

TRINITY METHODIST CHURCH PENANG



16 Jalan Masjid Negeri, 11600 Penang, MALAYSIA · Website penangtrinity.org · Email office@penangtrinity.org
Office Ph: +60 4 8287445 +60 4 8280234 · Trinity Kindergarten +60 4 8260724

4th Sunday of Advent

December 18, 2022

Join us at <http://live.penangtrinity.org> or <http://www.youtube.com/TRINWAM>

"Be reverent, for this is the house of the Lord.

Before the service, speak to God.

During the service, let God speak to you.

"After the service, speak to one another with the technology available."



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Our Vision

Nurturing Disciples to be a Spirit-filled, Impactful Church

The 4 Essentials

***Personal Growth, Building Community,
A Voice to Our Nation, A Vision for the World***

SCRIPTURE SENTENCE

“The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel” (which means “God with us”).
Matthew 1:23, NIV

***CALL TO WORSHIP** (*Responsively*)

L: We have been looking for a sign.

P: Emmanuel – God with us.

L: We have been waiting for a saviour.

P: Emmanuel – God with us.

L: Come! Let us worship the God of sign, wonder and promise.

P: Emmanuel – God with us. Amen.

OPENING PRAYER**OPENING SONG**

Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates

UMH 213

Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates
Behold, the King of glory waits
The King of kings is drawing near
The Saviour of the world is here!

Redeemer, come, with us abide
Our hearts to Thee we open wide
Let us Thy inner presence feel
Thy grace and love in us reveal

Fling wide the portals of your heart
Make it a temple, set apart
From earthly use for heaven's employ
Adorned with prayer and love and joy

Thy Holy Spirit lead us on
Until our glorious goal is won
Eternal praise, eternal fame
Be offered, Saviour, to Thy name!

CCLI Song #1863214

“Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates” words & music by Catherine Winkworth | Georg Weissel

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SONG OF PRAYER

How Great Thou Art

UMH 77

O Lord my God! When I in awesome wonder
Consider all the worlds Thy hands have made
I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder
Thy power throughout the universe displayed

*Then sings my soul, my Saviour God to Thee
How great Thou art, how great Thou art!
Then sings my soul, my Saviour God to Thee
How great Thou art, how great Thou art!*

When through the woods and forest glades I wander
And hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees
When I look down from lofty mountain grandeur
And hear the brook, and feel the gentle breeze

And when I think that God, His Son not sparing
Sent Him to die, I scarce can take it in
That on the cross, my burden gladly bearing
He bled and died to take away my sin

When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation
And take me home, what joy shall fill my heart
Then I shall bow in humble adoration
And there proclaim, my God, how great Thou art!

CCLI Song #14181

"How Great Thou Art" words & music by Stuart Wesley Keene Hine

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PRAYER OF INTERCESSION

1. Pray for China as it faces a Covid wave as it relaxes its zero-Covid policy. Pray against panic buying, hoarding of medication, and the peddling of counterfeit drugs. Pray for hospitals to be able to cope well with their current surge.
2. Pray for Malaysia as Parliament convenes tomorrow for swearing in of MPs and new Speaker and Deputy Speaker, as well as a vote of confidence for the PM is determined. Pray for a stable and united government that will tackle the nation's issues together.
3. Pray for Penang Trinity's Christmas Eve celebration. Pray for our community to take the opportunity of Christmas to build bridges with those who've yet to embrace the Gospel.
4. Pray for ourselves, that we would be bold and courageous to follow the Lord amidst the storms of life.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be Your name. Your kingdom come, Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us today our daily bread and forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

E-OFFERING & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Give to: MBB 5072 4612 6505 (Trinity Methodist Church Penang)
Please indicate for "Offering/Pledge" or "Poor & Needy" in Recipient Reference
for online transfers.

DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessings flow,
Praise Him, all creatures here below.
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host.
Praise Father, Son & Holy Ghost. Amen.

SONG OF PREPARATION

He Leadeth Me: O Blessed Thought

UMH 128

He leadeth me: O blessed thought!
O words, with heavenly comfort fraught!
Whate'er I do, where'er I be
Still 'tis God's hand that leadeth me

Lord, I would place my hand in Thine
Nor ever murmur nor repine
Content, whatever lot I see
Since 'tis my God that leadeth me

*He leadeth me, He leadeth me
By His own hand, He leadeth me
His faithful follower, I would be
For by His hand, He leadeth me*

And when my task on earth is done
When by Thy grace the victory's won
E'en death's cold wave, I will not flee
Since God through Jordan leadeth me

Sometimes mid scenes of deepest gloom
Sometimes where Eden's bowers bloom
By waters still, o'er troubled sea
Still 'tis His hand that leadeth me

CCLI Song #62762
"He Leadeth Me: O Blessed Thought" words & music by Joseph Henry Gilmore | William Batchelder Bradbury
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SCRIPTURE READING

Acts 27:9-26

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Completing the Mission

Mr Tan Chong Jin

REFLECTION / DISCUSSION

1. What is your first instinct when you are faced with a difficult or uncontrollable situation?
Reflect on how you have reacted in the past and what God might be teaching you today.
2. Have you obeyed God's calling for your life?
3. What are some areas in your life where God is calling you to have more courage and faith in Him?

CLOSING SONG

Take My Life, and Let It Be

UMH 399

Take my life, and let it be
Consecrated, Lord, to Thee
Take my moments and my days
Let them flow in ceaseless praise
Take my hands, and let them move
At the impulse of Thy love
Take my feet, and let them be
Swift and beautiful for Thee

Take my voice, and let me sing
Always, only, for my King
Take my lips, and let them be
Filled with messages from Thee

Take my silver and my gold
Not a mite would I withhold
Take my intellect, and use
Every power as Thou shalt choose

Take my will, and make it Thine
It shall be no longer mine
Take my heart, it is Thine own
It shall be Thy royal throne
Take my love, my Lord, I pour
At Thy feet its treasure-store
Take myself, and I will be
Ever, only, all for Thee

CCLI #7012031

"Take My Life, and Let It Be" words & music by Frances Ridley Havergal | George Kingsley | Louis J. F. Herald
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BENEDICTION

THREE-FOLD AMEN

SERMON OUTLINE

Title: Completing the Mission

Scripture Passage: Acts 27:9-26

BIG IDEA: Complete the Gospel Mission for Our Generation.

Key Verses: Acts 28:30-31 (NIV)

For two whole years Paul stayed there in his own rented house and welcomed all who came to see him. He proclaimed the kingdom of God and taught about the Lord Jesus Christ—with all boldness and without hindrance!

Introduction

- Paul travels to Rome in the last recorded journey in the book of Acts to appear before Caesar
- A raging storm threatened to sink the ship
- But the Lord sent word to Paul that his life would be spared so that Paul would be able to testify before Caesar (Acts 27:24)

Completing God's mission involves:

1. Uncontrollable Circumstances

Situations can get out of control, but not out of God's hands.

- Paul's advice not to set sail went unheeded (Acts 27:9-12)
- As a prisoner Paul was not in direct control of his circumstances, neither was he immune to the forces of nature (Acts 27:15-18)
- But the Lord's will and calling for Paul still overruled circumstances (Acts 27:23-25)

2. Unchanging Calling

God favours whom He calls.

- From the start, the Lord's calling was for Paul to testify and witness before Gentiles, kings and the people of Israel (Acts 9:15)
- This calling has not changed with circumstances – Paul was preserved to testify before the 'greatest' of Gentile kings of his time – the emperor of Rome (Caesar)
- God is able to preserve the lives of His servants until they fulfil God's purpose and calling for them

3. Undiminished Courage

Finishing well requires courage.

- The conviction and reaffirmation of God's calling gave Paul courage (Acts 27:22-25)
- The presence of God's people refreshed Paul's courage (Acts 28:15)
- Paul had the courage to continue proclaiming the Kingdom of God with all boldness as he awaited his trial before Caesar (Acts 28:30-31)

Today's WORSHIP ENABLERS

18/12/2022

Sermon Title/Text

Preacher

Liturgist

Reader

Musician

Sound

Livestream

Visual

Ushers

Finance Steward

10.00 am Service

Completing the Mission
(Acts 27:9-26)

Mr Tan Chong Jin

Mr Daniel Teh

Mr Ch'ng Geam Liang

Mr Seah Por Shen

Mr Jesse Ong

Mr David Law

Ms Tan Yu Ai

Mrs Sally Loh

Mr Oon Chee Soon

Dr Ho Seng Hooi

Mrs Maggie Mak

Mr Tan Kok Huat

5.00 pm Service

Completing the Mission
(Acts 27:9-26)

Mr Tan Chong Jin

Mr Mak Ngai Leong

Mrs Chin Peck Wan

Dr Melvin Saw

Ms Roshni George

n/a

Ms Roshni George

Mr Tony Teh

Mrs Connie Lim

n/a

Next Week's WORSHIP ENABLERS

**24/12/2022 - Christmas Eve
Celebration (6:30PM)**

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Rev Shearn Sya

TBA

n/a

Dr Melvin Saw

Mr Chuah Chang En

n/a

Mr Calvin Fong

Mr Tony Teh

Ms Vivian Lim

Dr Ho Seng Hooi

Ms Helen Aw

n/a

**25/12/2022 - Christmas Day
Combined Service (10AM)**

TBA

Rev Shearn Sya

Ms Cheah Yan Li

Dr Gerviene Sya

Mrs Lee Wee Lyn

Ms Selina Ngu

Dr Melvin Saw

Ms Nicoline Saw

Ms Adelya Yeoh

Mr Jesse Ong

Mr Jason Tham

Mr Shane Tan

Mr Koay Choong Khai

Mr Calvin Fong

Ms Helen Aw

Mrs Connie Lim

Ms Tan Yu Ai

Dr Ho Seng Hooi

Mr Lim Pang Kuan

Sermon Title/Text

Preacher

Worship Leaders

Reader

Musicians

Sound

Livestream

Visual

Ushers

Finance Steward

ONLINE MINISTRIES & ACTIVITIES

SUNDAY

9.15am	Church School
10.00am	Worship Service in English
12.30pm	Methodist Youth Fellowship
1.30pm	Young Families 1 Small Group – Tairven Lee
3.00pm	Post Alpha Small Group Sungai Ara II Small Group – Jason Chieng
3.00pm	Boys' Brigade

MONDAY

8.00pm	Lighthouse Watchmen Prayer Network (LWPN), Bayan Lepas – Teng Leong
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TUESDAY

8.00pm	Tanjung Bungah Small Group – Chan Chen Weng
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WEDNESDAY

10.00am	Wednesday Small Group – Tan Saw Lee (1 st & 3 rd Wed)
11.00am	Church Office Staff Meeting

THURSDAY

8.30pm	Church Prayer Meeting – http://bit.ly/tmcprayer
9.00pm	Tree Residency Small Group – Jesse Ong

FRIDAY

	Small Groups:
3.00pm	Cheeseman Rd (Bethel) – Sabrina Lee
8.30pm	Young Adults I – Seah Por Shen
	Taman Sri Nibong – Dr Saw Kim Guan
	Bethel – Ch'ng Geam Liang
	Century Garden – Lim Lim Ling
	Permai Village I – Ooi Lay Chen
	Island Glades – Tan Kok Huat (2 nd & 4 th)

SATURDAY

10:30am	Permai Village Small Group – Daniel Teh
	Alzheimer's Caregivers Support Group
	Small Groups:
8.00pm	Young Adults II – Hendrix Cheong
8.15pm	Young Families 2 – James Hii
8.30pm	Sungai Ara I – Florence Tan (fortnightly)

WEEKLY PRAYER

World

- Pray for migrant workers and refugees all around the world. Pray that God will keep them safe, and that they will be treated humanely. Pray that their daily needs will be met, especially in light of inflation and the rising cost of food. Pray also, that they will meet Christians who will share God's love and grace with them, that they will encounter Christ this Christmas season, far from their homes.

Nation

- Pray that God will grant our Prime Minister and Cabinet Ministers wisdom in rebuilding the nation by formulating and implementing effective plans to address current issues and our socio-economic well-being. Pray also, for the healing of our nation's fractures caused by decades of harmful politicking that has resulted in racial disharmony and division, as well as for peace and unity to reign over Malaysia.

Church

- Pray that we will find true peace and joy in all circumstances, knowing that this is only possible because of Christ. Pray that our hearts will be filled with the anticipation of Jesus' coming as we reflect on the good news of His birth, and be the voices that proclaim grace and truth. Pray also, that during this Advent season, we as the body of Christ, will experience and share the love, joy and peace He brings.

Self

- Pray that we will not be consumed with Christmas preparations and lose sight of the true meaning of Christmas. Pray that we will be intentional in setting aside time each day to commune and fellowship with God. Pray also, that as we spend time at the feet of Jesus, we may come into a deeper understanding of His birth, life and sacrificial death for us.

CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

WELCOME to worship at **Trinity**. For any assistance please contact:

Pastor – Rev Shearn Sya: 04-828 7445

Administrator – Ms Angeline Choo: 013-243 1282

- Sermons and past worship services are available online (<http://replay.penangtrinity.org>).
- Visitation ministry for the homebound, please inform Angeline Choo.
- **Floral Gifts:** From Jane and Daniel Khoo in Thanksgiving.
- **Online/ATM Transfer:** Maybank Account No. MBB 5072 4612 6505 (Trinity Methodist Church Penang). Please indicate for "Offering/Pledge" or "Poor & Needy" in Recipient Reference for online transfers.

TODAY – December 18

Communion Offering for December 2022 will go to Centre for Creative Arts Therapy and Penang Association of Counselling & Psychology.

Coming up in December!

24 – Christmas Eve Celebration (6:30pm)

25 – Christmas Day Combined Service (10am)

31 – Watchnight Covenant Service (10pm)

2022 Church-wide Bible Reading Plan:

<http://bit.ly/tmcbible2022>

Prayer Request Form – <https://bit.ly/tmcpayforme>.
All requests are confidential unless permission is given to circulate to larger prayer group.

Vacancies: Accounts Clerk

Certificate/Diploma in Accountancy or equivalent professional qualification, with relevant working experience and skilled in using Excel functions for accounting purposes. To apply, please submit resume to joinus@penangtrinity.org.

Vacancies: Kindergarten Teacher

Christian, Diploma in Early Childhood Education, fluent in English and Bahasa Melayu.

Vacancies: Assistant Teacher

Christian, SPM qualification, fluent in English.
To apply, please submit resume to joinus@penangtrinity.org or WhatsApp 012-500 9238.



The **2023 Floral Calendar** is ready for booking at the reception area.

10AM / 5PM Service

- ✗ *Booking of Seats – Not required (Capped at 220)*
- ✗ *MySejahtera checks – Not required*
- ✓ *Record names of attendees – Required*
- ✓ *Masks, Social Distancing – Required (6 per pew)*