



3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent

December 17, 2023

***"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 at the fellowship area."***

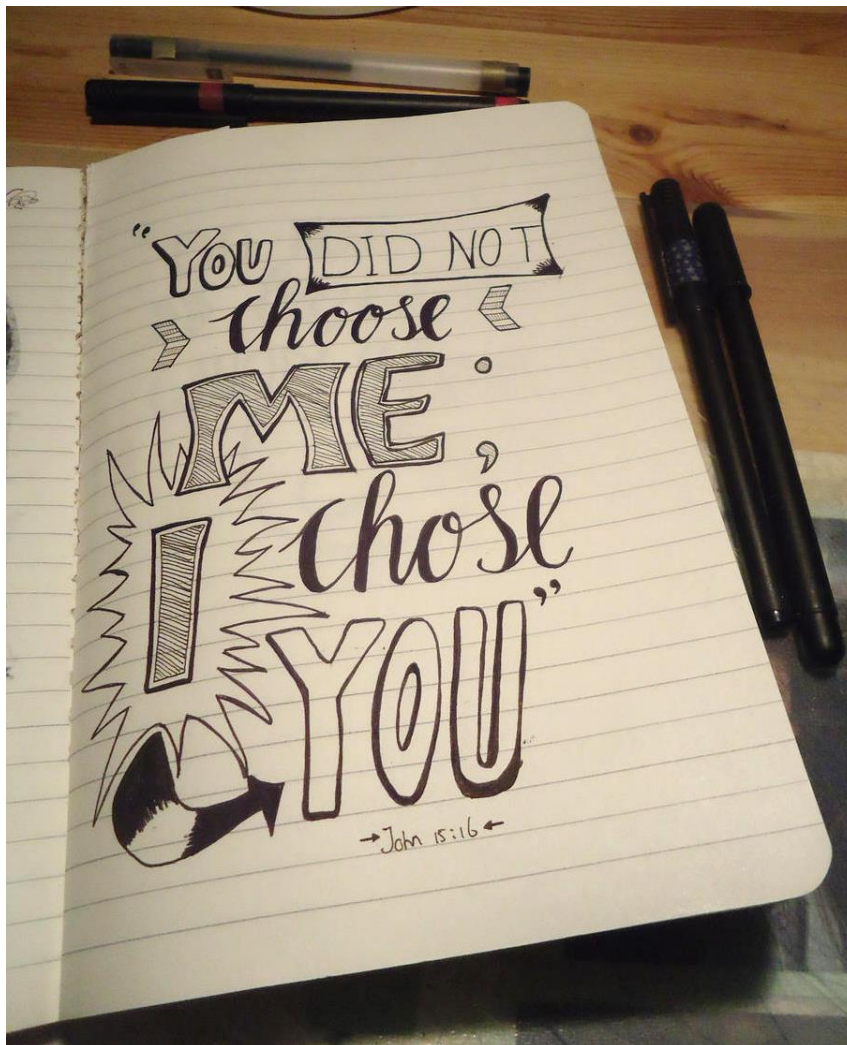


Photo credits: ScrapsterinCal1 on DeviantArt

## 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***

**WELCOME****FOCUS ON GOD** (*Responsively*)

L: Love has come down to us this Advent Season.

**P: *Divine love which heals and transforms lives.***

L: With great joy, we receive that love and share it with others.

**P: *We open our hearts to all God's children, the last, the least, and the lost.***

L: The Lord has done, and will continue to do great things for us.

**P: *Praise be to God Who loves and challenges us to be a people of joy in this darkened world. Amen.***

**SONGS OF PRAISE**Rejoice, the Lord Is King

UMH 715

Rejoice, the Lord is King!  
Your Lord and King adore  
Mortals, give thanks and sing  
And triumph evermore

His kingdom cannot fail  
He rules o'er earth and heaven  
The keys of death and hell  
Are to our Jesus given

*Lift up your heart  
Lift up your voice  
Rejoice, again I say  
Rejoice*

Rejoice in glorious hope!  
Jesus the Judge shall come  
And take His servants up  
To their eternal home

Jesus the Saviour reigns  
The God of truth and love  
When He had purged our stains  
He took His seat above

*We soon shall hear  
The archangel's voice  
The trump of God shall sound  
Rejoice!*

CCLI #7125867

"Rejoice, the Lord Is King" words &amp; music by Alanna Glover | Charles Wesley | John Darwall | Philip Percival

© Words: Public Domain

Music: 2018 Percival, Philip (Admin. by Philip Gordon Percival) Glover, Alanna

CCLI Licence #620790

Go, Tell It on the Mountain

UMH 251

*Go, tell it on the mountain  
Over the hills and everywhere  
Go, tell it on the mountain  
That Jesus Christ is born*

The shepherds feared and trembled  
When lo! above the earth  
Rang out the angel chorus  
That hailed the Saviour's birth

While shepherds kept their watching  
O'er silent flocks by night  
Behold throughout the heavens  
There shown a holy light

Down in a lowly manger  
The humble Christ was born  
And God sent us salvation  
That blessed Christmas morn

CCLI #29080

"Go, Tell It on the Mountain" words & music by John W. Work Jr.

Words & Music: Public Domain

CCLI Licence #620790

It Came upon the Midnight Clear

UMH 218

It came upon the midnight clear  
That glorious song of old  
From angels bending near the earth  
To touch their harps of gold  
"Peace on the earth, good will to men,  
From heaven's all-gracious King."  
The world in solemn stillness lay  
To hear the angels sing

And ye, beneath life's crushing load  
Whose forms are bending low  
Who toil along the climbing way  
With painful steps and slow  
Look now! for glad and golden hours  
Come swiftly on the wing  
O rest beside the weary road  
And hear the angels sing!

Still through the cloven skies they come  
With peaceful wings unfurled  
And still their heavenly music floats  
O'er all the weary world  
Above its sad and lowly plains  
They bend on hovering wing  
And ever o'er its Babel sounds  
The blessed angels sing

For lo! the days are hastening on  
By prophet seen of old  
When with the ever-circling years  
Shall come the time foretold  
When peace shall over all the earth  
Its ancient splendours fling  
And the whole world send back the song  
Which now the angels sing

CCLI #5253287

"It Came upon the Midnight Clear" words & music by Don Chapman | Edmund Hamilton Sears

Words: Public Domain; Music: 2004 Hearts to God Music, Inc.

CCLI Licence #620790

## **PRAYER FOR THE WORLD**

Pray for the plight of Rohingya refugees all around the world who have been smuggled into various countries only to face rejection and deportation. Pray for the sanctity and dignity of human life to be upheld as governments deal with this difficult issue.

## **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.*

## **SONG OF PRAISE**

### 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

## **SCRIPTURE READING**

Matthew 27:38-43

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

## **MESSAGE**

Jesus Had a Choice

Rev Shearn Sya

## **CLOSING SONG**

Depth of Mercy (*stanzas 1-4*)

UMH 355

Depth of mercy! Can there be  
Mercy still reserved for me?  
Can my God His wrath forbear  
Me, the chief of sinners, spare?

I my Master have denied  
I afresh have crucified  
Oft profaned His hallowed name  
Put Him to an open shame

I have long withstood His grace  
Long provoked Him to His face  
Would not hearken to His calls  
Grieved Him by a thousand falls

There for me the Saviour stands  
Shows His wounds and spreads His hands  
God is love! I know, I feel  
Jesus weeps and loves me still

*CCLI #1320726*

*"Depth of Mercy" words & music by Charles Wesley | Orlando Gibbons*

*© Words & Music: Public Domain*

*CCLI Licence #620790*

## **BLESSING**

## **THREE-FOLD AMEN**

## Today's WORSHIP ENABLERS

	<u>10.00am Service</u>	<u>5.00pm Service</u>
<b>Sermon Title/Text</b>	Jesus Had a Choice ( <i>Matthew 27:38-43</i> )	Jesus Had a Choice ( <i>Matthew 27:38-43</i> )
<b>Preacher</b>	Rev Shearn Sya	Rev Shearn Sya
<b>Service Leader</b>	Ms Iris Ang	Mrs Esther Wong
<b>Reader</b>	Dr Chan Kit Lam	Ms Mallise Tong
<b>Musician</b>	Mr Seah Por Shen	TBA
<b>Sound</b>	Mr Tan Siew Jin	Mr Andrew Lee
<b>Visual</b>	Ms Tan Yu Ai	Mr Joshua Timothy
<b>Streaming</b>	Mr Chuah Chang En	n/a
<b>Ushers</b>	Mrs Heng Ah Leak, Ms Heng Khai Ting Mr Vincent Lee, Mr Oon Chee Soon	Dr Mah Chiou-Fen Dr Goh Yoke Seng
<b>Finance Stewards</b>	Mr Lim Pang Kuan Mdm Nellie Goh Beng Hong Mr Khoo Boo Thye	n/a

## Next Sunday's WORSHIP ENABLERS

	<u>10.00am Combined Service</u>	<u>Christmas Eve Candlelight Service (10.00pm)</u>
<b>Sermon Title/Text</b>	Come and See, Go and Tell ( <i>Matthew 28:5-8; 16-18</i> )	Call Him Immanuel ( <i>Matthew 1:23</i> )
<b>Preacher</b>	Rev Shearn Sya	Bishop Dr T Jeyakumar
<b>Worship Leaders</b>	Mrs Gerviene Sya, Ms Alanis Yeoh	Mrs Gerviene Sya, Mrs Lee Wee Lyn
<b>Reader</b>	Mr Lawrence Hii	Mr Ryan Loke
<b>Musicians</b>	Mr Daniel Khoo, Ms Rachel Lee Mr Tairven Lee, Mr Dominic Lee Mr Matthew Yap	Mr Daniel Khoo, Ms Rachel Lee Mr Edwin Oon, Mrs Nicoline Koay
<b>Sound</b>	Mr Jesse Ong	Mr Jason Tham
<b>Visual</b>	Mr Hugo Cheah	Mr Calvin Fong
<b>Streaming</b>	Ms Wong Fong Yi	Mr Chuah Chang En
<b>Ushers</b>	Ms Teo Lay Tinn, Ms Tan Siew Ngoh Mrs Connie Lim, Ms Tan Yu Ai	Ms Sharon Wong Ms Wong Siew Eng
<b>Finance Stewards</b>	Ms Cheong Sau Chan Mr Khoo Boo Thye	n/a

## 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  
Young Families 2 – James Hii  
2.15pm Sungai Ara II Small Group –  
Jason Chieng  
3.00pm Post Alpha Small Group  
Boys' Brigade

### **MONDAY**

- 10.30am Tanjung Bungah Small Group –  
Chan Chen Weng  
8.00pm Lighthouse Watchmen Prayer Network  
(LWPN), Bayan Lepas – Teng Leong

### **TUESDAY**

- 7.00pm Young Adults III Small Group –  
Gerviene Sya

### **WEDNESDAY**

- 10.00am Wednesday Small Group –  
Tan Saw Lee (1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Wed)  
11.00am Church Office Staff Meeting  
3.00pm Galilee Kopitiam (2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Wed)

### **THURSDAY**

- 10.00am Island Glades Small Group –  
Tan Kok Huat (2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup>)  
8.30pm Church Prayer Meeting –  
<http://bit.ly/tmcprayer>  
9.00pm Tree Residency Small Group  
– Jesse Ong

### **FRIDAY**

- Small Groups:  
2.45pm 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  
Permai Village I – Ooi Lay Chen

### **SATURDAY**

- 10:30am Permai Village Small Group –  
Daniel Teh  
1:30pm Alzheimer's Caregivers Support Group  
Small Groups:  
2.00pm Century Garden – Lim Lim Ling  
8.00pm Young Adults II – Hendrix Cheong  
8.30pm Sungai Ara I – Florence Tan (fortnightly)

## WEEKLY PRAYER

### World

- Pray that the true meaning of Christmas will be made known to everyone around the world, and that every knee will bow and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord. Pray also, for Christians facing persecution and discrimination. Pray for God's protection and healing over those who have been harmed physically or emotionally. Pray that God will grant them the strength to stand firm in their faith.

### Nation

- Pray for sensible and resolute reforms to address poverty, higher cost of living, food shortages and the weak ringgit. Pray for protection against contagious diseases like Covid-19, tuberculosis, influenza A and dengue. Pray also, for God's protection and peace for the people in Perlis, Kedah, Kelantan and Terengganu, especially those who are facing poverty, oppression and discrimination.

### Church

- Pray for God's divine protection over our youth, especially in this digital era where temptations and distractions abound, luring them away from Him. Pray that we will be good role models who exemplify Christ-like character to the next generation, fostering a sense of community with them. Pray also, that we will reach out in love to those who have been abused, neglected, exploited, or discriminated against.

### Self

- Pray that God's love, hope and peace will encompass us as we celebrate Christmas. Pray that He will flood our hearts with joy this Advent season as we reflect on the Good News of Jesus' birth. Pray also, that we will share this good news with those who do not yet know Christ, that they too may experience this same joy as they receive Jesus as their Saviour.

# 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 Mimi Teoh 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 17

Communion Offering for December 2023 will go to House of Hope, Penang.



## Coming up in December!

- 24 – Christmas Eve Candlelight Service (10pm)  
“Call Him Immanuel” ~ Bishop Dr T Jeyakumar
- 25 – Christmas Day Service (10am)  
“Call Him Jesus” ~ Bishop Dr T Jeyakumar
- 31 – Watchnight Covenant Service (10pm)

## 10AM / 5PM Service

- ✗ *Booking of Seats – Not required*
- ✗ *MySejahtera checks – Not required*
- ✓ *Record names of attendees – Required*
- ✓ *Masks, Social Distancing – Strongly encouraged*

Refreshments will be served after the 10am service at The Solid Rock. Lunch options will also be available for sale between 11:30am – 1:30pm. For takeaways, please bring your own containers.

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

We have increased our parking capacity to 150 lots. If you are coming from the south, there is ample parking at Life Hope Centre. Our RELA team will guide you.

## IMMANUEL

God Is With Us

*The Present of God's Presence*

- Dec 3, 10 & 17 – Sunday Service (10am & 5pm)
- Dec 24 – Combined Service (10am)  
– Christmas Eve Service (10pm)
- Dec 25 – Christmas Day Service (10am)

## Pray for Malaysia

December 17, 8pm – 9pm (TONIGHT)

To join, go to <https://pray.smced.org/>