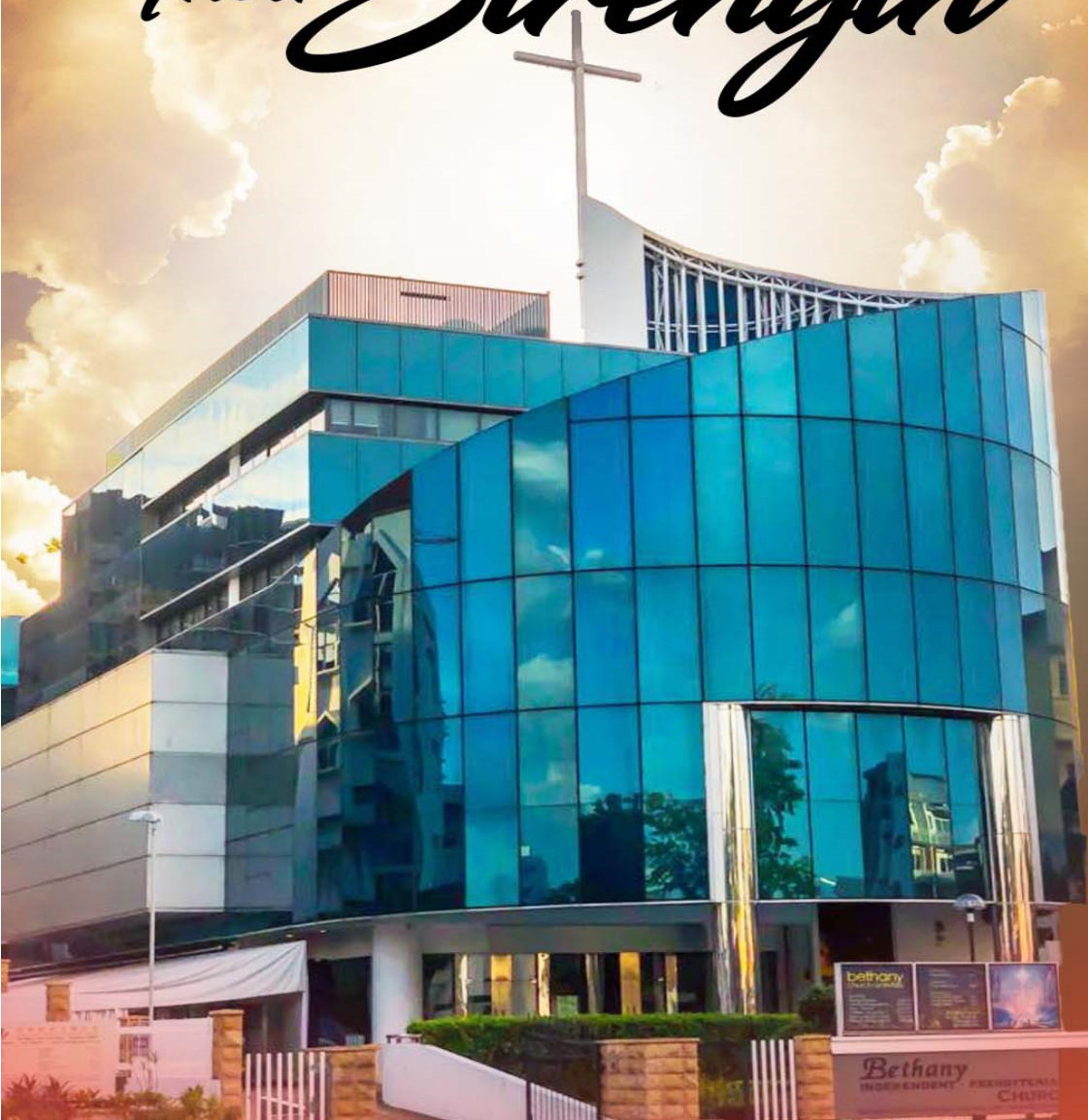


# ANNIVERSARY WORSHIP SERVICE

21 AUGUST 2022 . SHANGRI LA HOTEL . 10.30AM

# Renew *Isaiah 40:31* Their Strength



*Renew Their Strength*

# **40+9 CHURCH ANNIVERSARY WORSHIP SERVICE**

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**21 AUGUST 2022 | 10.30am**



## **A. CELEBRATING 40+9 YEARS OF BLESSING I**

### **PRE-WORSHIP**

*“Come, Glory in His Name”*

*Combined Choir*

### **PRELUDE**

*“God, and God Alone”*

*Musicians*

### **CALL TO WORSHIP**

*Rev. Dr. Charles Tan*

*Interpreter: Ms. Tan Hwee Cheng*

### **INVOCATION**

### **SPECIAL SCRIPTURE READING: PSALM 68**

*YW Scripture Readers*

## **B. CELEBRATING 40+9 YEARS OF BLESSING II**

### **HYMN**

*All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name*

*Rev. Christopher Lai*

### **SPECIAL ITEM**

*“Thanks to God for My Redeemer”*

*Millennium Seniors*

**C. ORDINATION SERVICE**

*Presided by Rev. Dr. Charles Tan*

1. The significance of the Ordination of servants of the Lord  
(Exodus 28-29; Numbers 27:15-23)
  - a) That they may minister to Me as priests (Exodus 28:1)
  - b) That they may be consecrated and sanctified to minister as priest  
(Exodus 28:41)
  - c) That the congregation of the LORD may not be like sheep which  
have no shepherd (Numbers 27:17)
2. Presentation to the Church  
Pastor Jonathan Jacob  
Pastor Steve Karong
3. Charge to the Ordinands: 2 Timothy 2:1-7
4. Laying on of hands by the following ordained ministers:
  - a) Perth, W. A.  
Rev. Christopher Lai
  - b) Singapore  
Rev. Dr. Charles Tan  
Rev. Mark Tan  
Rev. Mitchell Tan  
Rev. Benjamin Chong  
Rev. Benjamin Quah  
Rev. Moses Kwek  
Rev. Eugene Seow
5. Ordination Prayer: Rev. Dr. Charles Tan
6. Right hand of fellowship All ordained pastors and Bethany Session
7. Special Item: "Finish Well" Crossroads

# *Renew Their Strength*

## **D. ANNIVERSARY MESSAGE**

Title: “Renew their Strength” Isaiah 41:31

Text: Isaiah 40:21-31

## **THANKSGIVING**

40+9 Anniversary Offering

## **HYMN**

Praise Him! Praise Him!

## **E. BENEDICTION**

*Rev. Jonathan Jacob and Rev. Steve Karong*

## **POSTLUDE**

“My Tribute”

*Musicians*

# *Anniversary Worship Service 2022*

## **PRE-WORSHIP SPECIAL SONG ITEM**

### **COME, GLORY IN HIS NAME**

WORDS BY SUSAN HELEN PETERSON | ARRANGED BY MARY McDONALD  
PERFORMED BY THE BETHANY COMBINED CHOIR

Sing praise to Him, now sing; His wondrous acts proclaim.  
Rejoice, all you who seek the Lord;  
Come, glory in His Name!

Give thanks to God, the Lord; upon His Name now call.  
Make known among the people on earth what He has done for all.  
Ascribe unto the Lord the glory due His Name;  
The splendor of His holiness now worship and proclaim!

Sing to the Lord, all earth; His saving pow'r proclaim.  
Declare His glory to the world; His wondrous deeds proclaim.  
For great is God, the Lord, most worthy of all praise;  
He made the heavens and the earth; fear Him and give Him praise!

Let now the heav'ns rejoice; let earth give glad refrain  
The world established shall not move, for God in heaven reigns!  
Now let the sea resound, be jubilant all fields;  
The forest tree will sing for joy; earth's judge is now revealed.

Give thanks to God, the Lord; remember all His deeds.  
His judgements are in all the earth; He is the Lord indeed!  
Sing praise to Him, now sing; His glory now proclaim.  
Rejoice, all you who seek the Lord; come glory in His Name!

Amen, amen!



ALL HAIL THE POWER OF JESUS' NAME 贺祂为王

EDWARD PERRONET

1. All hail the pow'r of Jesus' name!

大哉，圣哉，耶稣之名！

Let angels prostrate fall, let angels prostrate fall;

天上万军颂扬，天上万军颂扬；

Bring forth the royal diadem, and crown Him,

奉献冠冕极其光荣，庆贺祂，

Crown Him, crown Him, crown Him, and crown Him Lord of all.

贺祂，贺祂，贺祂，庆贺祂为君王。

2. Let every kindred, ev'ry tribe

地下，天上闻主尊名，

On this terrestrial ball, on this terrestrial ball;

应该敬畏颂扬，应该敬畏颂扬；

To Him all majesty ascribe, and crown Him,

万膝跪拜，万口歌唱，庆贺祂，

Crown Him, crown Him, crown Him, and crown Him Lord of all.

贺祂，贺祂，贺祂，庆贺祂为君王。

3. O that with yonder sacred throng

我众联同天上万灵

We at His feet may fall, we at His feet may fall!

在主面前伏拜，在主面前伏拜！

We'll join the everlasting song, and crown Him,

歌唱赞美颂扬主名，庆贺祂，

Crown Him, crown Him, crown Him, and crown Him Lord of all.

贺祂，贺祂，贺祂，庆贺祂为君王。



# *Anniversary Worship Service 2022*

## **SPECIAL SONG ITEM**

### THANKS TO GOD FOR MY REDEEMER 感谢神

AUGUST L. STORM

PERFORMED BY THE MILLENNIUM SENIORS

1. Thanks to God for My Redeemer, thanks for all Thou dost provide!

感谢神赐我救赎主, 感谢神丰富预备.

Thanks for times now but a memory, thanks for Jesus by my side!

感谢神过去的同在, 感谢神主在我旁,

Thanks for pleasant, balmy spring-time, thanks for dark and dreary fall!

感谢神赐温暖春天, 感谢神凄凉秋景

Thanks for tears by now forgotten, thanks for peace within my soul!

感谢神抹乾我眼泪, 感谢神赐我安宁.

2. Thanks for prayers that Thou hast answered,

Thanks for what Thou dost deny!

感谢神祷告蒙应允, 感谢神未蒙垂听,

Thanks for storms that I have weathered, thanks for all Thou dost supply!

感谢神我曾经风暴, 感谢神丰富供应,

Thanks for pain and thanks for pleasure, thanks for comfort in despair!

感谢神赐我苦与乐, 在绝望里得安慰,

Thanks for grace that none can measure, thanks for love beyond compare!

感谢神赐无限恩典, 感谢神无比慈爱.

3. Thanks for roses by the wayside, thanks for thorns their stems contain!

感谢神赐路旁玫瑰, 感谢神玫瑰有刺,

Thanks for homes and thanks for fireside, thanks for hope, that sweet refrain!

感谢神赐家庭温暖, 感谢神有福盼望,

Thanks for joy and thanks for sorrow, thanks for heav'nly peace with Thee!

感谢神赐喜乐忧愁, 感谢神属天平安,

Thanks for hope in the tomorrow, thanks through all eternity.

感谢神赐明天盼望, 要感谢直到永远.

# *Renew Their Strength*

## **SPECIAL SONG ITEM**

### FINISH WELL

WORDS BY KAREN PECK GOOCH, KENNA TURNER WEST  
& MICHAEL FARREN | ARRANGED BY MARY McDONALD  
PERFORMED BY THE CROSSROADS

There will come a day, I know without a doubt,  
Around the throne the saints will bow  
And lay down every crown.

How glorious that moment to see Him face to face;  
To hear Him say, "Well done, my child. You've finished your race."

But for now, the sun's still rising; there's work to still be done,  
While we're waiting for the promise of what is yet to come.

Finish well, ev'ry day that we are given.  
Finish well, for the glory of His Name.  
Finish strong, until the Saviour finally calls us home.  
Give it everything we have; finish well.

There's no truth in saying, "We've seen our better days."  
These are the days to be courageous, bold and full of faith.  
So, wherever He may lead us, whatever it may cost,  
Let the church arise and lift the banner of the cross!

Finish well, ev'ry day that we are given.  
Finish well, for the glory of His Name.  
Finish strong, until the Saviour finally calls us home.  
Give it everything we have!

All to Thee, my blessed Saviour, I surrender all!



# *Anniversary Worship Service 2022*

Finish well, ev'ry day that we are given.  
Finish well, for the glory of His Name.  
Finish strong, until the Saviour finally calls us home.  
Give it everything we have!

Finish well, ev'ry day that we are given.  
Finish well, for the glory of His Name.  
Finish well!



## ISAIAH 40:21-31

<sup>21</sup> Have you not known?

Have you not heard?

Has it not been told you from the beginning?

Have you not understood from the foundations of the earth?

<sup>22</sup> It is He who sits above the circle of the earth,

And its inhabitants are like grasshoppers,  
Who stretches out the heavens like a curtain,  
And spreads them out like a tent to dwell in.

<sup>23</sup> He brings the princes to nothing;

He makes the judges of the earth useless.

<sup>24</sup> Scarcely shall they be planted,

Scarcely shall they be sown,

Scarcely shall their stock take root in the earth,

When He will also blow on them,

And they will wither,

And the whirlwind will take them away like stubble.

<sup>25</sup> “To whom then will you liken Me,

Or to whom shall I be equal?” says the Holy One.

<sup>26</sup> Lift up your eyes on high,

And see who has created these things,

Who brings out their host by number;

He calls them all by name,

By the greatness of His might

And the strength of His power;

Not one is missing.

## *Anniversary Worship Service 2022*

<sup>27</sup> Why do you say, O Jacob,  
And speak, O Israel:  
“My way is hidden from the Lord,  
And my just claim is passed over by my God”?  
<sup>28</sup> Have you not known?  
Have you not heard?  
The everlasting God, the Lord,  
The Creator of the ends of the earth,  
Neither faints nor is weary.  
His understanding is unsearchable.  
<sup>29</sup> He gives power to the weak,  
And to those who have no might He increases strength.  
<sup>30</sup> Even the youths shall faint and be weary,  
And the young men shall utterly fall,  
<sup>31</sup> But those who wait on the Lord  
Shall renew their strength;  
They shall mount up with wings like eagles,  
They shall run and not be weary,  
They shall walk and not faint.



## 以赛亚书 40:21-31

<sup>21</sup>你们岂不曾知道吗？你们岂不曾听见吗？从起初岂没有人告诉你们吗？自从立地的根基，你们岂没有明白吗？

<sup>22</sup>神坐在地球大圈之上，地上的居民好像蝗虫。他铺张穹苍如幔子，展开诸天如可住的帐棚。

<sup>23</sup>他使君王归于虚无，使地上的审判官成为虚空。

<sup>24</sup>他们是刚才栽上，（刚才或作不曾下同）刚才种上，根也刚才扎在地里，他一吹在其上，便都枯干，  
旋风将他们吹去，像碎秸一样。

<sup>25</sup>那圣者说，你们将谁比我，叫他与 I 相等呢？

<sup>26</sup>你们向上举目，看谁创造这万象，按数目领出，他一一称其名。因他的权能，又因他的大能大力，  
连一个都不缺。

<sup>27</sup>雅各阿，你为何说，我的道路向耶和华隐藏？

以色列阿，你为何言，我的冤屈神并不查问？

<sup>28</sup>你岂不曾知道吗？你岂不曾听见吗？永在的神耶和华，  
创造地极的主，并不疲乏，也不困倦。

他的智慧无法测度。

<sup>29</sup>疲乏的，他赐能力。软弱的，他加力量。

<sup>30</sup>就是少年人也要疲乏困倦，强壮的也必全然跌倒。

<sup>31</sup>但那等候耶和华的，必从新得力，他们必如鹰展翅上腾，  
他们奔跑却不困倦，行走却不疲乏。



**CLOSING HYMN**

**PRAISE HIM! PRAISE HIM! 赞美耶稣**

FANNY J. CROSBY

1. Praise Him! Praise Him! Jesus, our Blessed Redeemer!

赞美！赞美！耶稣我亲爱的救主！

Sing, O earth, His wonderful love proclaim!

全地歌唱，将主妙爱传扬！

Hail Him! Hail Him! Highest arch-angels in glory;

歌唱！欢唱！众天使至高的欢唱；

Strength and honour give to His Holy Name!

尊贵，荣耀都归主圣善名！

Like a Shepherd Jesus will guard His children,

如同牧人，耶稣保护祂小羊；

In His arms He carries them all day long:

主的膀臂终日怀抱牧养：

Refrain 副歌

Praise Him! Praise Him! Tell of His excellent greatness;

赞美！赞美！传扬祂无比的大爱；

Praise Him! Praise Him ever in joyful song!

赞美！赞美！歌唱直到万代！

## *Anniversary Worship Service 2022*

2. Praise Him! Praise Him! Jesus, our Blessed Redeemer!

赞美！赞美！耶稣我慈悲的救主！

For our sins He suffered, and bled and died;

为我众罪，受苦流血死亡；

He our Rock, our Hope of eternal salvation,

主是磐石，是永远救恩的盼望，

Hail Him! Hail Him! Jesus the Crucified.

赞美！赞美！耶稣被订君王。

Sound His praises! Jesus who bore our sorrows;

高声歌唱！耶稣担当我忧伤；

Love unbounded, wonderful, deep and strong:

无比慈爱，和奇妙何高深！

*Refrain 副歌*

3. Praise Him! Praise Him! Jesus, our Blessed Redeemer!

赞美！赞美！耶稣我亲爱的救主！

Heav'nly portals loud with hosannas ring!

天上群众高歌唱和散那！

Jesus, Saviour, reigneth forever and ever;

耶稣救主，统治掌权直到永远；

Crown Him! Crown Him! Prophet and Priest and King!

加冕上主 — 先知，祭司，牧长！

Christ is coming! Over the world victorious,

基督降临，战胜世界众罪恶，

Pow'r and glory unto the Lord belong:

荣耀权能都归耶稣我王：

*Refrain 副歌*



## ORDINATION TESTIMONY #1

JONATHAN JACOB

Dear brethren,

### **ANNIVERSARY GREETINGS**

A blessed and joyous 40+9<sup>th</sup> Anniversary to all who are part of Bethany! Thank God for this special occasion which we can all celebrate together!

### **AN ESPECIALLY MEMORABLE DAY**

This day is extra special and memorable because I am also being ordained as a Pastor for the Lord's work. I am deeply grateful for God's amazing grace extended to me. I am deeply humbled by the tremendous love, care, and support shown by our Bethany family. As I reflected on the past 5 years of Pastoral Training, some key lessons came to mind. Please allow me to share some of these lessons with you through this testimony.

### **YIELDING TO THE LORD'S CORRECTION**

5 years ago, before I was commissioned as a Student-Pastor, I had wrong practices and ideas of ministry. I served in my own strong spirit and personality. Moreover, I did not know how to follow the leading of the Spirit of God. The way I handled the Word of God was not accurate either. My way of life needed to change too. Just as the disciples of the Lord Jesus needed to be corrected of much in their formative years of training (Luke 6:40), I too needed to be corrected of much in these 5 years. One of the lessons we learned was that we may be "lacking in our faith" (1 Thessalonians 3:10). These years of training have allowed me to acknowledge the different areas which I have been lacking in, receive correction for them, and attempt to change.

### **HANDLING THE WORD OF GOD CORRECTLY**

One of the key features of Pastoral Training is spending time learning at the feet of Pastor Charlie at our Morning Classes. These opportunities allowed me to observe how he read and interpreted the Word from the Bible. Each outline he crafted provided an opportunity to understand how he rightly divided a passage. Every time Pastor explained and exegeted a text accurately, it gave me an example to follow. Pastor has been kind and gracious in correcting my wrong approach in handling the Scriptures. He has been showing me what it



## *Anniversary Worship Service 2022*

means to rightly divide the Word of truth. He is my example of someone who diligently presents himself as approved to God and as a worker who does not need to be ashamed (2 Timothy 2:15). I'm also learning about the importance of taking heed to what the Spirit of God teaches, comparing spiritual things with spiritual (1 Corinthians 2:13). I recognize that the old way of interpreting God's Word erroneously needs to be done away with. The thought of becoming like the "priests who were without knowledge" (Hosea 4:6; Malachi 2:7) frightens me. Humbly and contritely, I admit that I have been a slow learner, but I am committed to learning how to understand a text precisely, apply it, and make it relevant for others.

### **BECOMING A LOVING AND CARING SHEPHERD**

The Pastoral Team and Church Staff have been examples to me as to how I can learn to love and care for the brethren here in Bethany. I'm learning from the way they bring themselves down to the level of children as they relate to them. I noted how they make themselves approachable and relatable to young people. I also noted that they keep in touch with young adults to understand their different needs and challenges. I further noted how they listen, care, and encourage the older ones in Bethany. And finally, I noted how Pastor devotes much time to minister to the churches here in Singapore and overseas. I am learning to be such a shepherd. One that cares, knows, and loves his sheep (John 10). I was given a glimpse of how to be a caring shepherd as I kept in touch with the seniors who attended the Special Seniors Program which commenced in 2022. Our dear seniors have struggled with health challenges and the effects of Covid-19 Safety Measures. I learned what it meant to listen to them and love them. I know that there is still so much more to learn and make a part of my life and ministry but I desire to keep growing so that I can become a shepherd who shepherds according to the integrity of his heart, and guides by the skillfulness of his hands (Psalm 78:82).

### **CONCLUSION**

As I am ordained today, I am fully aware that it is not the end of a journey but a significant milestone in a journey which continues. I am committed to learn deeper lessons, grow further, and cultivate ministry skills to serve the Lord Jesus Christ and His people. As I look beyond ordination, I am challenged to walk worthy of the calling with which I was called (Ephesians 4:1). I pray that the Lord may graciously strengthen and uphold me to remain faithful to His calling!

## ORDINATION TESTIMONY #2

### KARONG SEICHUNGA KOM (STEVE)

Greetings from me, my family and brethren in Bethany Manipur to you all in Bethany Singapore in the most wonderful name of our Lord Jesus Christ! Wishing you all a very happy Anniversary!

To God be the glory!

As I looked back the last three years of God's goodness and mercy in my life and ministry, I am moved to praise God and to rejoice in Him. I have so many reasons to thank my God for. But I honestly cannot number them one by one because they are more than I can count. However, as I pondered on being ordained, I would like to share how the Lord had given me the opportunity to be trained in Bethany Singapore for the last three years, how the Lord has continued to shape me and mold me even as I serve Him, what the Lord has been doing in Bethany Manipur to this day, and what I am looking forward to for the years ahead in serving and doing the Lord's work in Manipur.

Out of nowhere God in His abounding mercy picked me out to be in His glorious ministry, and to serve the Lord alongside all in the IPC family. I am still amazed to see how this was even possible that God would choose someone like me from a very humble background and so sinful and have been given such opportunity to be trained in Bethany and then to be where I am now today, serving the Lord in Manipur. Words cannot express how grateful I am for His great love upon me. I do not deserve it but this is His grace and mercy.

The question that I am mostly asked by dear ones in Bethany was, "How did you come to know Pastor Charlie and Bethany?" because I am from Manipur, which is in the North-eastern part of India where there were no missions work under Bethany then. Well, it's another reason for me to thank God for, because I came to know Pastor Charlie and Bethany through my dear wife, Ruth. Since the very first time we began to talk she wanted me to meet Pastor Charlie, not for any other reason but that I could learn God's Word from and through him. So, by God's grace I was introduced to Pastor and then soon given opportunity to come over to Yangon to attend one of the Pastoral Conferences in the year 2017. That was when I met Pastor Charles, our dearest

## *Anniversary Worship Service 2022*

pastor and teacher and the pastoral team for the first time. Since then, I knew that God has a plan for me. I was truly challenged to learn God's Word more, because I realized that I knew next to nothing when it comes to the knowledge of the Scriptures. I was convinced that just to have the heart to serve God was not enough without the knowledge of the Word of God. I continued to look forward for opportunities to learn God's Word more from Pastor Charlie. Amazingly, again I was informed that there was going to be another Pastoral Conference in Yangon in early 2018. So, given the opportunity I came over to Yangon from Manipur to attend the conference. At that very conference, God opened my eyes to help me see and understand this wonderful truth that **"It takes a man of God, to do the Lord's work"** wherever it is. I thought I was ready to serve until that day when God spoke to me directly. And I asked myself *"Am I that man of God? Could I become that man of God whom God will be using for His work? What must I do so that I might become that man of God one day?"* I went to Pastor during a short break just to share with him how truly blessed I was to learn that wonderful and life changing lesson. And suddenly beyond expectation God opened a wide door of opportunity for me to come over to Bethany to be trained as student-pastor, then as intern-pastor, and now as ordained pastor.

Truly, from the start it has always been the Word of God that stands out. I thank God for Bethany Manipur, because we are committed to build upon the solid Word of God under the guidance of our dear pastor Charlie. We are learning the Word of God every week through pastor. We are learning to teach the pure Word of God to our brethren in Bethany Manipur. Moreover, we are learning to practice what we are preaching and teaching. We want to be that 'salt' and 'light' at where we are. We were able to help over a hundred families through GOOD SAMARITAN PROJECTS 1,2, & 3 last year during lockdown in Manipur due to pandemic. Bethany Manipur celebrated our first Anniversary in March this year 2022. We celebrated God's faithfulness in leading us and guiding us with the Word of God, His wonderful provision through His amazing people in Bethany Singapore. We thank our God every time we think of and pray for our brethren in Bethany Singapore, and our IPC family all over, for the love and support and prayer for the missions work in Manipur. Every Sunday we usually gather about 40-50 people for worship and Sunday Schools. Reaching out to with the Gospel of Jesus Christ and inviting them to come to church to learn more about the Lord from His Word.

## *Renew Their Strength*

I am looking forward to learning more and more from the Word of God through pastor and also to practice every lesson I learned each day. As our missions work in Manipur has just started there are a lot of challenges I am experiencing along the way. However, seeking the Lord for His guidance and strength to move forward to do the work of the Lord for His glory. Now I am sure that there is going to be more and more responsibilities that will be added to me even as I continue to serve God. I am grateful that I can always go to God for help, strength, and for wisdom. Praying also that the Lord will continue to use me and bless the works in Manipur through the help of the Holy Spirit and upon the leading and guidance of His servant pastor Charlie. I know that being ordained does not mean that I am already perfect. There are so much more to learn and so much more to grow along the way. Humbly, I am requesting you all to continue to pray for me to be able to find that strength to sustain the ministry and for us all in Bethany Manipur, that *by all means some might be saved*, and that the name of the Lord will be glorified through our good works (Matthew 5). Our commitment is to practice what we preach and teach from the Word of God. Personally, I am looking forward to become that man of God one day as I am continuously instructed, corrected, and guided by God. Even as I am ordained today, I would like to thank God for our dear Pastor Charlie for his endless love and guidance in teaching me, all my beloved brethren in Bethany for the prayers and constant supports, and for my family who support in every way possible. Moreover, for the wonderful provision of God for the missions work in Manipur. He alone is worthy to be praised!

May God continue to bless us all in the Lord Jesus Christ! Amen!

*Bethany Independent-Presbyterian Church*

301 Upper Paya Lebar Road. Singapore 534934

tel: +65 62877713 . website: [bethanyipc.sg](http://bethanyipc.sg)

# BETHANY

INDEPENDENT-  
PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH

*God's Kind of Church...*

*Where God is touching lives...*

*And people care for people.*

*Bethany IV ... 21 August 2022 ... Happy 49th Anniversary!*

## MEDITATION

REV DR CHARLES TAN

**Text: Psalm 20**

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## WE WILL REMEMBER THE NAME OF THE LORD

### CELEBRATING BETHANY'S 49<sup>TH</sup> ANNI- VERSARY TODAY

We celebrate Bethany's 49<sup>th</sup> Anniversary at Shangri La today! Thank God for all His blessings these many years! Psalm 20 of-

*(Continued on page 2)*

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# MEDITATION

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(Continued from page 1)

fers many inspiring thoughts!

<sup>1</sup>May the LORD answer you in the day of trouble;

May the name of the God of Jacob defend you;

<sup>2</sup>May He send you help from the sanctuary,

And strengthen you out of Zion;

<sup>3</sup>May He remember all your offerings,

And accept your burnt sacrifice. *Selah*

<sup>4</sup>May He grant you according to your heart's *desire*,

And fulfill all your purpose.

<sup>5</sup>We will rejoice in your salvation,

And in the name of our God we will set up *our* banners!

May the LORD fulfill all your petitions.

<sup>6</sup>Now I know that the LORD saves His anointed;

He will answer him from His holy heaven

With the saving strength of His right hand.

<sup>7</sup>Some *trust* in chariots, and some in horses;

But we will remember the name of the LORD our God.

<sup>8</sup>They have bowed down and fallen;

But we have risen and stand upright.

<sup>9</sup>Save, LORD!

May the King answer us when we call. Psalm 20:1-9

## REMEMBERING THE LORD WITH GREAT GRATITUDE

What are some things we must especially remember? Three things may be highlighted!

1. The Help that God has given
2. The Strength that He has provided
3. The Prayers that He has answered

(Continued on page 3)

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# MEDITATION

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*(Continued from page 2)*

## APPROPRIATE RESPONSE

How should we respond to the LORD for all His blessings?

1. We will rejoice in the LORD and His salvation
2. We will trust in our great God
3. We will always remember the mighty name of God
4. We will continue to seek God humbly in prayer for all our needs in life!

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

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

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### WELCOME TO BETHANY

We are glad that you have chosen to worship the Lord Jesus Christ with us today at the Shangri La! Let us all be challenged to ascribe all strength and glory to God!



### SPECIAL WELCOME

1. Pastor Christopher Lai, Aldine and their two children (Christabelle and James)
2. Mr. and Mrs. Lai Ah Hong
3. Pastor Steve and Ruth Karong and their son, Joseph
4. Kim and her husband Irangbe Newme
5. Ashon Karung



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# ANNOUNCEMENTS

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## HEARTFELT CONGRATULATIONS TO:

1. Jonathan Jacob

2. Steve Karong

On the occasion of their ordination today (21 August 2022).



## MINISTRY THIS COMING WEEK

### 1. Special Seniors Program

Tuesday, 23 August 2022

9.30am- 11.30am

Thursday, 25 August 2022

9.30am- 11.30am

### 2. Weekend Ministry

#### Saturday, 27 August 2022

Catechism Class | 1.00pm

Fellowship Group Meetings (YPG 1-3; YAG 1-2) | 2.00pm

Youth Worship | 3.15pm

#### Sunday, 28 August 2022

All Sunday School Departments | 8.30am

Morning Worship Service | 10.00am

Chinese Worship Service | 10.00am

Children's Worship | 10.00am

Crèche | 10.00am





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# WORSHIP IN SPIRIT AND TRUTH

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## Psalm 122:1 - 2

<sup>1</sup>I was glad when they said to me,  
"Let us go into the house of the LORD."

<sup>2</sup>Our feet have been standing  
Within your gates, O Jerusalem!

1. Great joy felt
  - a) At the thought of going to the House of the LORD
  - b) At the thought of worshipping together
2. For ancient Israel  
The House of the LORD was at Jerusalem
3. For the Church  
The House of the LORD is the community of brethren who have the same faith!
4. Special Joy today!
  - a) Celebrating Bethany's 49<sup>th</sup> Church Anniversary
  - b) Consecrating Jonathan Jacob and Steve Karong as Ordained pastors

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## BIBLE MEMORY WORK

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**TODAY: 21 August 2022**

**Text: "He increases strength"**

*He gives power to the weak,*

*And to those who have no might He increases strength.*

**Isaiah 40:29**

1. The reality of life
  - a) There are some who are weak
  - b) There are some who have no might

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# BIBLE MEMORY WORK

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2. The precious promise of the LORD
- a) He will give power to the weak
  - b) He will increase strength to those who have no might

## **NEXT SUNDAY: 28 August 2022**

**Text: "Shall renew their strength"**

*But those who wait on the LORD*

*Shall renew their strength;*

*They shall mount up with wings like eagles,*

*They shall run and not be weary,*

*They shall walk and not faint.*

*Isaiah 40:31*

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## TESTIMONY

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### **The Day the Lord Spared My Life**

Ee Ai Lin

17 August 2022 was like any normal day when I drove off to work in the morning at around 6am in my car.

At around 6.10am, I reached a normal turning lane which I usually would turn into. That morning was unusual, as each of the lanes in my opposite direction was filled with stationary vehicles (the lanes were normally empty in the early hours) and the lane closest to me was a white van.

From my point of view, the traffic light was turning amber, and at that split second I inched my car forward, anticipating the green arrow to signal me to turn right. It was then I noticed the white van has its headlights flashing non-stop for that few seconds when I was inching forward. Before I knew it, the white van was coming quickly head on towards my car's direction and all I could hear after that was an extremely loud crash. My car shook at the impact the

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# TESTIMONY

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crash created and right before me was an inflated cloth bag (the air bag from the steering wheel) that blew into my face. At this point, I really thought that the Lord was taking me home or that my spine which previously underwent two major surgeries for slipped discs would be so injured that it would cause me a lifetime of paralysis. After about 5 seconds or so, my car came to a halt and I composed myself to see that my car windscreen was smashed to smithereens on the left side. I unbuckled myself from the driver's seat, opened the car door and got out of the car. What happened in the next few minutes were history- I managed to inform my family of the accident before the ambulance came as the shortness of breath, tightness in my chest and the pain from the multiple bruises from the crash caught up with me. One woman passer-by in particular was extra sympathetic towards me saying, "The other party is ok! But look at you, you have wounds...poor you!" The paramedics then tended to me and I was taken to the nearest hospital for further treatment.

In the 2 days I spent in the hospital before I was discharged as the doctors found no serious injury and broken bones in me, I was looking through the photos taken by my sister of the aftermath of the accident:

My 12-year-old car had its front left tyre sticking out of alignment with the right side of the bonnet and both headlights smashed beyond their original shapes. The car was so badly damaged that no one would have thought that anyone would have walked out of the car without a single drop of blood...but I did. I suffered only superficial wounds and abrasions in this serious accident.

It was at this point I realised how the Lord had protected me in such a miraculous way. That few seconds of misjudgement, be it on my part or the van driver's, could have led to very fatal consequences. Instead, the Lord in His grace and mercy, preserved a small safe spot in the accident-wreaked car for my whole body to remain intact and alive. This is truly the amazing grace of God.

This anniversary week, I am reminded through this accident where I nearly had a brush with death, of how in the tumultuous times of life, the Lord protects us in such marvellous ways through the known and unknown dangers and risks we

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# TESTIMONY

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face every day. This accident has truly strengthened my faith to say that the Lord is indeed my Shield and my Protector. It has further convinced me that God has saved me and spared my life truly, for His Divine plan and purpose.

As a stanza of the hymn 'Amazing Grace' puts it:

Through many dangers, toils, and snares  
I have already come

This grace that brought me safe thus far  
And grace will lead me home.

Truly, in this short 41 years of my life, the Lord has seen me through so many trying times and challenges I faced with my health, work, relationships and even my physical safety. Without His amazing grace, I would not be here today giving thanks for all He has done for me. In this recent accident that happened this week that is leading up to Bethany's 49th anniversary, I have only praises to offer to our Great God who not only impacts my personal faith in such profound ways, but also the faith of the church as a whole for His glory and purpose. Without the faithful preaching and teaching of God's Word through His servants week after week and day after day, my faith wouldn't have grown significantly through this past decade. I believe this is true for those serving and being served in all the ministries in Bethany, be it in Singapore or overseas. I truly thank God for Bethany, a church where I can strengthen my faith in the Lord and grow closer to our Saviour who will lead me safely to my eternal Home one day.

Blessed 49th Birthday, Bethany. May the Lord continue to grow the ministries the church has started for His kingdom and glory.



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# POETRY CORNER

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#1

## WE WILL REMEMBER THE NAME OF THE LORD

The LORD's Blessings on Bethany is without question;  
He has blessed with His Presence, His Power, His Provision!

We will remember the great name of the LORD;  
There is no one who can compare with our God!

We will not forget all that God has done for us!  
To fail to remember is grave unrighteousness.  
He has unfailingly provided for our many needs;  
He has graciously answered all our prayers indeed!

We will remember the fearful pandemic years;  
Many were taken ill and great were the fears!  
There were lessons God wanted us to learn;  
He gave kind and gracious support from heaven.

We will remember and rejoice greatly in the LORD;  
We will gladly proclaim aloud the majesty of God!  
He has blessed us at Bethany most wonderfully;  
We will extol the great Name of God at our Anniversary!

Charles Tan  
Inspiration: Psalm 20

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# POETRY CORNER

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# 2

## **Our Church**

### **(A Poem for Bethany's 40+9th Anniversary)**

Lockdowns, safe management measures, the list goes on;  
On-site worship, fellowship meetings, they were all gone.  
But Bethany did not merely lament and feel forlorn;  
She reinvented herself and bravely soldiered on.

Worship messages went online and then were videotaped;  
Sunday School teachers met students via videoconferencing in cyber scape.  
Our choirs and even the church orchestra virtually made music;  
God had continued to use Bethany to work His magic.

What matters most is that God is touching lives;  
And our people care for one another to ensure we all survive.  
For Bethany is God's kind of church where the Lord's presence is alive;  
From our faith is where our people's strength is derived.

Our church is built on Christ Jesus as foundation;  
We will always look to the Lord for His direction.  
We are God's fellow workers, His field and His building;  
Let us persevere in faith to do His bidding.

**Dr. Sng Li Wah**

**Inspiration: 1 Corinthians 3:9-11**

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# POETRY CORNER

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# 3

## WORSHIP THE LORD

Today, we celebrate Bethany's Anniversary,  
God has blessed us for 49 years in ministry!  
We cannot but worship Him with gladness,  
For He is worthy of worship and glorious!

God is our Shepherd and we are His sheep,  
He has kept us and will continue to keep.  
He has chosen us to be His special people,  
His provisions are wonderful and ample.

As we ponder over God's many blessings,  
We see His mercy which is everlasting.  
His truth guides us and it endures forever,  
The promises in His Word are our anchor.

Worshipping God is of great significance,  
With thanksgiving, we enter His presence.  
May worship gladden our hearts greatly,  
And renew our spirit to serve Him joyfully!

Yvette Seow

Inspiration: Psalm 100

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# POETRY CORNER

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# 4

## **Bethany Independent 49<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**

Bless the Lord for raining blessings on Bethany Independent  
Prevented from celebrating her anniversary over the past two years  
Only makes the joy of commemoration this year to be especially heightened  
God's bountiful provisions have given us much reason for cheer

“On this rock I will build my church,” said the Lord  
Work on building Bethany Independent started forty-nine years ago  
From a small house church to what she is today, an accomplishment of God  
Through the faith and hard work of Pastor Charles and his team  
she continues to grow

Taking the gospel to all, the very young and old  
Bethany Independent bears testimony of the living Christ to keep His promise  
To build His church which the gates of Hades shall not against it hold  
And of the kingdom of heaven believers will be given the keys

May Bethany Independent continue to be led by the Lord  
Allow the congregation to deepen their faith and trust in Him  
To build upon the rock and foundation, the Son of the living God  
Hope that God's kind of church where He is touching lives be forever flourishing

Jessie Quek

Inspiration: Matthew 16:18-19