

# BETHANY

INDEPENDENT-  
PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH

*God's Kind of Church...*

*Where God is touching lives...*

*And people care for people.*

*Bethany IV ... 31 July 2022*

---

## MEDITATION

---

REV DR CHARLES TAN

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Meditation	1
Announcements	4
Bible Memory Work	6
Worship	7
Poetry Corner	8
Order of Worship	12

Text: Psalm 103

## BLESS THE LORD

### BLESSING THE LORD

Psalm 103 began with "Bless the LORD." It also concludes with a call to "Bless the LORD." This is a wonderful practice to emulate.

*(Continued on page 2)*

---

# MEDITATION

---

*(Continued from page 1)*

<sup>19</sup> The LORD has established His throne in heaven,  
And His kingdom rules over all.

<sup>20</sup> Bless the LORD, you His angels,  
Who excel in strength, who do His word,  
Heeding the voice of His word.

<sup>21</sup> Bless the LORD, all *you* His hosts,  
*You* ministers of His, who do His pleasure.

<sup>22</sup> Bless the LORD, all His works,  
In all places of His dominion.  
Bless the LORD, O my soul!      Psalm 103:19-22

## 1. The LORD's Kingdom

- a) David ruled Israel
- b) In contrast, the LORD rules over all
- c) His throne is established in heaven
- d) This alone is something to rejoice in and thank God for

## 2. A Call to different groups of people to bless the LORD

- a) Made to the angels
  - i) They excel in strength
  - ii) They do God's bidding

*(Continued on page 3)*

---

# MEDITATION

---

*(Continued from page 2)*

- b) All the hosts of God
  - i) All who serve the LORD
  - ii) The heavenly hosts of mighty angels
  - iii) All earthly servants of God

## MAKE THE BLESSING OF GOD A PERSONAL PRACTICE

Psalm 103 is a highly instructive and inspirational Psalm. Let us seek to practise blessing the LORD each and every day of our life!

---

*Write to me at:* [charlestan@bethanyipc.sg](mailto:charlestan@bethanyipc.sg)

---

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

---

## WELCOME TO BETHANY

We are glad that you have chosen to worship the Lord Jesus Christ with us today. May your heart be uplifted and blessed wonderfully!



## NEXT SUNDAY, 7 AUGUST 2022

We will be having Holy Communion at the Morning Worship Service. Let us come with prepared hearts and minds to partake of Communion meaningfully.



## SSS 4

This Class will be held in Church from next Sunday, 7 August 2022.

Class commences at 8.30am.

The Class will be at front-half of the Fellowship Hall (where the piano is).



## MINISTRY IN BETHANY THIS COMING WEEK

1—7 August 2022

### 1. Special Seniors Program

a) Tuesday, 2 August 2022  
9.30am-11.30am

b) Thursday, 4 August 2022  
9.30am-11.30am

*(Continued on page 5)*

---

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

---

*(Continued from page 4)*

## 2. Weekend Ministry

### a) Saturday, 6 August 2022

- i) Catechism Class  
1.00pm
- ii) Fellowship Group Meetings  
(YPG 1-3; YAG 1-2)  
2.00pm
- iii) Youth Worship  
3.15pm

### b) Sunday, 7 August 2022

- i) All Sunday School Departments  
8.30am
- ii) Morning Worship Service  
10.00am  
Holy Communion
- iii) Chinese Worship Service  
10.00am
- iv) Children's Worship  
10.00am
- v) Crèche  
10.00am



---

# WORSHIP IN SPIRIT AND TRUTH

---

## **Psalm 121:3-4**

*<sup>3</sup> He will not allow your foot to be moved;  
He who keeps you will not slumber.*

*<sup>4</sup> Behold, He who keeps Israel  
Shall neither slumber nor sleep.*

### 1. The Protection that God offers

- a) Personal protection
- b) Promised by God

### 2. The Divine Protector

- a) He is the LORD God of Israel
- b) He does not slumber nor sleep

---

# BIBLE MEMORY WORK

---

**TODAY: 31 July 2022**

Text: "Strengthened with all might"

*Strengthened with all might, according to His glorious power, for all patience  
and longsuffering with joy; Colossians 1:11*

1. The strength that we can find in the LORD
  - a) All the might we need
  - b) According to God's power
2. The Purpose of giving this strength
  - a) That we might have all patience (perseverance)
  - b) That we might have longsuffering with joy

**NEXT SUNDAY: 7 August 2022**

Text: "My strength is made perfect in weakness:

*And He said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for My strength is made perfect in weakness." Therefore most gladly I will rather boast in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me.*

*2 Corinthians 12:9*

---

# POETRY CORNER

---

# 1

## THE KINGDOM OF THE LORD

The LORD is truly the King of kings;  
He rules over every single thing.  
His throne in Heaven is established;  
This truth is to be gratefully relished.

The call to bless God is absolutely right;  
Mighty angels serve Him with all their might.  
All bow before Him in grateful appreciation;  
The heart cannot but praise God in celebration.

As the Psalmist David traced the blessings of God;  
He found his soul desiring to bless the LORD.  
It was so natural to find praise welling up in the heart;  
The response of blessing God must never depart!

The LORD's blessings are truly innumerable;  
He has graciously delivered us from great evil.  
May our heart always proclaim, "Bless the LORD!"  
This is the least we must say to our wonderful God!

Charles Tan  
Inspiration: Psalm 103:19-22



---

# POETRY CORNER

---

# 2

## The Chariots of God

Bizarre theories propose chariots of God to be devices in a parallel space;  
Used for communication with a supernatural race!  
But “the chariots of God” is an imagery of God’s heavenly army;  
A reference to the power of God in all His glory.

Although the chariots of God abound in the thousands of thousands;  
To see them would require spiritual eyes to be opened.  
Like when Elisha saw the chariot of fire that took Elijah up to heaven;  
And when God enabled the eyes of his servant to see them in the mountain.

Kings of old fought physical battles with chariots in the past;  
Whereby their numbers did determine how long those kingdoms would last.  
But ours are spiritual battles against Satan’s entrapment and snares;  
Only the chariots of God can surround and protect us any and everywhere.

Moreover, the ultimate battle against Death has already been won;  
When God, because of His love for us, sacrificed His only Son.  
For the edification of the church, God has bestowed gifts on each of us;  
May we cherish His benefits and strive to live up to that trust.

Dr. Sng Li Wah  
Inspiration: Psalm 68:17-20;  
2 Kings 2:1-14; 2 Kings 6:1-20;  
Ephesians 4:7-12

---

# POETRY CORNER

---

# 3

## A MOUNTAIN OF GOD

Mountains are commonly associated with strength and majesty,  
Forged with power — they are a handiwork of Divinity!  
Peak after peak, running far into the yonder,  
Leaves one awestruck and full of wonder.

Yet, one must look beyond physical magnificence,  
A humble hill chosen by God may become of greater significance!  
Establishing His Holy City, God will ever be near,  
A bulwark of refuge and strength, greater than any fear.

God's choosing is a reflection of His Divine sovereignty,  
It is His prerogative to choose the humble over the mighty.  
God's Presence therefore, can only be humbly sought,  
Claiming it based on might would be a presumptuous thought!

The Presence of God is a blessing to be treasured,  
A privilege to be relished, never to be taken for granted!  
May then, the draw of placing our trust in earthly stature and riches,  
Be eclipsed by the fact that God would choose us despite our fallenness!

Stanley Woo

Inspiration: Psalm 68:15-16; Psalm 46

---

# POETRY CORNER

---

# 4

## Spiritual Battle

The Lord rides on His chariots to wage war against evil  
Coming on His chariots of fire like the whirlwind makes Satan cower  
He battles on our behalf as we face all sorts of upheavals  
May we be strong in Him witnessing manifestations of His power

We need not fear when the Lord is on our side  
Take up the full armour of God to resist wickedness  
Our shield of faith will protect and safety provide  
Gird our waist with truth and put on the breastplate of righteousness

The Lord will empower us to stand firm in spiritual warfare  
The enemy battles fiercely for our hearts and minds  
Thoughts hostile to God are promoted by the prince of the power of air  
Believers need to be on guard against the force to control our minds

May we bring our every thought captive to the obedience of Christ  
Meditate on His Word and fill up with Scripture in our minds  
Rest in the Lord and stand firm for this is His fight  
When mired in anxiety be still and watch the Lord battle for us

Jessie Quek

Inspiration: Psalm 68:17; Ephesians 6:10-11;  
2 Corinthians 10:3-5; Philippians 4:8

---

# ORDER OF WORSHIP

---



## **PRELUDE**

## **CALL TO WORSHIP**

*Rev Mitchell Tan*

## **PRAYER**

## **HYMN**

CP 15 | A Mighty Fortress is our God

CP 310 | Count your Blessings

## **MESSAGE**

“Ascribe Strength to God”

Text: 68:28-35

*Rev Dr Charles Tan*

## **PRAYER**

## **HYMN**

HWC 103 | Blessed be the Name

## **POSTLUDE**



---

# HYMNS

---

## CP 15 A MIGHTY FORTRESS IS OUR GOD

MARTIN LUTHER

1. A mighty fortress is our God, A bulwark never failing;  
Our Helper He, amid the flood of mortal ills prevailing.  
For still our ancient foe doth seek to work us woe;  
His craft and pow'r are great, and, armed with cruel hate,  
On earth is not His equal.

2. Did we in our own strength confide, Our striving would be losing,  
Were not the right man on our side, The man of God's own choosing.  
Dost ask who that may be? Christ Jesus, it is He;  
Lord Sabaoth His name, from age to age the same,  
And He must win the battle.

3. And though this world, with devils filled, should threaten to undo us,  
We will not fear, for God hath willed His truth to triumph through us.  
The Prince of Darkness grim, we tremble not for him;  
His rage we can endure, for lo, his doom is sure;  
One little word shall fell him.

4. That word above all earthly pow'rs, No thanks to them, abideth;  
The Spirit and the gifts are ours through Him who with us sideth.  
Let goods and kindred go, this mortal life also;  
The body they may kill; God's truth abideth still;  
His Kingdom is forever.



---

# HYMNS

---

## CP 310 COUNT YOUR BLESSINGS

JOHNSON OATMAN JR.

1. When upon life's billows you are tempest tossed,  
When you are discouraged, thinking all is lost,  
Count your many blessings, name them one by one,  
And it will surprise you what the Lord hath done.

Refrain

Count your blessings, name them one by one;  
Count your blessings, see what God hath done;  
Count your blessings, name them one by one;  
Count your many blessings, see what God hath done.

2. Are you ever burdened with a load of care?  
Does the cross seem heavy you are called to bear?  
Count your many blessings, ev'ry doubt will fly,  
And you will be singing as the days go by.

*Refrain*

3. So, amid the conflict, whether great or small,  
Do not be discouraged, God is over all;  
Count your many blessings, angels will attend,  
Help and comfort give you to your journey's end.

*Refrain*



---

# HYMNS

---

## HWC 103 BLESSED BE THE NAME

1. All praise to Him who reigns above In majesty supreme,  
Who gave His Son for man to die, that He might man redeem!

Refrain

Blessed be the Name, Blessed be the Name,  
Blessed be the Name of the Lord!  
Blessed be the Name, Blessed be the Name,  
Blessed be the Name of the Lord!

2. His Name above all names shall stand, exalted more and more,  
At God the Father's own right hand, where angel hosts adore.

*Refrain*

3. His Name shall be the Counsellor, the Mighty Prince of Peace,  
Of all earth's kingdoms Conqueror, whose reign shall never cease.

*Refrain*



