

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pray for Rev Steven Tan as he prepares to speak on Sunday (8 December) from Psalm 47. Message title: "The King and I." Rev Steven Tan is a Pastor of Evangel Christian Church. Service will be livestreamed at bit.ly/gracebpsermons at 9:30 am.

Evangelism and Missions. There will be a tracting session at Bedok South Horizon on the 8 December 2024 at 2:00 pm. Please meet in Church at 2:00 pm. We will be giving out invites to the Bedok South residents for the Christmas Day Service on 25 December.

Ipoh mission trip will take place from 10-16 December. Please pray for the team that will be going. There are 16 members this year.

Staff away. Pr. Zhang Lifeng will be away from 6-16 December 2024.

Combined English and Mandarin Christmas Day Service will be held on 25 December at 11 am. The service will be followed by a Christmas Lunch. Please invite your non-Christian friends as this will be an evangelistic service. The speaker will be Elder Victor Goh.

Refreshment Contribution slots are available on 22 & 29 December.

2025 Flower and Refreshment Contribution slots are available. Please sign-up at the bulletin board.

NEXT WEEK'S APPOINTMENTS

Speaker	Rev. Steven Tan
Worship Leader	Jonathan Sam
Musicians	Joanna Hor, Chea Ruei Jean
Scripture Reader	Doreen Tan
AV Ministry	Joshua Lim, Nathanael Goh
Ushers	Richard Tan, Stefan Ong, Naomi Neoh
Chrysalis 3 & 2	Goh Jee Eng, Lim Sue San
Chrysalis 1	Hannah Yeo
Flowers	Tay Boon Jin
Refreshments	Tang Yu Sin
Prayer Meeting Devotion	Rev Tan Eng Boo

LAST WEEK'S GIVINGS

Offerings \$ 2, 491.50
Tithes \$ 1, 922.50

QR code for tithes & offerings
(Please indicate "Tithe" or "Offering under Reference no. / description)



LET US PRAY

Join us in praying for the church and the world via Zoom. Please contact Rev Tan at 9784 2761 for Zoom meeting ID and password. You may also email us your prayer items at prayer@gracebpc.org.sg

MEDITATE ON GOD'S WORD

His Help in Temptation

⁹. *How can a young man keep his way pure?
By guarding it according to your word.* ¹¹. *I have stored up your word in my heart, that I might not sin against you.*

Psalm 119:9, 11 ESV

CHURCH LEADERSHIP

Moderator

Elder Victor Goh 9682 2281
Victor_Goh@gracebpc.org.sg

Co-Moderator

Elder Seah Soon Huat 9835 2178
Soon_Huat_Seah@gracebpc.org.sg

Honorary Pastor (Mandarin Service)

Rev Lee Fatt Ping 9668 1549
Fatt_Ping_Lee@gracebpc.org.sg

Pastor (Mentoring)

Rev Tan Eng Boo 9784 2761
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Grace Bible Presbyterian Church



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OUR MISSION

To bring people to salvation in Jesus Christ and disciple them in their relationship with Christ.

OUR VISION

To be a church that is passionate about God, transformed by the Word, authentic in relationship, and bold in witness.

Speaker

Rev Tan Eng Boo

Worship Leader

Eld Victor Goh

Musician

Tay Ting Li
Nathanael Goh

Scripture Reader

Elijah Lim

AV Ministry

Janice Lee
Sarah Goh

Ushers

Dn. Allan Lim
Lynna Seah
Tan Chew Gim

Chrysalis 3 & 2

Lee Min Sen
Lim Sue San

Chrysalis 1

Hannah Yeo
Gracia Zhang

Flowers

Hannah Yeo

Refreshments

Rev Lee Fatt Ping

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Prelude

Call to Worship

The Lord Is in His Holy Temple

Opening Song

MH7 Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

Opening Prayer

Gloria Patri

Worship in Song

MH160 My Jesus, I Love Thee
MH524 Saved by the Blood

Responsive Reading

Psalm 124 (KJV)

Giving and Thanksgiving

MH537 Jesus Saves

Doxology

Scripture Reading

Zechariah 11:1-6 (ESV)

Pre-Sermon Song

MH161 What a Friend We Have in Jesus

Pastoral Prayer

Sermon

The Dark Side of Israel

Holy Communion

MH229 O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

Closing song

MH583 Hold the Fort

Benediction

Threefold Amen

Month of December Preaching Schedule

1 Dec. "The Dark side of Israel." (Zc. 11-13).
8 Dec. "The King and I." (Ps. 47).
15 Dec. "Rejoice in God's City." (Ps. 48)
22 Dec. "Unspeakable Joy" (Lk. 2:8-20)
25 Dec. "Good News of Great Joy: The Gift of Peace" (Lk. 2:1-14)
29 Dec. "Passing the Baton" (Nu. 8:23-26; 2 Ti. 4:1-8)

Sunday Worship & Activities

9.30am Main Service

10.00am Junior Worship (7-12 yrs old)

11.30am Bible Classes

SERVE THE LORD WITH GLADNESS!

By Rev Tan Eng Boo



Dr Paul Wright teaching on Tel Azeka overlooking the Elah Valley

The photo on the left shows Dr Paul Wright, who was President of Jerusalem University College (JUC) from 1977 – 2022.

Now he is the second President Emeritus teaching pastors and lay people Bible Geography and History on Tel Azeka.

I bring up this example because I see the joy and gladness of this servant of God in action – he has been doing this same task for 45 years and continues to do so!

The Psalmist says in Psalm 100:2 that we are to serve the Lord with this attitude: “Gladness.”

“Let there be joy in this service. Let it not be with the fear of slaves; not as a matter of compulsion and force; not with reluctance, moroseness, or gloom. Let it be a cheerful, happy service; let it be freely rendered, let it be an occasion of joy to the soul. The service of God is a source of the highest joy that man knows.” – Albert Barnes

“There is a kind of service He doesn’t like: murmuring service, bored service, and glum service. Serve the Lord with gladness. This is biblical!” – John Piper

Serving the Lord with gladness can be interpreted as meaning to serve Him with cheerfulness and joyfulness, not with sadness, negativity or out of religious obligations.

That is the way to serve the Lord in every capacity and in all areas of ministry.

One of the perspectives that I have adopted in my pastoral service over the years is to serve the Lord with gladness. If I don’t have such attitude, I would not have survived the years of service. I looked at the ministry of Nehemiah and saw joy in his service for the Lord as he encouraged others on. **“...And do not be grieved, for the joy of the LORD is your strength” (Nehemiah 8:10)**. Those who serve the Lord should do so with gladness.

I know it is easy to tell people to do so, especially to lay people who struggle with discouragement as they serve. There are many reasons for them to get discouraged. One of the many reasons include the fact that they don’t have the time that the full-timers have. While I sympathize with them and try to understand their situation, the Bible simply declares that service to God must always be joyful. If it becomes a burden and a chore, don’t do it. That is only proper. It does not mean that you are condemned because you quit. No one should judge you, and we should never judge each other. Service to God is a personal calling.

There is a hymn entitled *“Joy of Serving Jesus”* which our church has not sung for a

long time. I remember this wonderful hymn and think it is good to sing such hymns again to encourage our service to Jesus. The author of the hymn, Oswald J. Smith wrote:

There is joy in serving Jesus,
As I journey on my way,
Joy that fills the heart with praises,
Ev’ry hour and ev’ry day.

Refrain:

There is joy, joy,
Joy in serving Jesus,
Joy that throbs within my heart;
Ev’ry moment, ev’ry hour,
As I draw upon His power,
There is joy, joy,
Joy that never shall depart.

What a powerful hymn, reminding us to serve the Lord Jesus with gladness. Dr Oswald J. Smith was for many years the pastor of the People’s Church in Toronto. He says, “In this hymn I express the joy that I have experienced in serving the Lord Jesus Christ.” And that is a joy that every servant of God can share in.

How can we have joy and gladness in serving Jesus?

Keep the passion when serving God: **“... fervent in spirit; serving the Lord” (Romans 12:11)**. Yes, that passion must be there. But for that passion to develop into a “fervent spirit” serving the Lord, we have to be mindful of our walk with the Lord.

Look at the example of Paul: You have heard messages from the Book of Acts and the life of the apostle Paul’s ministry. He was a zealous soldier of the Lord all throughout the days of his life. It all started with His encounter with Jesus in the Damascus road experience (Acts 9). It didn’t stop there. Paul was called to the work of the Lord (Acts 13), and that was it. He went all the way in service to His Lord. His last words in **2 Timothy 4:6, 7 (KJV): “For I am now ready to be offered, and the time of my departure is at hand. I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith.”** That experience of knowing God resulted in his fervent spirit in serving the Lord till the end of his life.

Just before I received my call to the full-time ministry, the Lord impressed upon me **James 4:8 (a): “Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you....”** That verse has always been my strength in His work, and it gives me great joy and assurance of service to my Lord. I can echo the words of the hymn “As I draw upon His power, There is joy, joy, Joy that never shall depart.”

Knowing whom we serve will empower us to serve the Lord with gladness.