

Experience the joy of
Christmas with us at our

Lessons & Carols

22 December 2024
9am & 6pm

*The true light that gives light to everyone
was coming into the world. - John 1:9*



ORPC
ORCHARD ROAD
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

3 Orchard Rd, Singapore 238825



22 December 2024

Building a Disciple-Making Church

A Festival of Lessons & Carols

Fourth Sunday of Advent

9 to 10.30 a.m. & 6 to 7.30 p.m.

Entry of the Word

Prelude

Call to Worship

***Hymn of Praise & Adoration**

**Congregation to Stand*

Once in Royal David's City

Words by Cecil Frances Alexander. Music by Henry J. Gauntlett.

Once in royal David's city
Stood a lowly cattle shed,
Where a mother laid her baby
In a manger for His bed;
Mary was that mother mild,
Jesus Christ, her little child.

He came down to earth from heaven
Who is God and Lord of all,
And His shelter was a stable,
And His cradle was a stall;
With the poor, and mean, and lowly
Lived on earth, our Saviour holy.

Jesus is our childhood's pattern,
Day by day like us He grew,
He was little, weak, and helpless,
Tears and smiles like us He knew;
And He feeleth for our sadness,
And He shareth in our gladness.

And our eyes at last shall see Him,
Through His own redeeming love;
For that child so dear and gentle
Is our Lord in heaven above;
And He leads His children on
To the place where He is gone.

Prayer of Confession & Thanksgiving

The Lord's Prayer (sung)

Lighting of the Fourth Advent Candle – The Candle of Love

Responsive Litany:

During Advent we remember God's faithfulness shown to us.

Help our lives to reflect your ways, O Lord.

During Advent we remember God's humility set before us.

Help our lives to reflect your ways, O Lord.

During Advent we remember God's commands, spoken to us.

Help our lives to reflect your ways, O Lord.

During Advent we remember God's incredible love shared with us.

Help our lives to reflect your ways, O Lord.

All:

God of love, we gather in your presence today, hearts brimming with gratitude for the extraordinary gift of love you have bestowed upon us. May the celebration of love extend beyond our immediate circles, creating ripples of compassion and unity in the world. In recognizing the beauty of love, may we become vessels of your light, shining brightly for all to see. Amen.

Advent text by Rev. Rich Davis, from *God is Near* by Joel Raney.

The Fall of Adam and Eve

Reader: Dcn Timothy Song and Emmanuel Song (AM); Charisse Chan (PM)

¹ Now the serpent was more crafty than any of the wild animals the Lord God had made. He said to the woman, “Did God really say, ‘You must not eat from any tree in the garden’?”

² The woman said to the serpent, “We may eat fruit from the trees in the garden, ³ but God did say, ‘You must not eat fruit from the tree that is in the middle of the garden, and you must not touch it, or you will die.’”

⁴ “You will not certainly die,” the serpent said to the woman. ⁵ “For God knows that when you eat from it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.”

⁶ When the woman saw that the fruit of the tree was good for food and pleasing to the eye, and also desirable for gaining wisdom, she took some and ate it. She also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it. ⁷ Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they realized they were naked; so they sewed fig leaves together and made coverings for themselves.

⁸ Then the man and his wife heard the sound of the Lord God as he was walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and they hid from the Lord God among the trees of the garden. ⁹ But the Lord God called to the man, “Where are you?”

¹⁰ He answered, “I heard you in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; so I hid.”

¹¹ And he said, “Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree that I commanded you not to eat from?”

¹² The man said, “The woman you put here with me—she gave me some fruit from the tree, and I ate it.”

¹³ Then the Lord God said to the woman, "What is this you have done?"

The woman said, "The serpent deceived me, and I ate."

¹⁴ So the Lord God said to the serpent, "Because you have done this,

"Cursed are you above all livestock
and all wild animals!

You will crawl on your belly
and you will eat dust
all the days of your life.

¹⁵ And I will put enmity
between you and the woman,
and between your offspring and hers;
he will crush your head,
and you will strike his heel."

¹⁶ To the woman he said,

"I will make your pains in childbearing very severe;
with painful labor you will give birth to children.
Your desire will be for your husband,
and he will rule over you."

¹⁷ To Adam he said, "Because you listened to your wife and ate fruit from the tree about which I commanded you, 'You must not eat from it,'

"Cursed is the ground because of you;
through painful toil you will eat food from it
all the days of your life.

¹⁸ It will produce thorns and thistles for you,
and you will eat the plants of the field.

¹⁹ By the sweat of your brow
you will eat your food
until you return to the ground,
since from it you were taken;
for dust you are
and to dust you will return."

Congregation: Thanks be to God.

***Carol**

Come Thou Long-Expected Jesus

Words by Charles Wesley. Music by Rowland Prichard.

Come Thou long expected Jesus
Born to set Thy people free
From our fears and sins release us
Let us find our rest in Thee

Israel's strength and consolation
Hope of all the earth Thou art
Dear desire of every nation
Joy of every longing heart

Born Thy people to deliver
Born a Child and yet a King
Born to reign in us forever
Now Thy gracious kingdom bring

By Thine all sufficient merit
Raise us to Thy glorious throne.
By Thine own eternal spirit
Rule in all our hearts alone

SECOND LESSON

Genesis 22:15-18

**God Promises Abraham
that His Seed shall the Nation of Israel be called Blessed**

Reader: Samuel Neo (AM); Caleb Lim (PM)

¹⁵The angel of the Lord called to Abraham from heaven a second time ¹⁶and said, "I swear by myself, declares the Lord, that because you have done this and have not withheld your son, your only son, ¹⁷I will surely bless you and make your descendants as numerous as the stars in the sky and as the sand on the seashore. Your descendants will take possession of the cities of their enemies, ¹⁸and through your offspring all nations on earth will be blessed, because you have obeyed me."

Congregation: Thanks be to God.

Carol

O Little Town of Bethlehem

Words by Philip Brooks. Music by Lewis Redner.

*Women &
Children* Oh little town of Bethlehem,
How still we see thee lie.
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep
The silent stars go by.
Yet in thy dark streets shineth,
The everlasting light.
The hopes and fears of all the years
Are met in thee tonight.

All For Christ is born of Mary,
And gathered all above
While mortals sleep the angels keep
Their watch of wondering love
O morning stars together,
Proclaim the holy birth.
And praises sing to God the king,
And peace to all on earth.

All O holy Child of Bethlehem,
Descend to us we pray.
Cast out our sin and enter in,
Be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels,
The great glad tidings tell
O come to us, abide with us,
Our Lord Emmanuel.

The Birth of Christ Foretold

Reader: Ilyda Chua (AM); Suda Choo (PM)

²The people walking in darkness
have seen a great light;
on those living in the land of deep darkness
a light has dawned.

⁶For to us a child is born,
to us a son is given,
and the government will be on his shoulders.
And he will be called
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

⁷Of the greatness of his government and peace
there will be no end.
He will reign on David's throne
and over his kingdom,
establishing and upholding it
with justice and righteousness
from that time on and forever.
The zeal of the LORD Almighty
will accomplish this.

Congregation: Thanks be to God.

Carol

God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen

Traditional English carol.

Choir God rest you merry, gentlemen,
Let nothing you dismay,
Remember Christ our Savior
Was born on Christmas Day
To save us all from Satan's pow'r
When we were gone astray.
O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy;
O tidings of comfort and joy.

All God rest you merry, gentlemen,
Let nothing you dismay,
Remember Christ our Savior
Was born on Christmas Day
To save us all from Satan's pow'r
When we were gone astray.
O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy;
O tidings of comfort and joy.

All Now to the Lord sing praises,
All you within this place,
This day is born a Savior
Of virgin pure and bright.
To free all those who trust in Him
From Satan's pow'r and might
O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy;
O tidings of comfort and joy.

The Peace of Christ Foretold

Reader: Gabriel Tang (AM); Victor Tan (PM)

- ¹ A shoot will come up from the stump of Jesse;
from his roots a Branch will bear fruit.
- ² The Spirit of the Lord will rest on him—
the Spirit of wisdom and of understanding,
the Spirit of counsel and of might,
the Spirit of the knowledge and fear of the Lord—
- ³ and he will delight in the fear of the Lord.
He will not judge by what he sees with his eyes,
or decide by what he hears with his ears;
- ⁴ but with righteousness he will judge the needy,
with justice he will give decisions for the poor of the earth.
- ⁶ The wolf will live with the lamb,
the leopard will lie down with the goat,
the calf and the lion and the yearling^[a] together;
and a little child will lead them.
- ⁷ The cow will feed with the bear,
their young will lie down together,
and the lion will eat straw like the ox.
- ⁸ The infant will play near the cobra's den,
and the young child will put its hand into the viper's nest.
- ⁹ They will neither harm nor destroy
on all my holy mountain,
for the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the Lord
as the waters cover the sea.

Congregation: Thanks be to God.

Choral Response

Come Behold the Wondrous Mystery

Words & Music by Matt Boswell, Matt Papa, Michael Bleecker.

Come behold the wondrous mystery
In the dawning of the King.
He the theme of heaven's praises,
Robed in frail humanity.
In our longing in our darkness
Now the Light of life has come.
Look to Christ who condescended,
Took on flesh to ransom us.

Come behold the wondrous mystery,
He the perfect Son of Man.
And in His living, in His suffering,
Never trace nor stain of sin.
See the true and better Adam,
Come to save the hell-bound man.
Christ, the great and sure fulfillment
Of the law, in Him we stand.

Come behold the wondrous mystery,
Christ the Lord upon the tree.
In the stead of ruined sinners
Hangs the Lamb in victory.
See the price of our redemption,
See the Father's plan unfold;
Bringing many sons to glory,
Grace unmeasured love untold.

Come behold the wondrous mystery,
Slain by death the God of life.
But no grave could e'er restrain Him.
Praise the Lord, He is alive!
What a foretaste of deliverance!
How unwavering our hope.
Christ in power, resurrected,
As we will be when He comes.

The Angel Gabriel Announces to Mary that She will be the Mother of Jesus

Reader: Ratna Sutantio (AM); Angelina Chew (PM)

²⁶ In the sixth month of Elizabeth's pregnancy, God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a town in Galilee, ²⁷ to a virgin pledged to be married to a man named Joseph, a descendant of David. The virgin's name was Mary. ²⁸ The angel went to her and said, "Greetings, you who are highly favored! The Lord is with you."

²⁹ Mary was greatly troubled at his words and wondered what kind of greeting this might be. ³⁰ But the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary; you have found favor with God. ³¹ You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you are to call him Jesus. ³² He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, ³³ and he will reign over Jacob's descendants forever; his kingdom will never end."

³⁴ "How will this be," Mary asked the angel, "since I am a virgin?"

³⁵ The angel answered, "The Holy Spirit will come on you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God. ³⁶ Even Elizabeth your relative is going to have a child in her old age, and she who was said to be unable to conceive is in her sixth month. ³⁷ For no word from God will ever fail."

³⁸ "I am the Lord's servant," Mary answered. "May your word to me be fulfilled." Then the angel left her.

Congregation: Thanks be to God.

***Carol**

O Come, All Ye Faithful

Traditional German Carol. Music by John Wade.

O come all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant,
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem!
Come and behold Him, Born the King of angels!

(Refrain)

O come let us adore Him.
O come let us adore Him.
O come let us adore Him,
Christ the Lord!

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation.
Sing, all ye citizens of heav'n above!
Glory to God, all in the highest!

(Refrain)

Yea, Lord, we greet Thee, born this happy morning.
Jesus, to Thee be all glory giv'n.
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing!

(Refrain)

Luke Tells the Birth of Jesus

Reader: Michelle Kho (AM); Evelyn Koh (PM)

¹ In those days Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken of the entire Roman world. ² (This was the first census that took place while Quirinius was governor of Syria.) ³ And everyone went to their own town to register.

⁴ So Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David. ⁵ He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child. ⁶ While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, ⁷ and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no guest room available for them.

Congregation: Thanks be to God.

Carol Medley

Away In a Manger

Stanza 1 (Source unknown), Stanza 3 (John McFarland). Music by James Murray.

<i>Women & Children</i>	Away in a manger, no crib for a bed, The little Lord Jesus lay down His sweet head. The stars in the bright sky looked down where He lay, The little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.
<i>Men</i>	The cattle are lowing, the poor baby wakes, But little Lord Jesus no crying he makes. I love you, Lord Jesus, look down from the sky And stay by my cradle 'til morning is nigh.
<i>All</i>	Be near me, Lord Jesus, I ask Thee to stay Close by me forever, and love me, I pray. Bless all the dear children in Thy tender care, And fit us for heaven to live with Thee there.

Silent Night

Words by Joseph Mohr. Music by Franz Gruber.

All Silent night, holy night!
Son of God, love's pure light.
Radiant beams from Thy holy face.
With the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord at Thy birth,
Jesus, Lord at Thy birth.

SEVENTH LESSON

Luke 2:8-16

The Shepherds' Journey to the Manger

Reader: Eld Philip Ong (AM); Dcn Andrew Tan (PM)

⁸ And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. ⁹ An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. ¹⁰ But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. ¹¹ Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. ¹² This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger."

¹³ Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, ¹⁴ "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests."

¹⁵ When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let's go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about."

¹⁶ So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger.

Congregation: Thanks be to God.

*Carol Medley

Angels We Have Heard on High

Traditional French carol and melody.

All Angels we have heard on high
Sweetly singing o'er the plains
And the mountains in reply
Echo back their joyous strains
Gloria in excelsis Deo
Gloria in excelsis Deo

Women Come to Bethlehem and see
Him whose birth the angels sing;

Men Come, adore on bended knee,
Christ the Lord, the new-born King.

All Gloria in excelsis Deo!
Gloria in excelsis Deo!

Angels from the Realms of Glory

Words by James Montgomery. Music by Henry Smart.

Angels from the realms of glory
Wing your flight o'er all the earth
Ye who sang creation's story
Now proclaim Messiah's birth
Come and worship come and worship
Worship Christ the newborn King!

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

Words by Charles Wesley. Music by Felix Mendelssohn.

Hark! the herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn King,
Peace on earth, and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled!"

Joyful, all ye nations rise,
Join the triumph of the skies.
With th'angelic host proclaim,
"Christ is born in Bethlehem!"
Hark! the herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn King!"

Hail the heav'n born Prince of Peace.
Hail the Sun of Righteousness!
Light and life to all He brings;
Ris'n with healing in His wings.

Mild He lays His glory by,
Born that man no more may die,
Born to raise the sons of earth,
Born to give us second birth.
Hark! the herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn King."

EIGHTH LESSON

Matthew 2:1-12

The Wise Men are Led by the Star to Jesus

Reader: Eld Alvin Ooi (AM); Eld Alimin Lie (PM)

¹ After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi from the east came to Jerusalem ² and asked, "Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him."

³ When King Herod heard this he was disturbed, and all Jerusalem with him. ⁴ When he had called together all the people's chief priests and teachers of the law, he asked them where the Messiah was to be born. ⁵ "In Bethlehem in Judea," they replied, "for this is what the prophet has written:

6 “‘But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,
are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;
for out of you will come a ruler
who will shepherd my people Israel.’”

7 Then Herod called the Magi secretly and found out from them the exact time the star had appeared. 8 He sent them to Bethlehem and said, “Go and search carefully for the child. As soon as you find him, report to me, so that I too may go and worship him.”

9 After they had heard the king, they went on their way, and the star they had seen when it rose went ahead of them until it stopped over the place where the child was. 10 When they saw the star, they were overjoyed. 11 On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. 12 And having been warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, they returned to their country by another route.

Congregation: Thanks be to God.

Choral Response

Rejoice Your Light Has Come

Words and Music by Mary McDonald. Incorporating *Adeste Fideles* by Francis Wade and *Jesu Bambino* by Pietro Yon.

Children, arise! Open your eyes!
See heaven's glory illumine the sky!

Children, rejoice! Lift up your voice!
Darkness will turn to light!

Hope is dawning, peace to the world;
Christ will come and cheer,
Bringing joy and love to the world;
The Advent of Christ is here!

Arise and shine, your light has come,
The glory of the Lord is with you!
Arise and shine, your light has come,
The glory of the Lord is with you!

Come, people, arise! Open your eyes!
See heaven's glory illumine the sky!

Let every voice sing and rejoice!
Darkness will turn to light!

Arise and shine, your light has come,
The glory of the Lord is with you!
Arise and shine, your light has come,
The glory of the Lord is with you!

Arise and shine, your light has come,
The Light of the world is with you!

O come, all ye faithful,
Joyful and triumphant, rejoice!

Arise and shine, your light has come,
Rejoice!

Arise, your light has come,
Rejoice, Rejoice!

John Unfolds the Great Mystery of the Incarnation

Reader: Pr Tan Hui Ru (AM & PM)

¹In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²He was with God in the beginning. ³Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. ⁴In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind. ⁵The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

⁶There was a man sent from God whose name was John. ⁷He came as a witness to testify concerning that light, so that through him all might believe. ⁸He himself was not the light; he came only as a witness to the light.

⁹The true light that gives light to everyone was coming into the world. ¹⁰He was in the world, and though the world was made through him, the world did not recognize him. ¹¹He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him. ¹²Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God—¹³children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband's will, but born of God.

¹⁴The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

Congregation: Thanks be to God.

Hymn of Response

Joy to the World

Words by Isaac Watts. Music by George Frederick Handel.

All Joy to the world! the Lord is come;
Let earth receive her King;
Let every heart prepare Him room.
And heav'n and nature sing,
And heav'n and nature sing,
And heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing

All Joy to the earth! the Saviour reigns;
Let all their songs employ,

Women While fields and floods,

Men Rocks, hills, and plains

All Repeat the sounding joy
Repeat the sounding joy
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

Men No more let sins and sorrows grow,
Nor thorns infest the ground
He comes to make His blessings flow

All Far as the curse is found
Far as the curse is found
Far as far as the curse is found

All He rules the world with truth and grace,
And makes the nations prove
The glories of His righteousness,
And wonders of His love,
And wonders of His love,
And wonders wonders of His love

Welcome & Announcements

Offertory

***Prayer of Dedication**

***Doxology**

***Benediction**

***Three-Fold Amen**

Choral Postlude

Hallelujah Chorus

Words from Rev 6, 16. Music by George Frederick Handel.

Hallelujah!
For the Lord God omnipotent reigneth,
Hallelujah!

The kingdom of this world is become
the kingdom of our Lord and of his Christ.
And he shall reign forever and ever.
King of kings and Lord of lords.
Forever and ever.
Hallelujah!

Being Blessed Inside Out

"The essence of the Christian faith is to obey Jesus unconditionally." Do you agree?

As Jesus says in John 14:15, "If you love me, keep my commands." And further in John 14:23, he says, "Anyone who loves me will obey my teaching."

Why does Jesus want us to obey him? And how will we be blessed by doing so? By obeying Jesus, we will deepen our love for him. Our relationship with him will grow more intimate. Our trust in and commitment to him will increase as we submit to him more and more. We will experience life through his eyes and heart and will want to serve him sacrificially.

And when challenges and struggles beset us, obeying Jesus' teaching is like following a spiritual compass to see us through our difficulties and give us peace, even amid pain and suffering. In such times, we will be guided and protected by his divine wisdom, care and love.

As we obey Jesus day by day, we will become more like him in thought, words and deeds. We will cultivate the fruit of the Spirit like love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control (Galatians 5:22-23). We will be "blessed inside out".

By obeying and thus being transformed by Jesus, we will be a blessing to others. Our heart will exude love for them. This will be manifested in our deeds and words that will show our love and care for them and thus draw them closer to Jesus.

But how are we able to obey Jesus? Paradoxically, it is to exercise our will by surrendering it to him. While we should pray, study God's Word and be guided by fellow believers, it is fundamentally about submitting to God's Spirit to allow Him to work in and through us so that our inner being can be transformed. And when our heart is more aligned with Jesus', obedience to him will increase as our willingness to do so will be enhanced, strengthened and fortified.

In fact, obeying Jesus is not a one-time affair; it is to start and stay committed on a journey of being faithful to him, no matter the circumstances, whether in times of joy or suffering. And God's Spirit will guide us as we do so.

So, brothers and sisters, if you have not already done so, would you like to embark on this journey to obey Jesus today?

Read Luke 19:1-10

- How does Zacchaeus' story encourage us to seek Jesus despite our sinful conditions?
- What does Jesus' response to Zacchaeus teach us about Him?
- How may we turn around to trust and serve Christ in response to His love for us?

Prayer Points

- Pray for the guests invited to our Christmas Evangelistic Service on 25 Dec that they will be open to the Gospel.
- Pray for the sick and the grieving that the Lord's comforting promises and healing presence will carry them through during this season.
- Pray for a meaningful time of reflection and thanksgiving as we come to the year's end and a time of rededication to the Lord for another new year.

MINISTRY THIS WEEK

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Venue</u>
Sun 22	9.00 am	Sunday Worship Service	Sanctuary
	4.00 pm	Chancel Evening Choir Rehearsal	DH A
	6.00 pm	Sunday Worship Service	Sanctuary
Tues 24	10.00 am	Pastoral Staff Meeting	Online
	10.00 pm	Candlelight Service	ORPC car park
	11.00 pm	Combined Christmas Eve Holy Communion Service	Sanctuary
Wed 25	10.00 am	Christmas Day Service	Sanctuary

DB: Dunman Basement; DH: Dunman Hall; SHK: Su Han Kuen Hall; MR: Meeting Room; SR: Study Room

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Please make this payable to "Orchard Road Presbyterian Church" and mail to: No. 3 Orchard Road Singapore 238825

(2) INTERBANK TRANSFER

Beneficiary: Orchard Rd Presbyterian Church – Giro Offering
Bank: UOB Bank Account No: 450-312-122-5

(3) PAYNOW/PAYLAH

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We encourage our ORPC members and regular worshippers to faithfully offer their tithes and offerings and to do so electronically where possible.

This is **not** a general solicitation of funds from the public.

FOR CONTRIBUTIONS:

Please indicate the type of Giving, i.e.

"ENGLISH - GENERAL" or "ENGLISH - MISSION"

- (1) at the back of **Cheque** or
- (2) in "Comments" box for **Interbank Transfer** or
- (3) in "Reference" box for **PayNow**

OUR OFFERING

OFFERING	TARGET <u>01.01.24 - 31.12.24</u>	TARGET TO <u>15.12.2024</u>	RECEIVED TO <u>15.12.2024</u>	YTD SURPLUS/(SHORTFALL)
GENERAL	\$1,800,000.00	\$1,730,769.23	\$1,601,472.03	(\$129,297.20)
MISSIONS	\$250,000.00	\$240,384.62	\$255,401.12	\$15,016.50
TOTAL	\$2,050,000.00	\$1,971,153.85	\$1,856,873.15	(\$114,280.70)

A&A FUNDRAISING

(1) BANK TRANSFER

Bank: UOB Singapore
SWIFT Code: UOVBSGSG
Account Name: Orchard Road Presbyterian Church - A&A Project
Account No.: 773-347-101-1

The Pledge Form may be accessed here <https://bit.ly/ORPCpledge>

Completed Pledge Forms should be sent to aafundraising@orpc.org.sg

(2) PAYNOW/PAYLAH

UEN No.: S90CC0750JAA1
Payee Name: Orchard Road Presbyterian Church - A&A Project
QR Code (Use your Bank App, Scan to pay)



(3) CHEQUE or CASHIER'S ORDER

Payee Name: Orchard Road Presbyterian Church - A&A Project
Mailing Address: 3 Orchard Road, Singapore 238825



PREACHING THEMES - SERVICE ROSTER

Sunday Service	22 Dec Lessons & Carols (9AM, 6PM)	25 Dec Christmas Day (10AM)	29 Dec (9AM, 6PM)
Sermon Title	4 th Sunday of Advent	Receive the Offer of Abundant Life	Unbelievable U-Turn
Scripture Reference		John 10:10; Matthew 7:24-27	Luke 19:1-10
Preacher	Pr Tan Hui Ru	Rev Dr Clive Chin	Pr Lim Chung Wei
Worship Leader	Dcn Debbie Seah Eld Paul Johnson	Eld Gabriel Tan -	Dcn Rita Soh Eld Lim Ee Tuo
Scripture Reader	- -	Elizabeth Suwanto Goh -	Patricia Selvarajan Stephanie Lim
Music Director	Dr Agnes Tan, Dorothy Lie	Dr Agnes Tan, Dorothy Lie	Dorothy Lie
Musicians	Eunice Tang Lisa Ong Aubert Saragi Christopher Khoo Christel Chue Serene Goh Shannon Chia Lim Chiew Sen Julie Chang Charis Koh Hannah Leong	Eunice Tang Novy Isanto Valerie Lee Fenny Isanto Meyliana Tjoe Pamela Lee Chrislyn Ong Matthias Tang Jasmine Wangko	Patrick Harjadi Lisa Ong
Ushers Team/ Leaders	Team G Tan Gek Khim Team D Ivy Ang	Team A Veronica Song -	Team B Jimmy Tan Team E Eld Winston Choo
Greeters	Pr Lim Chung Wei Eld Alvin Ooi Pr Lim Chung Wei Dcn Liow Koh Chuan	Pr Herna Kong Eld Neo Kian Hong -	Pr Herna Kong Dcn Samuel Tandijanto Pr Ho Wei Liang Eld Paul Johnson
AV Duty Roster	Jeremy Lim Jethro Cheung Winduputra Prasetijo Dcn Mazmur The Geoff Holmes	Elson Chan Jane Tham - -	Susan Tan Jeremy Lim Marie Tan Elson Chan Jane Tham

Bold Italics - Evening Service

YOUTH MINISTRY - SERVICE ROSTER

- *Worship in the Sanctuary*

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHRISTMAS EVANGELISTIC SERVICE (25 DEC)

The Christmas Day Service will be an evangelistic service. Please invite family members and friends, and pray for them, that they may come to know the true meaning of Christmas.

2025 ORPC OVERVIEW CARDS

Please collect the 2025 ORPC Overview cards from the ushers. The Overview gives information about ORPC's direction for 2025 and our calendar of key events for the year.

COFFEE@3 ON CHRISTMAS DAY

Coffee@3 will be at the patio after the Christmas Day service. Please grab your cuppa! All sale proceeds will go to the A&A project fund.

BREAKFAST CORNER CLOSED ON 25 & 29 DEC

Breakfast Corner will be closed on 25 and 29 Dec.

RESUMPTION OF CHILDREN'S MINISTRY ON 29 DEC

Children's Ministry will resume on 29 Dec with a special family worship in Dunman Hall. Parents are invited to join the children in Dunman Hall for the worship service.

FLOWER OFFERING FOR 2025

The 2025 Weekly Flower Offering Chart for Sunday Worship is now available next to the noticeboard in the Dunman Hall for those who wish to make a flower offering. Each Sunday offering is for 2 donors at \$150 per donor or slot.

Please read and abide by the instructions on the Flower Offering *Form* when indicating your choice of date(s) on the Chart.

A&A PROJECT UPDATE

Please see the flyer for an update on the A&A project.

EP ADVENT DEVOTIONALS

As one English Presbytery (EP) family, let us join our hearts in gratitude and wonder for the Advent of our Lord.

Devotionals written by various EP contributors are released daily on www.presbyterianexpress.org

EXTENSION OF SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE RECORDING VIEWING

Sunday worship service recording viewing will be extended until 11:59 pm on Mondays to give worshippers access to the recording.

BE PART OF A DISCIPLESHIP GROUP

Our Discipleship Groups seek to worship, share life, pray, study God's word and serve Christ together. Come alongside us in our daily growth journey through joining a Discipleship Group. Have a look here <https://orpc.sg/ministries/congregation-care/discipleship-group/> Email discipleshipgroups@orpc.org.sg for more information or speak to one of our staff/leaders.

PERSONAL PARTICULARS

If you have changed your personal particulars recently, or you have queries regarding church events/ministries, please email Ping at orpcenglish@orpc.org.sg or contact the church office (Mon to Fri).

FLOWER OFFERING

Loke Kee Yeu gives thanks to God for His love & many blessings!

Loke Kee Yeu & Rita, Bryan & Victoria thank God for His loving faithfulness & blessed guidance!

STAFF UPDATE

Rev Dr Clive Chin is on leave 10-24 & 26-31 Dec.

Rev Dr Edward Goh will be on leave 26, 27 & 29 Dec.

Pr Herna Kong is on leave 10 - 23 Dec.

Pr Ho Wei Liang will be on leave 24 Dec.

Pr Tan Hui Ru will be on leave 26 Dec.

Dr Agnes Tan will be on leave 26 Dec – 2 Jan.

CHURCH-WIDE EVENTS: DEC 2024 – FEB 2025

Sun 22 Dec	9 am & 6 pm	Fourth Sunday of Advent Lessons & Carols
Tue 24 Dec	10 pm 11 pm	Candlelight Service Combined Christmas Eve Communion Service
Wed 25 Dec	10 am	Christmas Day Service
Tue 31 Dec	9 pm	Year-End Service
Sun 5 Jan	9 am	Leadership Dedication & Leaders' Installation
Thu 2 Jan – Sat 4 Jan		Young Adult Camp
Tue 7 Jan	7.30 pm	Congregational Prayer Meeting [Dunman Hall]
Wed 5 Feb	7.30 pm	Congregational Prayer Meeting [Dunman Hall]
Sat 8 Feb	2 pm	Congregational Fellowship LoHei Gathering [Dunman Hall]



Christmas
WORSHIP SERVICE

DEC

25

10 AM

Prepare the way for God's Beloved Son



ORPC
ORCHARD ROAD
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

3 Orchard Road,
Singapore 238825



please join us for a

Christmas

COFFEE

at

3

On December 25th

Dunman Patio

In support of ORPC A&A Fundraising

Latest updates on ORPC Alteration & Additions (A&A) Project

December 2024

Building a Disciple Making Church
Our Legacy of Faith for Future Generations

1. Confirmation of Off-site Worship and Office Locations

After site visits to various locations around Singapore, the A&A logistics team has confirmed **Suntec Convention Centre** as our off-site venue for worship services during the rebuilding works. Here are more details of the actual locations:

Worship: Suntec Convention Centre, Main Hall, Rooms 308-311

Children's Ministry: Rooms 300, 301, 302

The church office will be located separately from the worship venue, at YWCA Outram, together with Gereja Presbyterian Orchard (GPO), our Indonesian congregation, as well as PPC admin/pastoral offices.

Both arrangements are firm, and are pending finalisation of contracts.

2. A&A Move-out Dates

We will be officially moving out of the church building **2nd week of October 2025**, to avoid the F1 activities in the week prior. Here are some other key milestones which we would like you to be prepared for:

In **June 2025**, our pastoral and admin staff will be making the move to YWCA ahead of the congregation's shift to Suntec Convention Centre in October 2025.

From **July 2025**, the office at YWCA Outram will be fully operational. We will also commence pre-move familiarisation activities including adopting the new off-site worship format which will be fully-electronic. (More details on this are provided in the next section). Discipleship group and fellowship meetings will also be moved offsite with meetings in homes highly encouraged. Music ministry sessions i.e. Choir practice, will be held at YWCA.

3. Key Adjustments in 2025

As we undertake this big move as a united family, we hope that congregation members can continue to support each other through the transition as there will be big changes ahead of us before the actual move, to get everyone ready for the new venue and worship format.

Children's Ministry

- Starting **January 2025**, the Children's Ministry will be re-structured to a 3 room format, providing a longer transition time for our children, and to allow for fine tuning before the actual move
- Safety measures for the children in Suntec are currently being planned and will be introduced gradually
- More details will be given to parents on **29 December 2024** at the Family Worship session

Worship

- At the new venue, Sunday Worship will be fully electronic with no hard copy bulletins and fully electronic giving of tithes and offerings, to minimise logistical and administrative efforts given the separate worship and office off-site venues
- The service will take place in one big hall, with no cry rooms provided for young babies and families. We hope that through this new arrangement, we create greater awareness and understanding toward families with young infants, and learn to worship together in one space
- During our time at the off-site venue, there will be black out Sundays due to large scale events that will involve the whole of Suntec Convention Centre - this means we will not hold physical services and do livestream sessions instead

Communications

- We will be refreshing our church website and launching a church management portal in 2025 so that congregation members have a central place for information as we go through this transition
- We will be activating some official communication channels to keep everyone engaged on the move, and will be updating you soon
- Starting **first half of 2025**, we will be creating engagement forums for the people to interact, receive information and provide feedback throughout the process of the A&A

Moving Out as One Church

- We are 3 congregations and 2 churches, and have been operating autonomously. Moving forward, we need to learn to operate as 1 church before we move out. May this be an opportunity for us to know one another across congregations and churches, and be more united as a result.

Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. - 2 Corinthians 9:7

PLEDGE FORM

for the ORPC Building Alterations and Additions (A&A) Project Fund, launched in May 2024



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What is a pledge?

A pledge is a confidential, written promise to give money (whether a one-off sum or installments over a period of time) to the A&A project fund in the future. It is a commitment made in faith in accordance with the resources that God has given us. A pledge is not a legally binding contract, and can be reviewed and changed as circumstances evolve.

Why pledge?

Your pledge enables the A&A committee to plan its finances for the A&A project fund effectively, and to determine the financial commitment we are able to undertake for the entire rebuilding works ahead of time. We hope that through pledging, congregation members will build a culture of giving to the project based on our pre-committed goals.

I/We pledge our support for the A&A Project Fund of Orchard Road Presbyterian Church (ORPC)

Name: _____

Telephone: _____

Email Address: _____

Congregation: _____

Member of Congregation: Yes No

I/We pledge to give the Church's A&A Project Fund a one-off giving or by regular giving over a period of time or a combination of the two.

Pledge for one-off giving: Amount: \$_____

On the date: _____

Pledge for regular giving: Amount: \$_____ monthly/quarterly/half-yearly (circle one)

Starting the _____ (day) of _____ (month) _____ (year) for _____ months (maximum of 24 months from the commencement date of the fund-raising efforts in Aug 2024)

The A&A Fund Raising Committee will be approaching individuals or groups who are donating SGD\$100,000 and above to discuss your contribution.

Please send in your pledge early so we can plan our finances more effectively. Thank you.

You will find below a QR code for donations to the AA Project, **please input your unique pledge ref no (which will be given in the pledge acknowledgement letter) in the reference field when you make your transfer**, in order to facilitate a seamless process for our finance operations staff.



Personal Data Protection –

By signing on this Form,

1. I consent to the collection, use and disclosure of my personal data by ORPC for purposes of my participation in pledging of funds towards the Church Building Re-development Project. I acknowledge that my personal data may be disclosed to third parties engaged in the organization and hosting of this A&A Project.
2. ORPC will limit the personal data disclosed to the third parties to that which is necessary and will remind the third parties not to process, use, disclose and retain your personal data beyond the purpose for which it is required by the third party.

For Non-Members:

I/We confirm that this Pledge and Donation is our free-will offering and not solicited by Orchard Road Presbyterian Church (ORPC)

Signed: _____

Date: _____

**Thank you for your commitment to contributing to the A&A Project Fund.
Let's build the Lord's house, our legacy of faith together**

Notes:

- This Form can be placed in the Sunday offering box; scanned and emailed to aafundraising@orpc.org.sg; or handed/mailed it to the Church at "Orchard Road Presbyterian Church, No. 3 Orchard Road, Singapore 238825 for the Attention of the Fund Raising Committee"
- This Pledge Form is for use only by members and regular worshippers at Orchard Road Presbyterian Church
- If you need any help completing this Form, please contact any of the Church Leaders

HISTORY

The Orchard Road Presbyterian Church (ORPC) was founded in 1856 to minister to the needs of the Scots community in Singapore. The first church building on the present site was completed in 1878, and has been extended several times. In 1975, the sanctuary was extended, and in 1985, the new extension of Dunman Hall was completed and a new chapel was built. Alongside the growth of the physical facilities has been the development of the church from an English-speaking expatriate congregation to a local church embracing four different language congregations. In 1995 we planted a branch church (Bukit Batok Presbyterian Church) which became independent in 2013. Similarly, our Mandarin congregation (Providence Presbyterian Church) became independent in 2005. ORPC consists of the English Congregation and the Indonesian Congregation, and worshipping with us now in the same building are Providence Presbyterian Church, and the German-speaking Protestant Congregation in Singapore.

FAITH AND MEMBERSHIP

As a church with roots in historic Presbyterianism growing out of the Westminster Confession of Faith, we affirm the Lordship of our Saviour, Jesus Christ. We look to the Scriptures as the inspired Word of God and the one authoritative and infallible standard for our faith and practice. We welcome those who profess Jesus Christ as their personal Lord and Saviour into our formal membership. Our membership is truly international, representing the breadth of God's call upon people from all ethnic and economic backgrounds. Members are received upon initial profession of faith in Jesus Christ by baptism, confirmation, and in transfer from other Christian churches. Classes for baptism, confirmation, and for transfer of membership are held periodically and announced in the bulletin.

THE APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended to the grave. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. He will come again to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil; for thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen

DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.