTS  **FIGURES**

5 July - \$12,380

WAYS TO GIVE

(C) Donate via PayNow (QRCode)

1. Scan the QR code using your mobile banking app
2. Verify that it shows:
Church of Christ PPG,
S76SS0008AGFD
3. Indicate your name in the "Reference No." (optional)
4. Enter the amount you wish to contribute
5. Click next, verify the details and confirm.

General Fund UEN: S76SS0008AGFD
Missions Fund UEN: S76SS0008AMFD
Building Fund UEN: S76SS0008ABFD

Sometimes life deals us a tremendous blow. Other times the miraculous happens. 3 young men, captured in Babylon, stood in front of the fearsome king of & boldly proclaimed that under no circumstances would they worship the giant image of gold towering above them. They declared: "If we are thrown into the blazing furnace, the God we serve is able to deliver us from it, & he will deliver us from Your Majesty's hand. But even if he does not, we want you to know... we will not worship the image." Dan 3:17-18.

These 3 men—Shadrach, Meshach, & Abednego—were hurled into the fiery furnace; but God miraculously delivered them. God desires that we cling to Him—even if our loved one isn't healed, even if we lose our job, even if we are persecuted. Sometimes God rescues us from danger in this life, & sometimes He doesn't. But the truth we can hold firmly is this: "The God we serve is able," loves us, & is with us in every one of our fiery trials. Blessed Assurance is only found in God.

FEEDBACK on
Church Matters



<http://bit.ly/38KH8wK>

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