

FOCUS



CHURCH of CHRIST
PASIR PANJANG, SINGAPORE

Sunday Morning Worship



29 August 2021

The Empowered Communion

By Keith Gant
Livestream @ 11am
ppcoc.org/live-stream

As we close this series on Communion, we come away with an expanded understanding of what it means. It is the relationship with God that we human beings were created to enjoy for eternity. Though we are flawed, Christ forgives us and offers us the chance to repent. Since Christ has restored our relationship with Him, we can also live in renewed communion with others who share our faith.

Today, brother Keith Gant explores the next step. Our joyous communion with God is not something that we keep to ourselves. It is Good News to be shared with the world, something we also call the Great Commission. And we are not alone in spreading this news, for the Spirit of God who lives in us also empowers us to do so.

COVID-19 Guidelines

We give thanks to God for the improving COVID-19 situation in Singapore. We warmly welcome everybody back to in-person worship. Please take note that:

- **You do not have to register** for worship at our website.
- **You must be fully vaccinated** to attend in-person worship.
- If you are **not vaccinated**, you need a negative PET result from an accredited clinic no earlier than 12:30pm on Saturday.
- **Children under 12** who are not vaccinated can still attend and do not need to go for PET.

We understand that some members have difficulty meeting the above criteria and cannot yet return to worship. We miss you very much and thank you for your understanding as we adhere to safe management measures for the safety of the community. We look forward to having you back when restrictions relax further in the coming weeks.

Giving

Last week's contribution: **\$10,470**



General Fund
S76SS0008AGFD



Missions Fund
S76SS0008AMFD



Building Fund
S76SS0008ABFD

Upcoming Events

Wednesday, 1 Sept | Livestream @ 7:30pm

Midweek Bible Class

"Pay Attention to the Scriptures" (1 Peter 1:12-21)

By John Lim

Sunday, 5 Sept | Live @ 9:30am

Adult Bible Class

"Concealing Sin"

Joshua 6-8

By Irvin Wan



Youth Bible Class

"We Fear Missing Out"

12 Ways Your Smartphone Is

Changing You

Contact John Lim (8689 2008)



FFF Bible Class

"Why Should We Pray"

Let's Pray About It

Contact Dorothy Tay (9363 1260)

GEMS Bible Class (Kinderkids)

"Elijah and the Widow"

1 Kings 17

Contact Josephine Seow (9170 4343)



GEMS Bible Class (P123)

"In the Garden of Gethsemane"

Mark 14:32-52

Contact Eunice Chen (9176 1667)



GEMS Bible Class (P456)

"Hannah Prayed for a Child"

1 Sam 1-2:11

Contact Rosalind Lee (9621 9006)

Sunday, 5 Sept | Live @ 11am

"The Disciple's Responsibility"

Psalms 78:9-14, 65-72

By Mac Esmilla



September Worship Series



The Christian faith is much more than spending a couple of hours in church on Sunday morning. It is more than a checklist of righteous actions that we “get over and done with” so that we can go back to living our regular lives.

To be a Christian is to be a Christ-follower. When Jesus walked this earth, He called twelve men to be His disciples. They understood that they were to follow Him wherever He went, eat whatever He ate, do whatever He did in the way that He did it.

Disciples of Jesus don't get to choose how they want to live their lives. Rather, they freely and joyfully lay it down because Jesus offers a far better life—His life. Every behaviour, every thought, and every word is done in love, adoration, and obedience to their Lord and Master.

We will unpack this theme in next month's worship series. Stay tuned for an exciting September!



Celebrating Our Teachers

Why God Made Teachers

by Kevin William Huff

When God created teachers,
He gave us special friends
To help us understand His world
And truly comprehend
The beauty and the wonder
Of everything we see,
And become a better person
With each discovery.

When God created teachers,
He gave us special guides
To show us ways in which to grow
So we can all decide
How to live and how to do
What's right instead of wrong,
To lead us so that we can lead
And learn how to be strong.

Why God created teachers,
In His wisdom and His grace,
Was to help us learn to make our world
A better, wiser place.



*For our amazing Bible Class teachers -
Thank you so much for guiding us,
through the Word of God.
Happy Teachers' Day!*



COVID-19 Measures

The leadership welcomes the recent easing of safe management measures by the authorities, which allows more attendees for the in-person worship.

Please take note of the following requirements:

- In-person congregational worship will be allowed up to a maximum of 1000 persons (limited by church auditorium size) with the conditions indicated below.
- All worshippers, religious and supporting workers are to be vaccinated.
- Attendees are to be divided into zones, holding no more than 50 worshippers each.
- No crossing of zones allowed.
- All attendees are required to wear their masks.
- Singing will not be allowed during the in-person worship.



What qualifies as “vaccinated”?

- Fully vaccinated, i.e. has received the full regimen of Pfizer-BioNTech/Comirnaty, Moderna or WHO EUL vaccines, with an additional two weeks for the vaccine to be fully effective,
- recovered from COVID-19, or
- has obtained a negative result on a pre-event test (PET) taken in the past 24 hours before the expected end of the event. Note that this test has to be from an accredited clinic.

Family News

- As children 12 years and below are ineligible for the National Vaccination, they are exempted from undergoing PET.

Procedures for attending in-person worship on Sunday

- There is no requirement to pre-register for the in-person worship.
- Please ensure that you are vaccinated.
- For those who are not vaccinated, please ensure that you have completed the Pre-Event Testing (PET) no earlier than 24 hours prior to the end of the meeting. (Eg. Worship ends at 12.30pm on Sunday, test to be done after 12.30pm on Saturday). Please bring along the test result to the church for verification.
- Attendees will be seated in different zones.
- Kindly ensure that you check in and out via the Safe Entry Gateway.

We seek the cooperation of everyone attending the in-person worship to abide with the regulations and procedures for the health and safety of everyone. It is the leadership's prayer and desire that members will make the effort to worship together in-person.

A Minister's Musings



A Glimpse into Worship Preparation

By John Lim

The Significance of Sunday

In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. In six days, He brought forth everything from the stars of the heavens to the creatures of land and sea. On the seventh day, He rested and enjoyed the work of His hands. To this day, Jews observe the Sabbath as a day for rest, enjoyment, and worship.



But what comes after that? What happens on the eighth day?

The early Christians recognised that Jesus rose on Sunday, the day after Sabbath, for a reason. Sunday, the eighth day, is the dawn of a new creation.

Today, Christians gather on Sunday to celebrate this same miraculous reality. It is a special day where we affirm our faith in God, encounter the body of the risen Christ, and recommit ourselves to walking with the Spirit.

Since I began full-time ministry in July, I have been privileged to play a part in coordinating and preparing our worship services. I'd like to give you a glimpse of how our Men-to-Serve have been working hard to bring about a richer and more meaningful worship experience every week.

A Minister's Musings



A Glimpse into Worship Preparation (cont)

What We Do

Every Tuesday for the last two months, the worship team meets via Zoom to talk through the worship plan. First, the preacher shares the direction and themes of his message. The rest of the team shares insights from their own preparation, building on and riffing off from what others have said.

Gradually, with the sermon as our starting point, the team perceives the overarching message that God is telling, through every segment of worship—Scripture, song, Lord's Supper thoughts, even announcements—in a unique and beautiful way.

Sometimes, we adjust certain parts to improve clarity and unity. We may adjust the Scripture text or songs to align with the theme more fully. In August, when the theme was “Communion”, we changed the order of worship so that the sermon would prepare us for the Lord's Supper that came after it, rather than before.

In addition, each week's team has a WhatsApp chat group so that we can suggest ideas that arise during the preparation. It frees us from needing to “get everything right” at the Tuesday meeting, which helps to keep our meeting within one hour. It also reminds us that preparing for worship is not a one-off thing. It is about dwelling on the Word over time and being attentive to the Spirit as He guides our meditation.

Thus, the worship service is not just “a sermon plus a few extras”, but a rich, multidimensional proclamation of the Good News of Jesus through a harmony of song, prayer, and Word.

A Minister's Musings



A Glimpse into Worship Preparation (cont)

Going Forward

I want to thank and commend the worship leaders of the past two months for their patience and commitment. It takes time and effort to create meaningful worship services week after week, and an hour-long Zoom meeting on a Tuesday night can be a big sacrifice.

That said, if we truly believe that Sunday worship is the pinnacle of our week; if we believe that our ultimate purpose as human beings is to glorify God; if we believe that the Lord of the Universe is uniquely present with His gathered people and about to speak—surely this occasion deserves our utmost preparation.

Going forward, worship leaders should expect to participate in this weekly rhythm of preparation. There will be a time for the worship team to meet, pray, and plan together. There will also be the expectation that each leader spends time during the week for personal preparation.

Perhaps someone might ask, “I can prepare my segment on my own. Why do I still need to meet with the rest of the team?” Because leading worship is not a one-man show. The Sunday service is not a series of disconnected one-acts; everyone serves as part of a team in service of the same message.

No football player trains separately from the team and expects to win the World Cup. Your smartphone would not work if it only had the screen. Jesus—the literal Son of God who could have done everything by Himself—created a community, the Church, to carry out His mission. The same is true of us who lead worship.

Connect With Us

Prayer Requests/ Feedback



<http://bit.ly/35FTEyp>



Meet Our People

Elders

Simon Goh	8833 0899
Peter Lim	9274 5457
Lim Swee Aun	9335 9955
Terry Wan	9845 2878

Deacons

Dennis Law	9681 1068
Lim Kok Hin	9679 6027
Vincent Lim	9451 7382

Ministers

Tan Beng Chuan	9639 3008
Patrick Ong	8200 5250
John Lim	8689 2008

Pledge and Building Fund Committee

Peter Lim	9274 5457
Jim Kawi	9825 8792
Grace Mariaraja	9060 7585