

FOCUS



CHURCH of CHRIST
PASIR PANJANG, SINGAPORE

Sunday Morning Worship



12 September 2021

The Way of the Cross

By Gareth Chan
Livestream @ 11am
ppcoc.org/live-stream

When you read the theme of today's worship service, you may have imagined the dusty road from Jerusalem to Calvary. You may have heard the crowds, howling and jeering as their Saviour stumbled passed them under the weight of heavy wooden planks.

But "The Way of the Cross" could also refer to the attitude of the One who walked the road. Despite having all power and authority to destroy those who dared to mock the Son of God, He chose grace over force. Though He deserved their total admiration, He submitted to the will of His Father, and went forth as a silent lamb before its shearers.

The Way of the Cross is also our road, for us who confess Jesus as Lord and Master. He summons us to live and walk just as He did. Strange? Yes. Illogical? Yes. Is it worth it? Absolutely.

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: **\$15,569**



General Fund
S76SS0008AGFD



Missions Fund
S76SS0008AMFD



Building Fund
S76SS0008ABFD

Upcoming Events



Monday, 13 Sept

Gladiolus Place Devotion

Zoom @ 7:30pm

Contact Lucy Kwan (9838 3131)

PP '22 Dialogue - General

Zoom @ 8pm

ID: 822 3488 8306

Password: Theme2022



Wednesday, 15 Sept | Livestream @ 7:30pm

Wednesday Bible Class

"Better to Have Never Known the Way"

(2 Peter 2:11-22)

By John Lim



Saturday, 18 Sept | Zoom @ 2pm

PP '22 Dialogue - General

ID: 822 3488 8306

Password: Theme2022

Upcoming Events



Sunday, 19 Sept | Live @ 9:30am

Adult Bible Class

"Serve the Lord"

Joshua 24

By Lim Cher Yam

GEMS Bible Class (Kinderkids)

"God Whispers"

1 Kings 19

Contact Josephine Seow (9170 4343)

Youth Bible Class

"We Lose Our Place In Time"

12 Ways Your Smartphone Is
Changing You

Contact John Lim (8689 2008)

GEMS Bible Class (P123)

"Jesus Before Pilate & Herod"

Luke 23:1-25; Matthew 27:1-31

Contact Eunice Chen (9176 1667)

FFF Bible Class

"When Should We Pray?"

Let's Pray About It

Contact Dorothy Tay (9363 1260)

GEMS Bible Class (P456)

"The Ark of God"

1 Sam 4-7

Contact Rosalind Lee (9621 9006)



Sunday, 19 Sept | Live @ 11am

"Cross at God"

By Simon Goh



PP '22 | The Dialogues

As announced last week, the ministers have begun planning for 2022, and we would like to involve all members in discerning God's calling for this church. Our hope is to integrate the unique interests and skills that God has given each of you into one great theme for the new year.



Over the next seven weeks, we will be holding dialogue sessions with church members. Each week will focus on a particular aspect of church life, such as Young Adults or the leadership. Please see the next page for the session allocation.

Zoom ID:
822 3488 8306















Password:
Theme2022

Each week will have a Monday night session and a Saturday afternoon session so that you can choose whichever one fits your schedule better. Each session should last around an hour and will be recorded.

We would like these sessions to be inspirational and hopeful. When we reflect on this past year, we want to ask about what went well and ways that God has been present. When we think about the future, we want to ask about your "best hopes". There is a tendency for dialogue sessions like this to focus on problems and obstacles, but we deliberately want to look out for signs of opportunities and hope.

If you are unable to attend a specific session, you may also send us your insights via email or WhatsApp.

PP '22 | The Dialogues

	Monday 8pm	Saturday 2pm
General	 13.9	 18.9
GEMS	 20.9	 25.9
Youth	 27.9	 2.10
Young Adults	 4.10	 9.10
Local* Ministries	 11.10	 16.10
Adults*	 18.10	 23.10
Leaders*	 25.10	 30.10

*Specific details to follow closer to the date





Ministry Opportunity | Gladiolus Place

Gladiolus Place (GP) is a residential home for vulnerable teenage girls between 12-20. Through the healing and renewal processes that they undergo during their stay, GP seeks to restore these girls to their families and communities as transformed individuals.

For the last few years, PPCOC has been blessed to partner with GP in ministering to these girls with the love of Jesus. We currently have a team that organises fortnightly devotionals, Bible courses, holiday celebrations (e.g. Christmas and CNY) and sponsors them for various needs.



We are looking for female mentors to be part of a Family Care Team for a 3-6 month period. Each week, mentors will spend 6-12 in-person hours with the girls. Specialised training and courses will be provided where appropriate.

Please see sister Lucy Kwan (9838 3131) for more details.



Cheque Deposits | Name Change

Our DBS Bank account was recently updated to align with our church's official name as registered with the Registry of Societies and Charities Unit. For those who make your weekly giving via cheque, please note that the cheque should be made payable to:

"Church of Christ, Pasir Panjang, Singapore"

Donations via QR codes, bank transfers are not affected.

A Minister's Musings



Recovering Rest

By John Lim

Singaporeans are officially the most fatigued people in the world, according to a recent UK study. After Brazil and Mexico, we work the longest hours, we spend the most time online, and we sleep the fewest hours. It's no wonder that every time we ask people "How are you?" The answer is inevitably "Okay lor, tired and work is busy".

We feel fatigued everyday. Projects and paperwork, emails and essays never end. Students are in school before dawn and return home after CCA, tuition, and enrichment classes—even on weekends! Even when we try to take leave or go on holiday, we work overtime before and after to "make up for lost time".

It's interesting that of the Ten Commandments, the only one we don't practise is the Fourth Commandment of Sabbath. Yet it seems to be the one we need the most these days.

While I don't mean we need to return to the stringent ancient Sabbath regulations, perhaps we need to recover some of its principles.

The word "Sabbath" is the Hebrew Shabbat (שַׁבָּת) which simply means "to stop" or "to cease." It's not about switching from a "work activity" to a "rest activity." It's more than stopping your work only to fret and worry about it during your rest.



A Minister's Musings

To Sabbath is to step out of this world, with all its incessant demands on your time and attention, and enter into the timeless, unhurried, eternal rest of God. Deadlines and schedules do not matter here. Only God matters, our true joy and rest.

Genesis records that God rested after six days of creation and hallowed it, dwelled in it, and enjoyed it. And He commanded the Sabbath for Israel as a day for rest, remembrance, and worship. It was a weekly reminder that “My life and value does not depend on my productivity and output.” And what was true for one day of the week would also be true for every other day.

How can we carve out a period of time where productivity is not the priority? There are books and articles and entire careers given to this question, but let’s think simply.

How about this: **what if we simply turned off our devices for one hour a week?** What if we used that hour not to “get something done”, but to simply sit and rest? Or to go to the nearby park and enjoy nature? You might wish to go with your family and friends (provided you don’t talk about work) or you might just want to enjoy it by yourself.

Yes, rest is disruptive and strange. Yes, rest is completely counter-cultural. Your bosses/colleagues/teachers probably won’t think well of you for “taking it easy” or “not working as hard.”

But our true master is neither our boss or teacher. Our true goal is neither the paycheck nor the straight-A report card. Our Master is the Lord of Sabbath, who created rest for our benefit and thriving. We worship God, not our work.

In this day and age, the more we rest, the more we fulfill God’s will. Think about it.

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