

Bishop: The Most Revd Dr Titus Chung COLLECT FOR TODAY Vicar: Revd Ian Chew

Almighty God, You have created the heavens and the earth and made us in Your own image: teach us to discern Your hand in all Your works and Your likeness in all Your children; through Jesus Christ Your Son our Lord, who with You and the Holy Spirit reigns supreme over all things, now and for ever. Amen.

4 Feb 2024

Second Sunday before Lent/ Provincial Sunday 2024

8am & 10:30am

Preacher: Barney Lau

Sermon: "Fruitfulness in our Finances"

Bible Reading: 1 Timothy 6:3-10; Luke 12:35-48

Connect with the Ascension Family

13 Francis Thomas Drive S(359339) T(65) 6283 3988 F: (65) 6283 3220



Email: admin@ascension.org.sg Website: www.ascension.org.sg Event Calendar: https://ascension.org.sg/coacalendar

UPCOMING

11 Feb (Sun) 8am	Transfiguration Sunday "Fruitfulness in our Witness" 2 Cor 4:3-6; Mark 9:2-9 Revd Ian Chew *No 10.30am Service
14 Feb (Wed) 8pm	Ash Wednesday "Destitute Yet Glorious" 2 Cor 5:20b-6:10 Angelina Lim
23 Feb (Fri) 10.30am - 12.30pm	Elder Fellowship Holy Communion Service MPH Revd Huang Huijen



The Vicar and Staff would like to wish everyone a very Blessed Chinese New Year!

新年蒙福!

VICAR'S MESSAGE

Dear COA Family,

A surprising outcome of true worship to God is revealed by the Apostle Paul in Romans 12. Let me use the New Living Translation's version:

"Because of the privilege and authority God has given me, I give each of you this warning: **Don't** *think you are better than you really are*" (Romans 12:3).

This is a very good rule to live by because pride is at the root of our downfall. Just as we have become knowledgeable and successful by God's grace but are still weak in our flesh, all of us are prone to thinking more highly of ourselves than we ought. Just look at the scandals that prominent people in our society have found themselves embroiled in – they had most likely thought of themselves as above the law or even common reason. And if we are not careful to learn from their mistakes, we may end up in the same predicament.

And not only that, we have witnessed many conflicts among different people and even nations occurring on a frequent basis. What may be the cause of it all? It is a self-justifying thinking that we are always in the right and others are wrong. This judgmental and harsh perspective has resulted in the fracturing of many relationships and even brought about disunity in families and the church of God!

So, as we start off the new year of growing in fruitfulness, let us examine our hearts truthfully:

- Have we entered a state of mind where we think we know better than our pastors, leaders or teachers, well-meaning friends or even our own family members?
- Do we think that we don't have to heed other peoples' warnings or listen to their perspectives because we are more knowledgeable?
- Are we deluded into thinking that our words and stands are all truthful and that everyone else should follow all that we have to say?

Then we may very well have gotten into the state of thinking of ourselves better than we are.

The truth of the matter is this: we still have much to learn from one another.

The Apostle Paul continues immediately with the body analogy of the Church of Christ to illustrate this point that "*just as our bodies have many parts and each part has a special function, so it is with Christ's body. We are many parts of one body, and we all belong to each other*" (Romans 12:4-5).

God has created all of us differently with differing gifts and roles to build up the whole community to grow in fruitfulness. Let us begin this year with the right thinking: we have much to learn from one another no matter what knowledge we possess, heritage we have or position we hold.

Let's seek to listen to and learn from one another.

God bless,

Revd Ian



WELCOME TO THE CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

We warmly welcome you to worship with us at our	Sunday Service	Time	Venue
Sunday Services.	English Traditional Holy Communion	8:00am	Sanctuary (Level 2)
The Church Office is open daily from Tuesday to Saturday (9am to 5.30pm), except for public holidays.	English Contemporary Holy Communion 1 st & 3 rd Sun	10:30am	Sanctuary (Level 2)
Office Phone: 62833988 Emergency contact: 81002203	Mandarin Holy Communion 1 st & 3 rd Sun	10:30am	Ascension Hall (Level 3)

NEW TO COA?

Whether you have joined our service today, onsite or online, or found us on the web, we are glad you have! Do let us know if you would like more information or prayer, or to just give us some feedback. Please contact us at

admin@ascension.org.sg or click on the link and kindly fill in the form to help us keep in touch with you. Click here.

If you are driving to church:

- Register for your new car decal via this link <u>https://bit.ly/3omt1Y9</u> (Please contact the church office if you cannot access the online form.)
- We encourage everyone to register for the new decal to enter St Andrew's Village. The SAV guards have the authority to deny entry to vehicle without proper identification.

UPDATE OF PERSONAL INFORMATION

If your home or email address or contact number has been changed, please notify the church office to ensure you continue to receive COA correspondence. You can notify us in any of the following ways:

- 1. Call the church office at 62833988
- 2. Email to admin@ascension.org.sg
- 3. Write to 13 Francis Thomas Drive, Singapore 359339

REQUEST FOR HOUSE/OFFICE BLESSING

If you need help with House or Office Blessing, please contact the Church Office or send an email to <u>admin@ascension.org.sg</u>

ELECTRONIC OFFERTORY

INTERNET BANKING (BANK TRANSFER)

Account Name: Church of The Ascension Bank Name: OCBC Account Number: 511010332001 Reference: Tithing number (if any), and any other description e.g. month of contribution etc.

PAYNOW VIA UEN

Step 1: Log in to your internet banking account Step 2: On the PayNow transfer screen, enter the UEN number T08CC4066A for the Church of the Ascension

STATEMENT OF CONTRIBUTIONS (TITHING & THANKSGIVING)

The yearly statements are ready. Please contact Clare if you require a copy of your contributions.



CHILDREN MINISTRY

Sunday school classes start at 10.30am. The children will be dismissed at 12.30pm.

*There will be no Sunday School on 11 Feb 2024 (CNY).



CHILDREN MINISTRY - SUNDAY SCHOOL REGISTRATION 2024

All parents are kindly reminded to register their child/children using the link below or scan the QR code. <u>https://ascension.org.sg/children/</u>



BREAKFAST AT LKC

Welcome to our 'Refreshment Corner' and enjoy your fellowship with the food and beverage.

We praise God and are grateful for the generous monetary contribution we have been receiving.

If anyone is interested in contributing in kind (eg. food and drinks), please contact Elaine Koh (94511625) or Clare at the church office.

In consideration of hygiene and proper coordination, we seek your cooperation informing Elaine or Clare before placing any food



EVENT CALENDAR 2024

The COA 2024 Event calendar is available for download. Please use the below link for the event calendar: <u>http://ascension.org.sg/coa-calendar</u>

VACANCY FOR COA STAFF POSITION

We are looking for a suitable candidate to fill the following position: COA Finance Officer (part-time). Interested applicants, please click on the below URL <u>https://ascension.org.sg/finance_officer/</u> and send your resume to <u>admin@ascension.org.sg</u>

CLOSURE OF CHURCH OFFICE

The church office will be closed on the following days:

1) 9 Feb 24 (CNY eve - from 1pm) 2) 13 Feb 24 (In lieu of CNY holiday on Monday) Office will reopen on 14 Feb 24 (Wednesday). For any urgent matters, please contact 81002203.

COLLECTION OF PALM CROSSES FOR ASH WEDNESDAY ASHES

Ash Wednesday, which marks the beginning of the season of Lent, falls on 14 February this year. At the Ash Wednesday Service, ashes are usually signed on the observers' foreheads to remind us to "remember you are dust, and to dust you shall return". This is known as the Imposition of Ashes. The ashes are usually made by burning palm crosses and branches from the previous year's Palm Sunday celebration.

We invite you to please bring your old palm crosses and branches and deposit them in the basket at the doors of the sanctuary by 11 February (Sunday).

ELDER FELLOWSHIP HOLY COMMUNION SERVICE

Date: 23 Feb 2024, Friday **Time**: 10:30am - 12:30pm

Venue: Multi-Purpose Hall (MPH)

Venue: Multi-Purpose Hall (Speaker: Revd Huang Huijen

Lunch will be provided after Service at LKC Hall.



Do join us if you are 60 or older. Please contact the Church Office for registration and more information.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (AGM)

- 1. The AGM will be held on **28 April 2024**, at **11.30am**. More details will be announced in the coming weeks.
- 2. The Electoral Roll (ER) is being updated and revised for AGM and will be made available soon. To be on the ER, you have to be baptised, confirmed, over the age of 17 and actively supporting the church. Please email Clare if you have any enquiry concerning the AGM.
- 3. Members on the ER are encouraged to opt for a soft copy (pdf) instead of a printed copy of the AGM report. If you require a hard copy, please email: admin@ascension.org.sg with your full name to make a request.

PROVINCIAL SUNDAY 2024

We thank the Lord for the work He has been doing through the dioceses within the Province of the Anglican Church in South East Asia. If you wish to contribute to the work of our Province, you may give via your Parish. Please indicate '**Provincial Sunday 2024'** as a reference of your giving.

CONDOLENCES

We extend our deepest condolences to:

- Leong Yue Soon, Lynette, Lydia and Lyndon on the demise of his wife and their mother, Evelyn Tan Beng Hong, who passed away on 1 Feb 2024.
- Benjamin Yap, on the demise of his wife, Verona Leong Mei Fong, who passed away on 3 Feb 2024.

Let's keep Yue Soon and Benjamin and their respective families in our prayers.

BAPTISM CLASS: 18 FEB - 30 MAR

BAPTISM CLASS CHURCH OF THE SCENSION **18 FEB SALVATION 25 FEB** APOSTLES' CREED 1 **3 MAR APOSTLES' CREED 2 10 MAR** LORD'S PRAYER 1 **17 MAR** LORD'S PRAYER 2 **23 MAR** BAPTISM RETREAT **30 MAR BAPTISM SERVICE**

REGISTER NOW WITH THE CHURCH OFFICE!

KARDIA - YOUTH MINISTRY ACTIVITIES



Combined Fellowship

Last Sunday of the month, 1.30pm-3pm at Multi-Purpose Hall (L1)

kardia

Youth Encounter Night

First Saturday of the month, 7pm-9pm at Youth Room/ Ascension Hall

Cell Groups

2nd and/or 3rd Sunday of the month, After 10.30am service.

Sports Games

Church of the

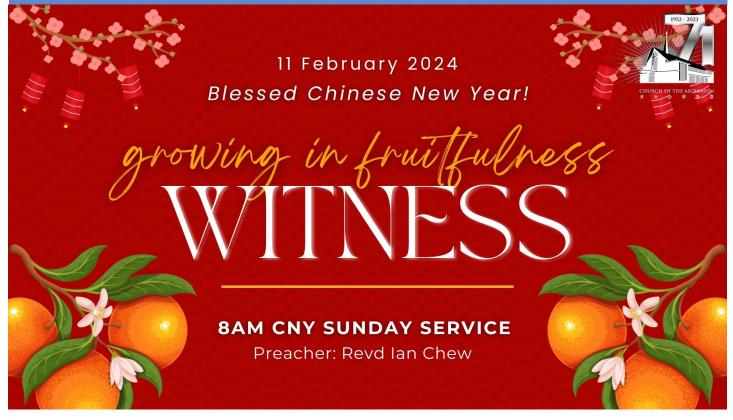
ASCENSION

2nd and 4th Saturday of the month, 4pm-6pm at SASS Indoor Sports Hall

> CONTACT 81390411 (ANGEL) FOR ANY QUERIES :D

> > 👩 @kardia_coa

CNY SUNDAY SERVICE : 11 FEB 2024



ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE : 14 FEB 2024



A S H W E D N E S D A Y S E R V I C E

💳 THE BEGINNING OF LENT

8PM, 14 FEBRUARY 2024

COMMLINK - CNY LO HEI : 22 FEB 2024

\ Pw

DATE:	22	FEB	2024	(T H U R S)
-------	----	-----	------	----------------------

TIME : 9.45AM TO 11.30AM

mar

- COST: \$10 PER PERSON (INCLUDING LIGHT REFRESHMENTS)
- VENUE: LKC HALL, CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

REGISTER BY :16 FEB 24

TO REGISTER, PLEASE CALL CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION AT 6283-3988 (OFFICE HOURS ONLY, CLOSED ON MONDAY).

THE ORGANISER RESERVES THE RIGHT TO CANCEL THE EVENT SHOULD UNFORESEEN CIRCUMSTANCES OCCUR.

SERMON SERIES -- GROWING IN FRUITFULNESS



You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you so that you might go and bear fruit—fruit that will last—and so that whatever you ask in my name the Father will give you. - John 15:16

31 DEC, SUN	The Call to Fruitfulness	Revd Ian Chew
7 JAN, SUN	Fruitfulness in our Family	Revd Sam Kuna
14 JAN, SUN	Fruitfulness in our Work	Lawrence Lee
21 JAN. SUN	Fruitfulness in our Ministry	Pa Henson Lim
28 JAN, SUN	Fruitfulness in our Personal Lives	Jennifer Heng
4 FEB, SUN	Fruitfulness in our Finances	Barney Lau
11 FEB, SUN	Fruitfulness in our Witness	Revd lan Chew 🍗

SERMON SERIES -- THE UPSIDE-DOWN KINGDOM OF GOD

The Upside-down Kingdom of God

14 Feb	Ash Wednesday
18 Feb	lst Sunday in Lent
25 Feb	2nd Sunday in Lent
3 Mar	3rd Sunday in Lent
10 Mar	4th Sunday in Lent
17 Mar	5th Sunday in Lent
24 Mar	Palm & Passion Sunday
28 Mar	Maundy Thursday
29 Mar	Good Friday
31 Mar	Easter Sunday

Destitute Yet Glorious
Trampled Yet Victorious
Losing Yet Gaining It All
Dying Yet Living Again
Dead in Sln Yet Made Alive
Solitary Yet Fruitful
Humiliation Yet Exhaltation
Servitude Yet Having Authority
Rejection & Restoration
Resurrection to Life Eternal

Angelina Lim Revd Ian Chew Ps Edward Zacoheus Ps Barnabas Sim Revd Stephen Lim Revd Timothy Chew Revd Ian Chew Lay Readers Revd Ian Chew

Unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains alone: but if it dies, it bears much fruit

John 12:24

CHURCH CAMP 2024



FULFILLING GOD'S PURPOSES TOGETHER

DATE: 1ST - 4TH JUNE

VENUE: AMERALD RESORT HOTEL, DESARU

SPEAKER: REVD TIMOTHY CHOW

Camp Registration will commence on 18 Feb.

EQUIP COURSES BY TRINITY THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE - 2ND QUARTER 2024

EQUIP is a lay training initiative of Trinity Theological College. EQUIP courses are designed with lay Christians in mind and offer theological education for Christians who desire to be well-equipped to live out their faith in Jesus Christ and for effective and faithful ministry.

The following courses are open for registration;

- Introducing World Religions: Asian Religions and Christian Faith (via Zoom) Instructor: Revd Dr Andrew Peh Dates: 18 Mar - 29 Apr 2024 (Mondays) Time: 7.30pm - 9.30pm Fees: \$100 (free for TTC alumni and TTC Matriculated Students)
- 2. 100,000 Sundays: The History of Christian Worship and Its Ongoing Relevance for Today (via Zoom) Instructor: Ms Debbie Wong Dates: 19 Mar - 30 Apr 2024 (Tuesdays) Time: 7.30pm - 9.30pm Fees: \$100 (free for TTC alumni and TTC Matriculated Students)
- A Christian Perspective on Happiness and Freedom (via Zoom) Instructor: Ms Khaw Siew Ping Dates: 20 Mar - 15 May 2024 (Wednesdays) Time: 7.30pm - 9.30pm Fees: \$100 (free for TTC alumni and TTC Matriculated Students)
- 4. Old Testament Survey (via Zoom) Instructor: Dr Yee Chin Hong Dates: 21 Mar - 9 May 2024 (Thursdays) Time: 7.30pm - 9.30pm Fees: \$100 (free for TTC alumni and TTC Matriculated Students)
- The Church That Listens: Counselling Essentials for Ministry (in-person) Instructor: Mr Gary Koh Dates: 13 - 27 Mar 2024 (Saturdays) Time: 8.30am - 1pm Fees: \$150 (free for TTC alumni and TTC Matriculated Students)

More information and registration details can be found on our website <u>https://anglican.org.sg/events/</u>

Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayers

PRAYER FOCUS FOR WEEK: 4 - 10 FEB 2024

1) PROVINCE OF SOUTH EAST ASIA

Diocese of Singapore:

Diocese of Sabah: Diocese of Kuching: Diocese of West Malaysia: The Most Revd Dr Titus Chung (Archbishop- the Province of South East Asia) Rt Revd Datuk Melter Tais Rt Revd Datuk Danald Jute Rt Revd Dr Steven Abbarow

- 1. Pray for the work and workers of the mission schools in the province in raising up future generations of leaders.
- 2. Pray that every opportunity to engage the younger generation will be seized and for youth pastors to rise up.
- 3. Pray for the training and equipping of clergy, pastors, and leaders in our theological schools in the province.

2) SINGAPORE AND THE WORLD:

Singapore: Retrenchments in Singapore more than doubled in 2023, according to MOM reports. Pray that those who are being laid off will be able to find new employment. Pray for all workers to find their hope and security in God who provides for all.

World: Pray for God's blessings on the peace talks currently taking place between Israel and Palestine, mediated by the United States, to be successful. Pray for a swift release of hostages and the provision of aid to all the victims of the war.

3) PARISH

- 1) As we prepare for the Chinese New Year, pray that this will be a time of fruitful interactions with our family and friends. Pray for God's love and word of hope to flow from our lives to our loved ones.
- 2) Pray that our hearts will be prepared for the upcoming season of Lent to seek the Lord fervently.
- 3) Pray that the Ash Wednesday Service will be well attended and most meaningful to all who attend.

4) THE SICK AND SUFFERING:

For health and recovery

Joanne Lau, Lily Chan, Mary Yee, Tan Teck Hin, Wong Wah Kum, Zephan Heng

Relatives and Friends of COA members

Benjamin (Lesley Ho's nephew) - Hepatitis B David Yeong (Margaret Onn's husband) – cancer Sng Hock Meng - healing of the mind Soo Ngook Khinn (Sien Yee's father) salvation

Ong Chwee Hock (Ong Siew Chin's brother) - physiotherapy and lymphoma

For healing

Annie Huan - strength for her legs Conelius Loo - sleep apnea Joseph Phua - muscular degeneration - stones in left kidney. urinary tract infection. Felicia Koh - tiny cyst on the liver remain harmless. Liver enzymes to be stable. Wisdom on the doctors to give the right diagnosis. Zephan Heng - ALP level to drop and no issues with liver or bones. Steven Syn - restoration consciousness and health Janet Hale - relief from pain in her body. Wilson Lim - continued recovery from loss of red blood cells Nancy Chan (Low) - stroke & heart