

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Pray for Rev Kenny Lee** as he prepares to speak on Sunday (22 December) from Luke 2:8-20. Message title: "Unspeakable Joy." Rev Lee is the national leader of Ambassadors For Christ, Singapore. Service will be livestreamed at [bit.ly/gracebpsermons](http://bit.ly/gracebpsermons) at 9:30 am.

**Pray for Pastor.** He is in Filadelfia BPC to preach and conduct baptism today

**Evangelism and Missions.** There will be an evangelism outreach session on 22 December 2024 at 2:30 pm. Meeting place will be at T3 Departure Hall.

**Ipoh mission trip.** Please pray for the team that is now in Ipoh for safety and good health. Pray too that God will use the team to clearly share His truth to the children in Ipoh.

**Combined English and Mandarin Christmas Day Service** will be held on 25 December at 11 am. The service will be followed by a Christmas Lunch. Please invite your non-Christian friends as this will be an evangelistic service. The speaker will be Elder Victor Goh.

## NEXT WEEK'S APPOINTMENTS

<b>Speaker</b>	Rev Kenny Lee
<b>Worship Leader</b>	Dn. Daniel Tan
<b>Musicians</b>	Adeline Lek, Esther Chiu
<b>Scripture Reader</b>	Nathanael Goh
<b>AV Ministry</b>	TBC
<b>Ushers</b>	Augustine Tham, Elsie Chan
<b>Chrysalis 3 &amp; 2</b>	James Chen, Leong Ling Ling
<b>Chrysalis 1</b>	Lim Sue San
<b>Flowers</b>	Fang Family
<b>Refreshments</b>	-
<b>Prayer Meeting Devotion</b>	Tay Boon Jin

## LAST WEEK'S GIVINGS

Offerings \$ 1,323.00  
Tithes \$ 2,760.00

QR code for tithes & offerings (Please indicate "Tithe" or "Offering" under Reference no. /description) UEN no. 86SS0055HGEN



## LET US PRAY

Join us in praying for the church and the world via Zoom. Please contact Rev Tan at 9784 2761 for Zoom meeting ID and password. You may also email us your prayer items at [prayer@gracebpc.org.sg](mailto:prayer@gracebpc.org.sg)

## MEDITATE ON GOD'S WORD

### His Help in Temptation

*<sup>9</sup> How can a young man keep his way pure?*

*By guarding it according to your word. <sup>11</sup> I have stored up your word in my heart, that*

*I might not sin against you.*

*Psalm 119:9, 11 ESV*

## CHURCH LEADERSHIP

### Moderator

Elder Victor Goh 9682 2281  
[Victor\\_Goh@gracebpc.org.sg](mailto:Victor_Goh@gracebpc.org.sg)

### Co-Moderator

Elder Seah Soon Huat 9835 2178  
[Soon\\_Huat\\_Seah@gracebpc.org.sg](mailto:Soon_Huat_Seah@gracebpc.org.sg)

### Honorary Pastor (Mandarin Service)

Rev Lee Fatt Ping 9668 1549  
[Fatt\\_Ping\\_Lee@gracebpc.org.sg](mailto:Fatt_Ping_Lee@gracebpc.org.sg)

### Pastor (Mentoring)

Tan Rev Tan Eng Boo 9784 2761  
[Eng\\_Boo\\_Tan@gracebpc.org.sg](mailto:Eng_Boo_Tan@gracebpc.org.sg)

# Grace Bible Presbyterian Church



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### Speaker

Dn. Lim Chien Chong

### Worship

Dn. Chea Oei Kiang

### Musicians

Adrian Teo  
Chew Weh

### Scripture Reader

Joshua Lim

### AV Ministry

Nathanael Goh  
Joshua Lim

### Ushers

Tan Teck Shi  
Stefan Ong

### Chrysalis 3 & 2

Adeline Lek

### Chrysalis 1

Hannah Yeo

### Flowers

Dn. Chea Oei Kiang  
& Family

### Refreshments

Dn. Chea Oei Kiang  
& Family

### OUR MISSION

To bring people to salvation in Jesus Christ and disciple them in their relationship with Christ.

### OUR VISION

To be a church that is passionate about God, transformed by the Word, authentic in relationship, and bold in witness.

## ORDER OF WORSHIP

### Prelude

### Call to Worship

The Lord Is in His Holy Temple

### Opening Song

MH201 O Come All Ye Faithful

### Opening Prayer

### Worship in Song

MH193 Angels from the Realms of Glory  
MH136 The King of Love My Shepherd Is

### Responsive Reading

Psalm 126 (KJV)

### Giving and Thanksgiving

What Child Is This

### Doxology

### Scripture Reading

Psalm 48 (ESV)

### Pre-Sermon Song

God the Uncreated One

### Corporate Prayer

### Sermon

*Rejoice in God's City*

### Closing Song

MH177 Our Great Savior

### Closing Prayer

Threefold Amen

### Month of December Preaching Schedule

1 Dec. "The Dark side of Israel." (Zc. 11-13).  
8 Dec. "The King and I." (Ps. 47).  
15 Dec. "Rejoice in God's City." (Ps. 48).  
22 Dec. "Unspeakable Joy" (Lk. 2:8-20)  
25 Dec. "The Meaning of Christmas" (1 Jn 1:1-4)  
29 Dec. "Passing the Baton" (Nu. 8:23-26; 2 Ti. 4:1-8)

### Sunday Worship & Activities

9.30am Main Service

10.00am Junior Worship  
(7-12 yrs old)

11.30am Bible Classes

## HOPE FOR A NEW YEAR OF THE SAME OLD

By Elliot Clark

### Our Real Stories

This proclivity to cynical gloom can be exacerbated especially this time of year, when we see the calendar flipping over for another worn-out rerun of our life story.

When we're honest with ourselves, when we actually stop and take inventory of our lives, we may struggle to squeeze the last bit of hope out of our own stories. But hope is the optimal (and optimistic) word here. Because if you lose hope you're surely worse off than a pessimist. And if you have hope, you're in a far better state than the everyday, shining optimist. You don't merely believe things will turn out all right. Instead, you have confidence they will.

### Why Doesn't God Deliver?

Do you have this confidence? If so, it will inevitably affect your disposition in the face of unchanging, and seemingly unending, failure and frustration. Yet even if we possess such hope, we may still wonder why God doesn't deliver us from trouble and answer our prayers when we call.

Perhaps the answer is a lack of faith. Could be. But that answer, in many cases, will almost certainly lead us down the path to greater personal angst. And such anxiety is the very condition we wish to remedy. So, better to consider the fact that God's chosen servants have often experienced negative situations for which they received slow—or no—deliverance.

The fact is, you don't have to read too far in the Psalms to discover two interesting—and for the psalmist, frustrating—realities. First of all, struggles replicate themselves. And second, God's deliverance often feels past due.

### How Long, O Lord?

David faced the same types of trouble over and over. He needed repeated deliverance from his enemies, whether Saul or Absalom or the Philistines or whomever. And those enemies persisted in their opposition and prospered in their rebellion. Their threats continued, such that David's burning question to God was, *How long, O Lord?*

At some point or another in the struggle of life, each of us will be tempted to throw up our hands in surrender to the repetition of suffering. We may mutter under our breath or shout into the night sky, "Things will never change!"

And in such torrents of emotional anguish, the Christian answer is: "This side of heaven, they may not."

Which may sound incredulous to us as Christians in America, who live and breathe a cultural optimism that dreams of greatness, speaks of its land as a place of opportunity, and invests in its citizens the right to pursue happiness. But Christians around the world may not share the same buoyant outlook.

"How long?" is also a question that doesn't expect its full answer until the resurrection. Sometimes, many times even, David experienced deliverance in his lifetime. But his psalms often concluded with an expectation beyond this life for a salvation that will be revealed in the last time.

### Eternal Hope

This is the living hope of which Peter wrote to a suffering church. It's a hope that rejoices in the midst of grief and trials. Not a glittery and thin hope, but a sober and deep one, fixed on the grace that will come to us at the revelation of Jesus Christ.

What we need at the start of a new year of the same old is the futuristic hope of a new creation. In the midst of our sin and suffering. When troubles replay. When God delays. Because such hope is a realism beyond this passing world, and it's an optimism that is eternal.

*Article excerpt taken from The Gospel Coalition (U.S. Edition). Read the full resource here: <https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/article/hope-new-year-old/>*