

Advent Series 2024

The Saviour of All

Behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.

- Luke 2:10-11



ENGLISH SERVICES

**VOL 15 NO 49
15 Dec 2024**

Order of Service

Call to Worship

Gloria Patri

Worship in Songs

AM: O Come, O Come, Emmanuel; What Child Is This; O Little Town of Bethlehem
PM: Tell Out My Soul; Manger Throne; Come Thou Long Expected Jesus

Scripture Reading: Luke 1:39-56 (ESV)

Message: Reversing: The Saviour's Mission

Response Hymn: O Come All You Unfaithful

Corporate Life & Prayer

Offering

Benediction

Announcements

Welcome

We are pleased to welcome you to worship with us! If you are new to Zion Bishan, do drop us a note on our contact form and our hospitality team will get in touch with you in the coming week:

www.zionbishan.org.sg/rf

Sunday Services at a glance

8.30am Mandarin Service

9.00am Hokkien Service

9.30am Tamil Service

8.30am/10.30am/4.30pm English Service

10.30am Mandarin-English Service

10.45am Cantonese-Mandarin Service

Domestic Helpers Fellowship (DHF)

Bible Study Groups – to join via Zoom, register at www.zionbishan.org.sg/dhf

8.45am DHF 1A in English/Tagalog, for all nationalities) *In-person in Room 106 & Zoom*

8.45am DHF 2 (in Myanmar language) *In-person in Room 105 & Zoom*

2.30pm DHF 3 (in Bahasa Indonesia) *via Zoom*

8.45pm DHF 1B (in English/Tagalog, for all nationalities) *only upon request, via Zoom*

Children/Youth Discipleship Classes

Register interest: www.zionbishan.org.sg/cd-yd

Join us on Telegram / WhatsApp

Keep up to date with our latest bulletin and church announcements:

www.zionbishan.org.sg/broadcasts

Serving You Today

Speaker: Ps Vernon Quek

8.30am

Service Coordinator: Sharon Quek

Worship Leader: Dn Lim Nan

Vocalist & Musicians: Music AM Team 3

10.30am

Service Coordinator: Dn Mervyn Phan

Worship Leader: Eld Foo Say Chiang

Vocalist & Musicians: Music AM Team 3

4.30pm

Service Coordinator: Timothy Ong

Worship Leader: Eld Roland Low

Vocalist & Musicians: Music PM Team 3

Pastors and Ministry Staff

E-mail: user ID followed by @zionbishan.org.sg

Rev Dr Alby Yip, Senior Pastor	alby
Rev Dr Dev Menon, Pastor	dev
Rev Lim Jit Thye, Pastor (Cant-Mand)	jtlim
Rev Daniel Nge, Pastor (Mand-Eng)	daniel
Rev Vernon Quek, Pastor	vernon
Rev Ng Zhiwen, Pastor	zhiwen
Rev Paul Yeo, Pastor (Hokkien/Mand)	paul
Rev Ebi Mohan, Assoc. Pastor (Tamil)	ebi
Rev Chris, Asst Pastor (Tamil)	christopher
Mrs Emily Quek, Special Projects	emily
Mrs June Tan, Children's Ministry	june
Mrs Sha.ron Quek, Overseas Ministries	sharon
Mr Danny Chua, AG/Safeguarding	danny
Dr Quek Tze-Ming, Ministry Staff	tzeming
Mrs Jacqueline Ong, Youth Ministry	jacqueline
Mrs Vanessa Khoo, Women's Ministry	vanessa
Mr Joel Khoo, YAs/Discipleship	joel
Mr Timothy Ong, Missions Education	timothy
Rev Dr David Wong, <i>Advisory Pastor</i>	
Rev Dr Quek Swee Hwa, <i>Pastor Emeritus</i>	

Confidential Care & Counselling e-mail:

care@zionbishan.org.sg

Reversing: The Saviour's Mission

Luke 1:39-56

Introduction: A Blessed Christmas?

The Context: A 2nd Proclamation about Mary's Son (v39-45)

The Content: Mary's Song (1:46-55)

- a. The individual response of a Humble person... (v46-49)

Humble = Helpless & Hopeful in what was spoken (v45)

- b. ...and a wider response for all who are Humble (v50-55)

For the Humble (for those who fear Him) (v50):

What was spoken in the Old Testament: (v55)

- i. To Abraham & the Patriarchs (Genesis 12)
- ii. To David (2 Samuel 7)

To be Proud?

The Consequence: A Blessed Christmas for the Humble

Discussion Questions:

1. What was the main point of the sermon? Can you summarise it in one sentence?
2. What does it mean to be Proud or Humble? What do the lives of the Proud and the Humble look like today?
3. How does this change the way we view and celebrate Christmas this year?
4. What are some of our Christmas traditions? What does today's passage mean for these traditions? What new traditions can we begin this year that will help keep us humble and hungry for the coming King Jesus?

Prayer Points

Our Church

Domestic Helpers' Christmas Party (1 Dec)

We praise God that 86 helpers attend the event, majority of whom were visitors and non-Christians. Despite the late sudden increase in numbers, we thank God for providing sufficient food, goody bags, craft materials, and volunteers to take care of games and logistics. Many helpers were touched by the speaker's testimony and also shared from their hearts. Please pray that many of them will join our weekly Bible Studies and get to know the love of Christ.

Seniors360 - We thank God that in the past year, we have welcomed more than 200 friends to our events, many of whom are non-believers and new to a church. Thank God also that in the Christmas Celebration yesterday, the seniors were reminded of the precious and greatest gift of eternal life in Christ the Saviour. Pray that the conversations and friendships forged will flourish into opportunities for us to share the love of Christ with them. Pray that the Lord will also provide many more befrienders from our church family for effective follow-up, as there is much work to be done in this area!

Youth Camp 2024, 16-21 Dec - Pray for the 75 campers staying 6D5N in church; pray that through the messages by Ps Dev, and through the extended time together in fellowship and games, our youths see clearly how Jesus is their No-Greater-Friend, and learn what it means to be friends with Him and with one another.

Our World

Syria – Last Sunday, the brutal Assad regime that ruled Syria for 50 years collapsed. For many Syrians, this comes as a mixture of good news tinged with uncertainty for what is ahead. Though events unfolded in a relatively peaceful manner, please pray that the new political leadership will continue in a spirit of peace for a future for all Syrians. Pray for reconciliation and protection for those oppressed and vulnerable in this war-torn nation that has already seen many of Syrians internally and externally displaced. May the Christians in Syria also have the strength and wisdom to be beacons of hope and peace in the midst of the violence and conflict.

Philippines - Our partner SMO (Student Missionary Outreach) reported that a volcano in their region erupted on 9 Dec. It spewed hot ash over neighbouring towns and caused big events to be cancelled. SMO has cancelled its annual end of year youth camp and replaced it with Operation Blessing, which is a relief trip to affected places. They hope to bring some relief goods like rice, can food and masks to 200 families before the end of the year. Pray for the provision of these goods and good coordination and safe journey for the team that is going.

Last Week

Sunday Service	Attendance	Offering
English Service Livestream*	20	
English Service 8:30am	165	\$1,601.40
English Service 10:30am	509	
English Service 4:30pm	216	
Chinese Service livestream*	1	
Chinese Service 8:30am	80	\$905.00
Cant/Mand Service 10:45am	67	\$1,021.00
ME Service	61	\$947.00
Hokkien Service	65	\$697.00
Tamil Service	17	\$403.00
DHF	22	
TOTAL	1223	\$5,574.40

*Livestreaming peak concurrent viewers.

Electronic Transfer \$92,571.19
Weekly Total \$98,145.59

Weekly offering to meet budget for 2024/25: \$82,235

GENERAL PROJECTS FUND

Electronic Transfer \$2,841.00
Weekly Total \$2,841.00
Total General Projects Fund: \$5,466,631.88

Church Family News

1. Congratulations to Meng Hang & Gloria, on the birth of their 2nd child, Elise Choong, on 16 Nov 2024!
2. Congratulations to Paul & Bethia on the birth of their firstborn daughter, Averie Huang, on 5 Dec 2024!
3. Congratulations to Ying Quan & Alethia on the birth of their 4th son, Kristian Lee, on 6 Dec 2024!.
4. Congratulations to Glen Pan & Samantha Tan, as they entered into holy matrimony on 14 Dec 2024!
5. Our deepest condolences to our church Admin Manager, Adam Peh and his family on the Homegoing of his beloved father, the late Mr Peh Tiang Choh, aged 86, on 10 Dec 2024.
6. Ps Alby is preaching at the Hokkien service this morning.
7. Bro Tze-Ming is preaching at Emmanuel BPC this morning.

Info for Giving

For tithes and offering:

General & Missions Fund



DBS Current A/C: **070-901056-3**

PayNow: **T10SS0029GGMF**

ZION BISHAN BP CHURCH

To give towards the

General Projects Fund



DBS Current A/C: **070-901055-5**

PayNow: **T10SS0029GGPF**

ZION BISHAN BP CHURCH – GPF

Please provide your CONTACT NUMBER on each cheque

Looking Ahead

Fri, 20 Dec

8.00pm: Prayer Meeting

Register at www.zionbishan.org.sg/fpm

Sat, 21 Dec

4.00pm: Youth Fellowship

Register at www.zionbishan.org.sg/yf

Sun, 22 Dec

Worship Services at **8.30am, 10.30am**
& **4.30pm**

Advent Series: The Saviour of All

22 Dec – Forgiving: The Saviour's Purpose

Luke 1:57-80 - Ps Ng Zhiwen

25 Dec – Rejoicing: The Saviour's Birth

Luke 2:1-21 - Ps David Wong

29 Dec – Marvelling: The Saviour of All

Luke 2:22-40

Ps Alby (8.30 & 10.30am)

Ps Dev (4.30pm)

Your Response

Thank you for joining us today!
If there's anything you would like the church to know, do reach out to us online or via email.

Get in touch with us:

- If you are joining us for the first time
- to find out more
- to request prayer
- to provide feedback
- to send a word of encouragement

You may find our response form at zionbishan.org.sg/rf

Or email us at

office@zionbishan.org.sg

Confidential care & counselling matters, please email

care@zionbishan.org.sg

Please note that the church will retain and use your submitted data as needed to process your indicated response.

THANKS FOR YOUR RESPONSE.

Church Revitalization Teams

As we move into 2025, our #getsent year, we remember that our theme is 'Missional Communities'. *That means we want every AG and hence congregation to be growing their members in maturity, to a point where people are willing to be sent out, to be able to minister to others.* This could mean planting a new AG, or sent out to a different congregation, a different church, or even to minister in a different country – as God leads.

In line with this, we thank God that last month, our Session approved the formation of **CRTs or Church Revitalization Teams**. We want to create small teams of about 10 or so individuals that will be sent out or seconded to other BP churches for a season, to assist them in their time of need (just as others assisted us in our time of need). We hope to do this not just through Zion Bishan, but throughout the whole BPCIS denomination. To date, there have been at least 3 churches that have requested help.

Why should help other churches? Let me restate some reasons:

1. **Love and Unity** (John 13 & 17). In John's gospel, we are told that the more believers show self-sacrificial love for one another, the more the name of Christ will be known and glorified. I believe this is linked to Jesus' prayer for unity amongst believers. Today, we have a unique opportunity to restore this once fractured denomination.
2. **Weak vs Strong** (Rom 14-15). Pastor David Wong reminded us in our June sermon series that the strong have an obligation to help (bear with the failings) of the weak. Christ did not come to please Himself but to build up our neighbour. If we consider ourselves strong or blessed, more so our obligation to others. We were once recipients of such convictions.

3. **Strengthening the Plants** (Acts 14-18). The apostle Paul planted churches by gathering believers, discipling them for a season, and then later appointing local elders. He also made it a habit to check in on and strengthen all these churches for as long as he was able. As all the BP churches were once plants to reach new estates, we should see it as our responsibility to keep strengthening them.
4. **Wider Gospel Proclamation** (Col 4). The apostle Paul, once he found out about the churches in Colossae, Laodicea and Hierapolis, made it a point to pray for them, write letters, and send much pastoral support from all over the region to go and visit and support them. Every church is important to the God & the kingdom.
5. **Encouraging Hearts** (Hebrews 3 & 12). When believers are not constantly encouraged, there is a real risk that their hearts grow cold, and bitterness takes root. There is evidence that when churches are neglected or lack healthy spiritual leadership several get disillusioned and fall away. We must remember churches are not companies that can just be closed down and restarted without significant consequence. They are people and families, with relationships and feelings!

Friend, please do consider in 2025, *whether you would be willing to assist us to minister to one of these other churches*. If you would like to know more, you can either contact me (dev@zionbishan.org.sg) or approach Pastor David Leong or Elder George Khoo.

Announcements

SENIORS360 Thanksgiving Event

Come join us for this upcoming thanksgiving and sharing session on fruits and joys of befriending seniors.

4 Jan 2025 (Sat)

10.30am – 12.30pm

(lunch provided)

Audi 1 & 2 (4th Floor)

All ZB members and regular worshipers or those who have the heart to reach seniors are invited to attend.

Sign up by **29 Dec**:

<https://tinyurl.com/s360te24>

X3A

Struggling with sexual temptation?

X3A is a men's group for support and encouragement.

Contact **Benlee (9088 4264)** or **Wei Ming (9328 3067)** for more information.

Church Camp 20-23 June 2025

Venue: ParkRoyal A'Famosa Melaka Resort

Register **ASAP** before Early Bird flies away on 31 Dec 2024! Sign up at:

<https://bit.ly/2025ZBCamp>

Christmas Day Services - 25 Dec

Rejoicing: The Saviour's Birth

Luke 2:1-21, Ps David Wong

Join us either at **1030am or 430pm** for our Christmas Day services to hear good news of great joy about the Saviour's birth. Come earlier for a time of carolling before each service (at 10am and 4pm respectively)!

Stay for a post-service lunch or dinner - please sign up via this link <https://tinyurl.com/ZBC24YUM> or QR code for yourselves and your visitors/friends **BY TODAY**

Biblical Graduate School of Theology

Semester 2 (Jan-Jun 2025) courses are now open for registration.

Deepen your understanding of biblical studies, theology, practical ministry.

For info and sign-up, see

<http://courses.bgst.edu.sg/>

Bro Tze-Ming is teaching a class on "*Christianity, Culture, and Society.*"

Vouchers for Zion Bishan members may be available from **Tze-Ming (tzeming@zionbishan.org.sg)**