



Covenant

DNA of Christ's Disciple



2 Aug 2020

Times

STANDING IN THE GAP

"I looked for someone among them who would build up the wall and stand before me in the gap on behalf of the land so I would not have to destroy it, but I found no one." Ezekiel 22:30 (NIV)

In the days of the Leviticus, the priests were empowered to offer sacrifices to God as an Aaronite privilege, instructing the people to live holy lives and to follow the guiding laws set out in the Book. It brings to the forefront God's holiness where rituals were set to provide opportunities for people to seek forgiveness, to offer prayers of thanksgiving and to offer sacrifices. The Leviticus laws were viewed to be harsh and applicable to that time period in Israel and to emphasise God's holiness ... Lev 11:44, *"For I am the Lord your God, ye shall therefore sanctify yourselves, and ye shall be holy; for I am holy."* The people were made aware of God's expectations.

The necessity of ritualistic sacrifice and the atonement preceded Jesus' sacrifice in the New Testament and is changed with Jesus being made a sacrificial lamb. Jesus said in Matt 5:17 that he did not come to abolish the Law or the Prophets but to fulfil them. Instead, Jesus brought the standards to a higher level as taught in the Beatitudes recorded in Matt 5-7 and these are real life issues faced by us – definition of murder, adultery, divorce, oaths and what it means for an eye for an eye and love for enemies, our conduct and display of behaviour in public like fasting, prayer and so on. Jesus on earth had offered up prayers and petitions with fervent cries and tears to the One who could save him from death and he was heard because of his reverent submission (Heb 5:7).

The veil of the Temple was torn with Christ on the cross, paving our way directly to God and we are ushered into the Dispensation of Grace with what theologians identified as the Sixth Dispensation, a new covenant in Christ's blood.

During this unusual time when we cannot come together for worship, we can still be part of a worshipping community. We invite you to join us at our pre-recorded worship service at this website <https://www.cplink.org.sg/>. We hope you can also connect with our Life Groups. Please contact one of our Pastoral Staff if you like to join a Life Group. We are still meeting and connecting through various digital platforms.

Welcome!

We want to grow in Christlikeness through devotion and delight in God, nurturing devotion and delight in God, nurturing relationships and intentionally multiplying disciplemakers.

The sacrifice has been made and our heavenly Father now delights in our obedience. ***“Does the Lord delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices as much as obeying the Lord? To obey is better than sacrifice and to heed is better than the fat of rams”*** (1 Sam 15:22). If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all Unrighteousness (1 Jn 1:9).

As we live under Grace, the holiness of God has not changed. Not an iota of God’s word is altered for all scripture is God-breathed (2Tim 2:16&17). For the Word of God is living and active (Heb 4:12). Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing souls and spirit, joints and marrow, it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart. That places us to be in a special position armed with the Word of God. We are the chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God’s special possession, that you may declare the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His wonderful light (1 Pet 2:9). Our bodies are now the temples of the living God and God said in 2 Cor 6:16, ***“I will live with them and walk among them, and I will be their God and they will be my people.”*** What an exhortation!

In the days of Ezekiel, God went looking for someone to pray or stand in the gap for sinful Jerusalem. We, as royal priesthood, are not just standing in the gap for the sinful world but for our brethren as they face life challenges. Paul understood the power of standing in the gap. He implored his friends in Rome to pray for him in Rom 15:30, ***“I urge you, brothers and sisters, by our Lord Jesus Christ and by the love of the Spirit, to join me in my struggle by praying to God for me”***. He wrote to the church in Ephesus (Eph 6:19-20) saying, ***“Pray also for me, that whenever I speak, words may be given me so that I will fearlessly make known the mystery of the gospel, for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it fearlessly, as I should”***. When we lock arms in prayer with our brethren, we lock our shields together and form a strong wall of defense. ***“For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms.”*** (Eph 6:12). The prayers of the righteous avail much (James 5:16) and when 2 or 3 are gathered in my Name, there am I with them. (Matt 18:20). We have an added assurance when we stand in the gap for in Psa 121:3, 4, ***“He who watches over you will not slumber ... will neither slumber nor sleep”***. Amen!

~ ~ ~ Elder Richard Tean ~ ~ ~

The Book of Leviticus

This Sunday's mission collection we will be collecting for Synod.

The theme for Synod Sunday is “**Doing what is Beautiful and Profitable Amidst the Pandemic**”, and you would have seen in this year's video the focus on the good community work done by some of our member churches.

Thank you for your strong support for Synod's ministry and work.

MISSION COLLECTION

Account Name: **COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH-MC**
UEN No.: **T12550164DMIC**



MISSIONS

August 2020

Please indicate ***ONLY*** the Mission Collection Code here:

SYNOD

Synod offering collection



QR Pay

To: COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH-MC T12550164DMIC

Reference No. (Optional)
SYNOD

Amount (SGD)

NEXT



Notice of Annual Congregational Meeting 2020

Important Dates & Deadlines to Remember

 <h4>Notice of ACM</h4> <p>CPC communicant member who have not received ACM Notice email by 24 July, please contact ACM 2020 Admin acm2020-hope@cplink.org.sg or 62934394</p>	 <h4>Request ACM Report</h4> <p>If you wish to obtain a printed hardcopy of the ACM Annual Report, please request by Thursday, 6 August using the link in the ACM Notification email</p>	 <h4>Questions for ACM</h4> <p>Submit queries relating to ACM Annual Report and matters to be voted by email to acm2020-hope@cplink.org.sg or by post to 110 Race Course Road, Singapore 218578</p>
 <h4>Proxy Submission</h4> <p>Proxy Form is to be duly filled up, signed and sent latest by Thursday, 13 August by email to acm2020-hope@cplink.org.sg or by post to 110 Race Course Road, Singapore 218578</p>	 <h4>ACM Registration</h4> <p>To join the "live" Zoom meeting, communicant members must pre-register by 2 pm on Thursday, 13 August 2020.</p>	 <h4>ACM 2:00PM</h4> <p>Zoom meeting details</p>

ANNOUNCEMENTS

✝ **Notice of ACM 2020:**

Our Annual Congregational Meeting this year has now been confirmed to be held on **Sunday, 16 August 2020, at 2 pm.** Due to the current COVID-19 situation, the ACM will be conducted virtually by electronic means. Details have been sent to Communicant Members via email earlier this week. You can also visit our church's website for the ACM information.

✝ **Adult & Child Baptism, Confirmation and Transfer-in on 25 Dec.** Schedule of membership class will be announced closer to date. Please register at the church office or email to Hope@cplink.org.sg or Hazel@cplink.org.sg

TITHING



Please key in your tithing number at the reference section. If you are unsure of or do not a tithing number, you may drop us an email at the church website, under "Request" tab and we will get back to you.

INTERNET TRANSFER

DBS Current Account: 025-905375-8

Account name: Covenant Presbyterian Church - Tith

UEN no. **T12SS0164DTTH**

OFFERING



Please key in only the alphabet at the reference section as follows :

*"E" for English Service
"C" for Chinese Service
"SL" for Sri Lankan Service*

INTERNET TRANSFER

DBS Current Account: 033-016873-0

Account name: Covenant Presbyterian Church

UEN no. **T12SS0164D**



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Pastoral Staff

Rev Keith Lai
Rev Abel Lee
Rev Dr Henry Wong
Rev Christina Ong
Ps Lai Mui Fong
Pr Chin Yoke Fen
Pr Lionel Neo
Ps Susantha

Sri Lankan Service

Rev Christina Ong / Ps Susantha

Chinese Service

Rev Abel Lee / Pr Chin Yoke Fen

CareWorks Community Services

Rev Dr Henry Wong

Gladiolus Place

Michelle Tan

Ministry Team Leaders

Creche

Kong Soh Lian

Children

Pr Lionel Neo

Youth and Young Adult (YaYA)

Rev Abel Lee (ad interim)

James Wong (ad interim)

Audrey Wong

Young Working Adult & Young Married

Rev Dr Henry Wong

Adults & Seniors

Rev Keith Lai/ Ps Lai Mui Fong

Hospitality

Jenny Ho

Worship

Ryan Kong

Missions

Ho Chung Tat

Prayer

Rev Dr Henry Wong

Freedom & Wholeness

Alfred & Jenny Koay

GB / BB

Pr Lionel Neo

Chinese Seniors Alpha Course

Pr Chin Yoke Fen

Day Alone with the Lord

Ps Lai Mui Fong