

Bishop: The Most Revd Dr Titus Chung

Vicar: Revd Ian Chew

COLLECT

31 Dec

(Tue)

10.30pm

(Sun)

Almighty God, who wonderfully created us in Your own image and yet more wonderfully restored us through Your Son Jesus Christ: grant that, as He came to share in our humanity, so we may share the life of His divinity; who is alive and reigns with You, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

| 29 December 2024 | |
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Christmas 1

8am

Preacher: Yuri See

10.30am

Preacher: Marcus Sia

Sermon: "Relationships in God's Kingdom"

Luke 2:41-52

Bible Reading: Colossians 3:12-24;

UPCOMING

Watchnight Service "Teach Us to Number Our Days"

> Psalm 90 **Revd Ian Chew**

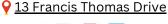
"God in Christ: The Call to Hospitality"

5 Jan 25 **Epiphany**

8am Ephesians 2:1-22 **Revd Ian Chew**

8 Jan 25 **Hour of Power** (Wed) Via Zoom 8pm

Connect with the Ascension Family





Website: www.ascension.org.sg Event Calendar: https://ascension.org.sg/coacalendar-2025/

The Vicar and staff would like to wish evervone a Blessed New Year!

VICAR'S MESSAGE

Dear COA Family,

Time flies. We are at the last Sunday of 2024 and ready to embark on a new year.

At Christmas Day Service last Wednesday, I shared about the deepest question that every person struggles with, whether they are aware of it or not.

And that question is: God, where are you in all of my pain?



This question is also the key to dealing with the subject of theodicy, or the study of the perplexing dilemma of why a good and loving God allows suffering to exist in the world. If you

can answer this question, you have touched the central nerve of the struggle of humanity.

Yes this question is not something that is merely academic in nature but also is highly relevant and personal.

And it is important because if we ask the wrong question, we will never find the answer.

Many people I know stay on the fringes and refuse to delve deeper into the issues of their heart. Perhaps they are afraid of being brutally honest and therefore become totally vulnerable. They ask questions like "Why does a good God allow this to happen to me?" Or "Why doesn't God help me?" Such questions skirt the issue and does not lead to any resolutions. This is because such questions place the responsibility and blame on God and fail to go deeper.

It is only when we open ourselves fully to God in a personal way that we can hear his voice speaking to us. That is where we become totally vulnerable to him.

Are you asking God the right questions today? May the coming year be one where we ask the right questions, and then hear his clear answers to us.

This would be one of the best wishes I can give to you for the coming 2025.

Blessing

Revd Ian Chew

WELCOME TO CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

We warmly welcome you to worship with us at our Sunday Services.

The Church Office is open daily from Tuesday to Saturday (9am to 5.30pm), except for public holidays.

Office Phone: 62833988 Emergency contact: 81002203

Sunday Services

English Traditional 8.00am Sanctuary (Level 2)

English ContemporaryHoly Communion (1st & 3rd Sun)
Holy Communion (1st & 3rd Sun)
Holy Communion (1st & 3rd Sun)

MandarinHoly Communion (1st & 3rd Sun)

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 https://bit.ly/3omt1Y9 (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 a 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 admin@ascension.org.sg

ELECTRONIC GIVING

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



JOIN US ON TELEGRAM

We are on Telegram!

Subscribe to Church of The Ascension to receive updates on our latest announcements, events, programmes and more. Click on the link or scan the QR code to subscribe.

https://t.me/Ascensionaires

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Apple/IOS:

https://apps.apple.com/us/app/telegrammessenger/id686449807nger&hl=en_SG&gl=US



@ASCENSIONAIRES

EVENT CALENDAR 2025

The COA 2025 Event calendar is available for download. Please use the below link for the event calendar: https://ascension.org.sg/coa-calendar-2025/

CHILDREN MINISTRY

Sunday School is in recess and will resume on 12 Jan 2025.

Enquires: Shirley Kwek

Please click on to this <u>Link</u> for more information.





BREAKFAST AT LKC

We welcome you 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 in informing Elaine or Clare before placing any food at the 'Refreshment Corner'.

FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS FOR CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

January to November 2024

Tithes and Offerings: \$1,474,001.36

Other Income: \$148,749.94

Total Expenditure: \$1,677,021.08

Deficit: \$54,269.78

VACANCY FOR COA STAFF POSITION

We are looking for a suitable candidate to fill the following position:

<u>COA-Chaplaincy Staff for St Andrew's Nursing Home (Aljunied)</u>. Interested applicants, please click on the <u>Link</u>, and send your resume to <u>admin@ascension.org.sg</u>

HOUR OF POWER (ONLINE)

Date: Wed 8 Jan 2025 Time: 8pm - 9pm

Join us as one Ascension family to pray and seek the Lord. The online Prayer Meeting will be conducted via Zoom.

Click <u>here</u> for the link.

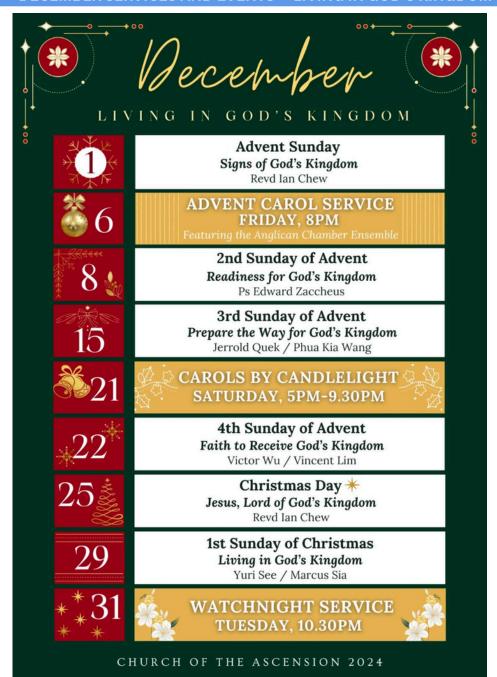
Meeting ID: 822 3756 7980 Passcode: matt1820



WATCHNIGHT SERVICE 2024



DECEMBER SERVICES AND EVENTS -- LIVING IN GOD'S KINGDOM



SERMON SERIES -- JAN-MAR 2025



5 Jan God in Christ: Revd Ian Chew

The Call to Hospitality

12 Jan Abraham: Revd Gary Chng

The Model of Hospitality

19 Jan Rahab : Revd Ian Chew

The Risk of Hospitality

26 Jan Widow of Zarephath: Ps Barnabas Sim

The Sacrifice of Hospitality

2 Feb Zaccheus: Ps Edward Zaccheus

The Response of Hospitality

9 Feb Good Samaritan: Ps Edric Sng

The Act of Hospitality

2 Mar

16 Feb Cornelius and Peter: Revd Ian Chew

The Openness of Hospitality

23 Feb Philemon: Ps Jocelyn Choo

The Forgiveness of Hospitality

Church in Acts: Revd Ian Chew
The Community of Hospitality

"Enlarge the place of your tent, stretch your tent curtains wide, do not hold back; lengthen your cords, strengthen your stakes"

(saiah 54:2



ST ANDREW'S HALL CHAPLAINCY MINISTRY



A new batch of Sec 1 and Sec 3 scholars has joined St Andrew's Hall for 2025-2026. We are looking for Host Parents (whether an adult couple or two adults of the same gender) to take care of two or three students per pair. Please contact the church office if you wish to sign up as a Host Parent.

KARDIA - YOUTH MINISTRY





Combined Fellowship

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

Youth Encounter Night

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

Cell Groups

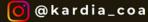
2nd and/or 3rd Sunday of the month, After 10.30am service.

Sports Games

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

Church of the ASCENSION

CONTACT 81390411 (ANGEL) FOR ANY QUERIES :D



INSTITUTION & INDUCTION OF REVD GLENN CHAN AS VICAR OF CHAPEL OF CHRIST THE REDEEMER



Revd Glenn Chan will be instituted and inducted as the Vicar of Chapel of Christ the Redeemer on 12 January 2025, Sunday, at 10.15am. A livestream of the Service can be viewed here.

Let us uplift Revd Glenn and his family in prayer.

JOB OPENING WITHIN THE DIOCESE OF SINGAPORE

 Anglican Preschool Services is recruiting for a Marketing and Communications Executive.

Interested applicants may visit $\underline{anglican.org.sg/work-with-us/}$ for details of the recruitment advertisements.



PRAYER FOCUS FOR WEEK: 29 DEC 24 - 4 JAN 25

1) DIOCESE OF SINGAPORE

Archbishop and Bishop:

Assistant Bishop:

Archdeacon:

Archdeacon:

Archdeacon (Community Services): The Venerable Wong Tuck Meng

Heads, officers, and staff of various boards, committees, and ministries.

Staff of Diocesan Central Administration.

- Pray for the pastors to lead in integrity of hearts and with skilful hands
- Pray for God's spirit to lead, guide, and sustain all in His faithfulness and truth

2) SINGAPORE AND THE WORLD

- 1) Singapore: It is reported that for every 1,000 students bullied, there is an average of 2 incidents in primary schools and 6 in secondary schools annually. Pray for God's wisdom on school authorities in handling these cases, to be sensitive and loving to both victims and perpetrators. Pray also God's peace to be upon parents not to abuse investigating staff, but be patient, exercising grace and empathy.
- 2) **Kazakhstan:** At least 38 people were killed after an Azerbaijan Airlines plane crashed near Aktau. Pray for the comfort of Immanuel upon the families of those who have lost loved ones. Pray also for God's speedy healing upon the survivors.

3) PARISH

1) Watchnight Service 31 Dec 24

As we gather on the last day of the year, pray that it will be an encouraging and uplifting time of thanksgiving and welcoming of the new year.

2) COA Theme for 2025

As we enter into the new year, may we embrace the theme of "A Heartwarming Hospitality". Pray that we would be willing to enlarge our tents and extend hearts of hospitality and hands of mercy to those in need.

3) New School Term 2025

Pray for teachers, parents and students as they prepare for the new school year. Pray that they would be ready for a new year of learning and fruitfulness after a long school break.

4) THE SICK AND SUFFERING

Health and Recovery

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

Healing

- Annie Huan: Strength for her legs
- Sng Hock Meng: Healing of the mind
- Conelius Loo: Sleep apnea
- Joseph Phua: Muscular degeneration, stones in left kidney, urinary tract infection
- Felicia Koh: Tiny cyst on liver remains harmless, stable liver enzymes, wisdom for doctors
- Zephan Heng: ALP level to drop, no issues with liver or bones
- Steven Syn: Restoration of consciousness and health
- Rosalynn Lim: Full recovery from brain tumor operation
- Nancy Chan (Low): Stroke and heart issues
- Willy Wong: Healing from cancer and good response to radiation treatment.
- Soon Pee Seng: Healing and strength for Parkinson condition
- Nathaniel Soon: Complete healing and restoration of strength, function and stability of right wrist.
- Lim Cheng Ho (Kim Lim's father): God's healing upon him
- Phyllis Teh: Speedy recovery from neck injury

Prayer Requests for Relatives and Friends of COA Members

- Benjamin (Lesley Ho's nephew): Hepatitis B
- David Yeong (Margaret Onn's husband): Cancer
- Ong Chwee Hock (Siew Chin's brother): Physiotherapy and lymphoma
- Chen Wenxi (Choon Tee and Jacqueline's niece): Acute Lymphocytic Leukemia
- Teo Wee Chia (Celine Wong's friend) Rheumatoid Arthritis