



CHURCH of CHRIST
— PASIR PANJANG —



8 March 2020

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

Worship Theme: A deeper experience of God's grace
Today's scripture texts: Isaiah 65:1-9; Gal 3:23-29; Psalm 22:19-28

ISAIAH 63:7 - 64:11 - THE CONTEXT

Isaiah 65 is Yahweh's answer to the lament of Isaiah 63:7 - 64:11. The lament begins by the people remembering Yahweh's "loving kindnesses" (63:7). They admit that Yahweh's children "rebelled and grieved his Holy Spirit" so that Yahweh became "their enemy" (63:10). They then remember "the days of old," and ask, "Where is he who brought them up out of the sea?" (63:11)—and "O Yahweh, why do you make us to err from your ways, and harden our heart from your fear?" (63:17). They beg, "Return for your servants' sake, the tribes of your inheritance" (63:17). They plead, "Oh that you would tear the heavens, that you would come down" (64:1) and "Don't be furious, Yahweh, neither remember iniquity forever: see, look, we beg you, we are all your people." They complain, "Our holy and our beautiful house, where our fathers praised you, is burned with fire; and all our pleasant places are laid waste" (64:11).

In Isaiah 65, we hear Yahweh's response to their pleas and complaints. Yahweh has been available to them (v. 1)—even to rebellious people whose actions were abominable (vv. 2-5). Yahweh will repay them for their sins (vv. 6-7), but "will not destroy them all," but will instead "bring forth descendants from Jacob" (vv. 8-9).

Yahweh's response has a redemptive purpose. "If there was to be a restoration to health, denial had to be replaced with acknowledgement of responsibility" (Hanson, 241). Chapter 65 is a "tough love" confrontation designed to bring the people face-to-face with their failure to seek a relationship with Yahweh.

No wonder, we heard Isaiah describing how he felt a calling to stretch the boundaries to which he often limited himself.

In this passage he felt the Lord urging him to reach out NOT to just the glamorous, or to those with whom he was already comfortable with. Isaiah was opening himself up to people who seemed strange or foreign to him. He was choosing (as Jesus would command his followers many years later) to love even those he perceived to be his enemy.

As we read his words, we can sense the emotions Isaiah must have felt due to the transforming of his world view.

by Richard Niell Donovan

Our Vision
To Be A Vibrant, Growing Community Where Every Member Ministers to One Another



Equipped by Ministry Leaders

Supported by Mission Interest Groups & Partners

Reached out to by Care Teams

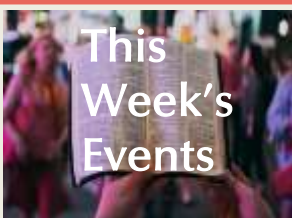
Our Mission
We are Called Out To...



Worship God

Testify to the Nations the Gospel

Make Disciples



8 Mar (Sun)
8.00 am & 11.00 am
Peter Lim
Isaiah 65:1-9
6.00 pm
Joseph Zeng
Jeremiah 17:5-8

9 Mar (Mon)
7.30 pm
Gladiolus Place
Devotion
Catherine Leow

11 Mar (Wed)
7.30 pm
Wed Bible Class
Ecclesiastes
Vincent Lim
Chinese Worship Hall



Care Team Meetings



Rosie's Care Team meets Wednesdays



Kumbaya Care Team meets Fridays



Siew Gek's Care Team meets Mondays

If you are not in a Care Team yet, join one or start one.

Let us consider how we may spur one another on towards love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another - all the more as you see the Day approaching (Hebrew 10:24-25).

Similar to Bible Classes and Church Worship services, we need not stop Care Team meetings so long as the necessary precautions are taken.

UPCOMING EVENTS

SING is held every Saturday afternoon from 2pm to 4pm at the church auditorium.
Contact: Terilee or Dennis Law

Prayer Warriors (PW) is held every 2nd & 4th Tuesday of each month.
Contact: Lim Lian Chye

29 Mar (Sun)
Ladies Day
12 noon Lunch
1 pm Program Starts

31 May (Sun)
SIBI Graduation
12.30 pm Lunch
1.30 pm Ceremony

25-29 July (Sat-Wed)
59th Asian Mission Forum
Chennai India
<http://amf2020.webflow.io/>

FEEDBACK on Church Matters



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

Psalm 91 English Standard Version (ESV)

- ¹He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High will abide in the shadow of the Almighty.
- ²I will say to the LORD, "My refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust."
- ³For He will deliver you from the snare of the fowler and from the deadly pestilence.
- ⁴He will cover you with his pinions, and under His wings you will find refuge; His faithfulness is a shield and buckler.
- ⁵You will not fear the terror of the night, nor the arrow that flies by day,
- ⁶nor the pestilence that stalks in darkness, nor the destruction that wastes at noonday.
- ⁷A thousand may fall at your side, ten thousand at your right hand, but it will not come near you.
- ⁸You will only look with your eyes and see the recompense of the wicked.
- ⁹Because you have made the LORD your dwelling place—the Most High, who is my refuge—
- ¹⁰no evil shall be allowed to befall you, no plague come near your tent.
- ¹¹For He will command his angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways.
- ¹²On their hands they will bear you up, lest you strike your foot against a stone.
- ¹³You will tread on the lion and the adder; the young lion and the serpent you will trample underfoot.
- ¹⁴"Because he holds fast to me in love, I will deliver him; I will protect him, because he knows my name.
- ¹⁵When he calls to me, I will answer him; I will be with him in trouble; I will rescue him and honour him.
- ¹⁶With long life I will satisfy him and show him my salvation."



PSALM 91

TOTAL PROTECTION IN PESTILENCE AND WAR

When we acknowledge that everything that happens in the world today is governed by God's Providence, it will remind us of God's omnipotence, omniscience and omnipresence. The daily sunshine or rain that the world receives, whether by good or evil ones, is called general providence (Matt 5:45).

When our Lord in the Sermon on the Mount says God takes much more care of His children than birds and flowers (Matt 6:26-30), He teaches a particular providence. Now this particular (special) providence of God over His own in the context, refers to peace time care.

In this Psalm, we go one step further. We are assured of a particular providence that extends to troubled times. Here the Psalmist testifies of total protection to those who abide closely in Him. Psalm 46 tells us that God is an instant Help in trouble. The dangerous and pestilential circumstances cover every danger of disease and war. Whether great or small, God has promised to protect and save us. He will send His angels to keep charge over us. Like a nurse over a little child, she will not let him fall and bruise himself.

Family News & Concerns

We rejoice over Bro Rudy Lee Wee Pin's baptism last Sunday after the 11am worship. Rudy Lee is a deaf visitor. Together with his deaf wife, Shana, who comes from Hong Kong, they have a 3-year-old hearing daughter, Vera. They were invited by Sis Mimi to attend PP worship services with the Chinese and English congregations in Jan 2017.



Sis Lilie (from the Chinese congregation) has been an instrumental tool God has provided to Rudy and Shana.

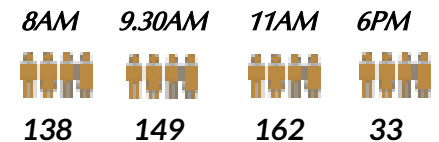
- Pray for Bro Lian Chye who is going for a sinus operation in SGH on 9 March.
- Pray for God's travel mercy and protection for KC & Irene, Michael & Belinda, Doreen, Sharon and Melissa, on their trip to New Zealand from 9-20 March.



LAST SUNDAY



FACTS FIGURES



GF	\$ 10,165
MF YTD	\$ 117,999

RE-BUILDING: A MILESTONE IN THE HISTORY OF PPCOC



Pledged Donations	S\$ 5,894,372
Pledged Loans *	S\$ 720,000
Ad-Hoc BF Donations (Cumulative collection to date)	S\$ 341,932
Pledges & Ad-Hoc BF Donations	S\$ 6,956,304
Amount to achieve \$8.7m goal	S\$ 1,743,696
Total Collection (Pledges Fulfilled & Ad-Hoc BF Donations)	S\$ 3,542,517

Note: * Pledged Loans to be repaid from 1 year after TOP

Send this FOCUS QR Code to an absent member



<http://bit.ly/3c5ifhP>

Pledge & Building Fund Committee

Peter Lim
Jim Kawi
Grace Mariaraja

Elders

Simon Goh
Peter Lim
Lim Swee Aun
Ooi Boo Chye
Terry Wan

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Dennis Law
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Go to Internet browser link <http://welcome.ppcoc.org> via the Church WIFI to record your attendance