

TRINITY METHODIST CHURCH PENANG



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2nd Sunday of Advent

December 8, 2024

***"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."***



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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

“For to us a Child is born, to us a Son is given, and the government will be on His shoulders. And He will be called Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.”

Isaiah 9:6, NIV

We light this candle as a sign to the world that God has brought us peace. May we be ready to receive the Prince of Peace.

Lighting of the Peace Candle

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

L: The Lord has looked with favour upon God's people.

P: Praise the Lord!

L: A messenger of peace will be sent to us.

P: Thanks be to God!

L: Open your hearts and let your spirits be quieted.

P: Come, O Lord, and bring us peace. Amen.

OPENING PRAY**ACTS OF PRAISE**Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

Hark! the herald angels sing
“Glory to the newborn King
Peace on earth, and mercy mild
God and sinners reconciled!”
Joyful, all ye nations rise
Join the triumph of the skies
With th'angelic hosts proclaim
“Christ is born in Bethlehem!”
Hark! the herald angels sing
“Glory to the newborn King!”

Christ, by highest heaven adored
Christ, the everlasting Lord
Late in time behold Him come
Offspring of the Virgin's womb
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see

Hail th'incarnate Deity
Pleased as man with men to dwell
Jesus, our Emmanuel
Hark! the herald angels sing
“Glory to the newborn King!”

Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace!
Hail the Sun of Righteousness!
Light and life to all He brings
Risen with healing in His wings
Mild He lays His glory by
Born that man no more may die
Born to raise the sons of earth
Born to give them second birth
Hark! the herald angels sing
“Glory to the newborn King!”

Come, Desire of nations, come
Fix in us Thy humble home
Rise the woman's conquering seed
Bruise in us the serpent's head
Adam's likeness now efface

Stamp Thine image in its place
Second Adam from above
Reinstate us in Thy love
Hark! the herald angels sing
"Glory to the newborn King!"

CCLI #27738

"Hark The Herald Angels Sing" words & music by Charles Wesley | Felix Mendelssohn-Bartholdy

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Hosanna (Praise Is Rising)

Praise is rising, eyes are turning to You
We turn to You
Hope is stirring, hearts are yearning for You
We long for You

'Cause when we see You
We find strength to face the day
In Your presence
All our fears are washed away (Washed away)

*Hosanna, Hosanna
You are the God who saves us
Worthy of all our praises
Hosanna, Hosanna
Come have Your way among us
We welcome You here, Lord Jesus*

Hear the sound of hearts returning to You
We turn to You
In Your kingdom, broken lives are made new
You make us new

CCLI Song #4662491

"Holy Forever" words & music by Brenton Brown | Paul Baloche

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Grace Of God With Us

Wonderful and wise in counsel
Forever mighty God
Precious Father, everlasting
Blessed Prince of Peace

*(Oh) Glory to God
In the highest
Jesus, our Saviour
The grace of God with us (repeat)*

The kings of earth rest on Your shoulders
You rule on David's throne
Your kingdom here is now established
Christ, our Lord of lords

Born that we might know forgiveness
Born that we should live
With joy and hope, and expectation
Our King will come again (repeat)

The grace of God with us

CCLI Song #7163643

"Grace Of God With Us" words & music by Aodhan King | Ben Fielding | Brett Younker

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PRAYER OF INTERCESSION

1. Pray for South Korea amidst political turmoil following a recent enforcement and rescindment of martial law.
2. Pray for the ongoing 1MDB case. Pray for truth to surface and for justice to be done.
3. Pray for Penang Trinity's Christmas events (e.g. Church School, Kg. Perah missions, Carolling) to share the substance of the Gospel in a clear and effective way without being obscured by secular/cultural expressions of Christmas.
4. Pray for ourselves, that we would persevere in our faith in Christ. Pray that our faithfulness would serve as inspiration for others to persevere in their own faith.

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.

SCRIPTURE READING

Hebrews 12:1-3

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Running the Race of Faith

Mr Tan Chong Jin

REFLECTION / DISCUSSION

1. What does disciplined focus mean for your life of faith?
2. What are areas in your life right now that you need to persevere through? How does the analogy of running a race help you to persevere in your faith?
3. Reflect on what Jesus has done for you and what He has prepared for you. Pray for a renewed sense of purpose and joy in running the race of faith in His strength.

CLOSING SONG

Turn Your Eyes

Turn your eyes upon Jesus
Look full in His wonderful face
And the things of earth will grow strangely dim
In the light of His glory and grace

Turn your eyes to the hillside
Where justice and mercy embrace
There the Son of God gave His life for us
And our measureless debt was erased

*Jesus, to You we lift our eyes
Jesus, our glory and our prize
We adore You, behold You
Our Saviour, ever true*

Oh Jesus, we turn our eyes to You

Turn your eyes to the morning
And see Christ, the lion awake
What a glorious dawn, fear of death is gone
For we carry His life in our veins

Turn your eyes to the heavens
Our King will return for His own
Every knee will bow, every tongue will shout
All glory to Jesus alone

CCLI #7120053

"Turn Your Eyes" words & music by George Romanacce | Helen H. Lemmel | Kevin Winebarger | Nathan Stiff | Nic Trout
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BENEDICTION

THREE-FOLD AMEN

SCRIPTURE SENTENCE

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P: Praise the Lord!

L: A messenger of peace will be sent to us.

P: Thanks be to God!

L: Open your hearts and let your spirits be quieted.

P: Come, O Lord, and bring us peace. Amen.

OPENING PRAYER**OPENING SONG**

O Come, All Ye Faithful (*stanzas 1, 2, 3*)

UMH 234

O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant
O come ye, O come ye, to Bethlehem
Come and behold Him
Born the King of angels

True God of true God, Light from Light Eternal
Lo He shuns not the Virgin's womb
Son of the Father
Begotten, not created

*O come, let us adore Him
O come, let us adore Him
O come, let us adore Him
Christ the Lord*

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation
O sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!
Glory to God
All glory in the highest

CCLI #7185360

“O Come, All Ye Faithful” words & music by C. Frederick Oakeley | Crowns Of Creation Ministries Corp | John Francis Wade

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Be not dismayed whate'er betide
 God will take care of you
 Beneath His wings of love abide
 God will take care of you

*God will take care of you
 Through every day, o'er all the way
 He will take care of you
 God will take care of you*

Through days of toil when heart doth fail
 God will take care of you

When dangers fierce your path assail
 God will take care of you

All you may need He will provide
 God will take care of you
 Nothing you ask will be denied
 God will take care of you

No matter what may be the test
 God will take care of you
 Lean, weary one, upon His breast
 God will take care of you

CCLI #93645

"God Will Take Care of You" words & music by words & music by Civilla Durfee Martin | Walter Stillman Martin

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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

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

UMH 196

Come, Thou long expected Jesus
Born to set Thy people free
From our fears and sins release us
Let us find our rest in Thee
Israel's strength and consolation
Hope of all the earth Thou art
Dear desire of every nation
Joy of every longing heart

Born Thy people to deliver
Born a child and yet a King
Born to reign in us forever
Now Thy gracious kingdom bring
By Thy own eternal Spirit
Rule in all our hearts alone
By Thine all sufficient merit
Raise us to Thine glorious throne

CCLI Song #31999

"Come Thou Long Expected Jesus" words & music by Charles Wesley | Rowland Hugh Prichard

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SCRIPTURE READING

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Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

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REFLECTION / DISCUSSION

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2. What are areas in your life right now that you need to persevere through? How does the analogy of running a race help you to persevere in your faith?
3. Reflect on what Jesus has done for you and what He has prepared for you. Pray for a renewed sense of purpose and joy in running the race of faith in His strength.

CLOSING SONG

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

UMH 127

Guide me, O Thou great Jehovah
Pilgrim through this barren land
I am weak, but Thou art mighty
Hold me with Thy powerful hand
Bread of heaven, bread of heaven
Feed me till I want no more *(repeat)*

Open now the crystal fountain
Whence the healing stream doth flow
Let the fire and cloudy pillar
Lead me all my journey through
Strong Deliverer, Strong Deliverer
Be Thou still my strength and shield *(repeat)*

When I tread the verge of Jordan
Bid my anxious fears subside
Death of death and hell's destruction
Land me safe on Canaan's side
Songs of praises, songs of praises
I will ever give to Thee *(repeat)*

CCLI Song #1448

"Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah" words & music by John Hughes | Peter Williams | William Williams

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BENEDICTION

THREE-FOLD AMEN

SERMON OUTLINE

Title: Running the Race of Faith

Scripture Passage: Hebrews 12:1-3

BIG IDEA: Run and finish the race of faith well

Key Verse: Hebrews 12:1b-2a (NIV)

And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith.

Introduction

- Having gone through persecution, the church needs to continue to persevere in faith (Heb. 10:32-39)
- The author describes the meaning of faith and gives examples of great faith in the past in Hebrews 11
- In Hebrews 12:1-3, the author likens the life of faith to running a race

Running the race well means to:

1. Run with Purpose

Don't live life unprepared

- Run the race marked out for us (Heb. 12:1)
- Dedicated and disciplined focus on faith (Heb. 12:1)
- Take-away: How seriously do we take our life of faith?

2. Run with Perseverance

Enthusiasm can start well, but only Perseverance can end well

- Running consistently is hard
- But we persevere in running (Heb. 12:1) since we know God has prepared something better for us (Heb. 11:16, 40)
- Take-away: Are you still faithfully running?

3. Run with our Pioneer

Jesus is the Reason

- We able to persevere and run with joy only because Jesus is our pioneer and the One who perfects our faith (Heb. 12:2)
- We run with joy and anticipation because Jesus has run the course before us and is waiting to receive us at the end
- There are no obstacles beyond His grace and ability to help us overcome
- Take-away: Are our hopes and joy fixed on Jesus?

Today's WORSHIP ENABLERS

	<u>10.00 am Service</u>	<u>5.00 pm Service</u>
Sermon Title/Text	Running the Race of Faith (<i>Hebrews 12:1-3</i>)	Running the Race of Faith (<i>Hebrews 12:1-3</i>)
Preacher	Mr Tan Chong Jin	Mr Tan Chong Jin
Liturgist	n/a	Mrs Esther Wong
Worship Leaders	Mrs Jane Khoo, Mrs Nancy De Silva	n/a
Reader	Mr Charles Teh	Mrs Elaine Tan
Musicians	Ms Michi Ong, Mr Euan Chan Mr Eian Chan, Mr Tairven Lee	TBA
Sound	Mr Jason Tham	Mr William Ng
Visual	Mr Calvin Fong	Mr William Ng
Streaming	Ms Wong Fong Yi	n/a
Ushers	Mr Cheong Kum Loong, Mr Khoo Boo Thye Mrs Joanna Tham, Ms Wong Choon Moi	Mdm Jenny Hoo Ms Vivian Lim
Finance Stewards	Mr Ling Lek Chian Ms Cheong Sau Chan	n/a

Next Sunday's WORSHIP ENABLERS

	<u>10.00 am Service</u>	<u>5.00 pm Service</u>
Sermon Title/Text	TBA	TBA
Preacher	Rev Shearn Sya	Rev Shearn Sya
Liturgist	Ms Iris Ang	Dr Cheah Ui Hock
Reader	Mr Ryan Loke	Dr Chuah Hock Aun
Musician	Mr Bernard Lee	TBA
Sound	Mr Jesse Ong	Mr Joshua Wong
Visual	Mr Koay Choong Khai	Ms Esther Wong
Streaming	Mr David Law	n/a
Ushers	Mrs Heng Ah Leak, Ms Heng Khai Ting Mr Oon Chee Soon, Ms Tan Siew Ngoh	Dr Tan Boon Chong Dr Serena Nga
Finance Stewards	Ms Liew Chin Yee, Ms Janet Yeoh	n/a

WEEKLY MINISTRIES & ACTIVITIES

SUNDAY

- 10.00am Worship Service in English
Church School
- 12.00pm Sungai Ara II Small Group –
Jason Chieng
- 12.30pm Methodist Youth Fellowship
1.30pm Young Families 1 Small Group –
Tairven Lee
Young Families 2 – James Hii
Post Alpha Small Group
- 3.00pm Boys' Brigade

MONDAY

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

THURSDAY

- 10.00am Island Glades Small Group –
Tan Kok Huat (2nd & 4th)
- 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) – Loo Li Lin
- 8.30pm Young Adults I – Seah Por Shen
Taman Sri Nibong – Dr Saw Kim Guan
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 – Low Sheok Yin (fortnightly)

WEEKLY PRAYER

World

- Pray for all world leaders to have God-fearing hearts, wisdom and humility, so that they may serve their nation and people with humility and integrity. Pray for peace to reign in war-torn areas, as well as for God's protection and comfort over the people. Pray also, for regions that are experiencing natural calamities like floods this season. Pray for God's mercy and protection for everyone.

Nation

- Pray for God's mercy and protection over our nation as we brace against the frequent heavy rains and floods this monsoon season. Pray for everyone's safety, especially those living in low-lying areas. Pray that God will guide the authorities in their efforts to provide weather warnings. Pray also, that the people will remain vigilant during outdoor activities, and be prepared to evacuate if the need arises.

Church

- Pray for all TRAC churches as we prepare for Christmas. Pray that the Christmas Eve and Christmas Day services will be meaningful, and a testament of God's love for us. Pray that the Advent season will fill our hearts with hope as we cling on to Christ, our gift of hope. Pray also, that we will make time to reach out to our pre-believing relatives and friends with the love, joy and peace that only Christ can bring.

Self

- Praise God for the assurance that Jesus will return for us one day. Pray that we will be prepared for His coming, and live lives that will honour and glorify Him. Pray also, that we will see signs of God's ongoing work and presence in our lives. Pray too, that the Holy Spirit will guide and grant us opportunities to share God's love, salvation, peace and hope to all.

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 Hendrix Cheong & Grace Ong in thanksgiving to God for their union in marriage.
- 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 8

Communion Offering for December 2024 will go to Prison Fellowship Malaysia (Penang Chapter).

Coming up in December!

24 – Christmas Eve Candlelight Service (10pm)

25 – Christmas Day Service (10am)

31 – New Year’s Eve Service (10:30pm)



2024 Church-wide Bible Reading Plan:

<http://bit.ly/tmcbible2024>

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

Breakfast options will be available for sale between 9am – 10am. For takeaways, please bring your own containers. Refreshments will be served after the 10am service at The Solid Rock.

10AM / 5PM Service

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

Pray for Malaysia

December 15, 8pm – 9pm

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