

WEEK 50

ADVENT 3

17 DECEMBER 2017



THE CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

PPM 474 ELOPURA, 90000 SANDAKAN, SABAH

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Welcome to a gathering of God's people.

COLLECT FOR TODAY:

Lord Jesus Christ, at your first coming you sent your messenger to prepare the way before you: grant that the ministers and stewards of your mysteries may likewise make ready your way, by turning the hearts of the disobedient to the way of the righteous, that at your second coming to judge the world we may be found an acceptable people in your sight; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, now and for ever. Amen.

Preparing for Christ's Return



And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am. ~ John 14:3

The second coming of Christ Jesus is soon. In fact, Jesus promised His disciples that He would come again. He promised us that in His Father's house there are many rooms; He goes to prepare a place for us; He will come back and take us to be with Him (John 14:1-3). However, no one knows the exact time when Jesus is coming again. Mark 13:32 says, *"But about that day or hour no one knows, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father."* Jesus may come back tomorrow, next month, next year or 100 years from now. So what does this mean to you and me?

The right attitude is we must always be ready for the second coming of Jesus Christ. In this advent season, we prepare ourselves to receive Christ's return to bring us back to heaven with Him to enjoy eternal lives with no more tears, pain or suffering and to worship God. *"Amen! Praise and glory, wisdom, thanks and honour, power and strength be to our God for ever and ever! Amen!"*

As we prepare for Christ's return, what should we do? Do we wait for His return, only then we accept Him? What would keep you from accepting the invitation of Christ? Let us ponder about our lives and let us make the right decision while we wait for Christ's return.

- Rev Tim

FAMILY MATTERS

Welcome to a gathering of God's people. We gather to worship Jesus. To sing praises to Him, to confess our sins to Him, to listen to His word, to pray to Him, to remember His death and to encourage one another to obey Him in our daily lives.

☞ **New . . . COGS' website link**
www.cogssandakan.com

PRAISE GOD

☞ **Ch & Eng children celebration**
was well attended by 520 children and 200+ parents on 09 Dec 2017. We express our big 'thank you' to the teachers, helpers and drivers who made the celebration ran smoothly.

☞ **Chi & Eng Church Carolling**
We thank all the carollers who went out caroling. To all our generous donors your gifts were very much appreciated. The total proceeds received to-date amounted RM63,296.20.

COGS Chi & Eng / Mawar Sunday School

- The Sunday schools are now in recess until 7th January 2018.

Christmas Celebration

17 Dec, today.

- **BM Christmas celebration**
9.30 a.m., Barrett Hall; and also a farewell to our Rector.
After the celebration, many of our BM members will leave for their homes in the *kampung*s for Christmas;

- **Youth celebration:
Ms S-White**

7.00 p.m., in Church - a Taiwanese lady drummer will be performing. Tickets at RM20 each are on sale.

Todate, over 500 tickets are sold. Bring in our young people.

- **LOGOS Zone** annual Christmas dinner, 7.00 p.m.

23 Dec, Sat - NO Evening Service; but evening worshippers are encouraged to attend the combined Chinese Service the next day.

24 Dec, Sun - Christmas Eve

- 7:00 a.m. - Chinese combined Service
- 9:30 a.m. - Eng & BM combined Service
- 2:30 p.m. - NO Service
- 9:00 p.m. - Church - **Christmas Eve Concert**; presenting a vibrant & modern nativity play, dance presentations, carols & launching of COGS website.

25 Dec, Mon - Christmas Day

- 9:00 a.m. - **Trilingual. Combined Christmas Day Holy Communion Service**, at Vision school hall, Sibuga;
- from 5:30 pm onwards — "bring a dish" Christmas dinner;
Venue: COGS Barrett Hall.
- also we bid farewell to our Rector.

30 & 31 Dec - Services as usual.

17 December 2017

*We proclaim Him, admonishing and teaching everyone with all wisdom,
so that we may present everyone perfect in Christ. [Colossians 1:28]*

Preparing for Christ's Return

FAMILY MATTERS

☞ **TRANSFER OF CLERGY & APPOINTMENTS wef 01 Jan 2018.**

- The Very Revd Chak Sen Fen to be awarded with the title Canon Emeritus today, his official retirement, will be transferred to St James' Church, Kudat,
- The Revd Canon Musa Ambai will be transferred to All Saints' Cathedral. His installation service as the new Dean of the Cathedral will be held on 05 Jan.
- The Ven Moses Chin will be transferred to Christ's Church, Likas.
- The Revd Chin Pit Vun will be transferred to Good Samaritan Church, Penampang.
- The Revd Jeremiah Liew will be transferred to Indah Anglican Church.
- The Revd Clarence Chin will be transferred to St Matthew's Church.
- Bishop Melter has appointed the Ven Yong Thiam Choy as Acting Rector of Good Shepherd Church until further notice. He is appointed as Chairman of the Sibuga Vision School.
- Revd Jakobus is appointed as Priest-in-charge of the Church of Christ the Cornerstone Tarakan, Indonesia.

Lord, teach us how to pray ...

✧ **For Our World - MICRONESIA**, formerly US-administered trust territory. Population 115,000 thousand people.

- Politics—for centuries, a strategic global pawn. Ruled by Spain, 1710—1897; Germany 1897-1914; and Japan 1914-1945 before the USA took over the administration as a UN Trust Territory. Four separate republics in free association with the USA have emerged since 1978.
- Religion — during Spanish rule, all islanders were forcibly Catholicized, but the underlying pre-Christian customs and animistic religion remain influential. In each republic there is, theoretically, freedom of religion, but some islands show hostility to variant newer denominations and religions.

✧ **For Malaysia - Tourism.**

- For improved infrastruaction and hotel facilities to attract more tourist.
- For improved and more tourist friendly resorts in both east and west Malaysia.
- For security, especially in the east coast of Sabah to protect tourists.

✧ **For Our Diocese - St Mark's Church, Lahad Datu.**

- Revd Nickson Chia and Revd Tutik Garuda.
- For their Christmas preparation and celebration.
- Their carolling to the homes.

✧ **For Our Parish - The Keenagers ministry.**

- Mrs Chin Kah Jin, person-in-charge.
- Good health of all elderly members.

✧ For the sick: Mr Chin Tshun Leong, Mdm Teo Joo Lian, Ps N F Soo, Mdm Lee Soi Chin, Mr Eng Fook Kit, Mdm Chang Suk Heng, Mdm Emily Lau, Miss Vivian Chin, Mdm Lai Nyuk Jin, Mdm Chia Soon Yin, Mr Leong Kam Lun, Mdm Tay Phui Teen and Mr Chong Hyun Vui.

Services Attendance/Communicants

Hakka I [Sat] - 7:30 p.m.	234	189
Hakka II - 7:00 a.m.	192	184
English - 9:30 a.m.	148	127
BM - 9:30 a.m.	269	219
Hakka III - 2:30 p.m.	84	52
Mawar Children	-	-
Labuk Children (Ch)	-	-
Labuk Children (En)	-	-
BM Children	158	
Total	1085	771

Order of Service	This Sunday	Next Sunday (24/12/17) combined Eng & BM
<i>Introit Hymn</i>	Holy, Holy, Holy (HFTC 7)	Angels from the realm of glory (HFTC 77)
<i>Greetings</i>	Elizabeth Kho	Jus Ng
<i>Praise & Worship</i>	Eveleen Ho	Ang Pian Ming Janikah Jeppy
<i>Collect for Today</i>		
<i>Bible Reading</i>	1 Thessalonians 5: 16-24 Ng Kong Hin	Romans 16: 25—end LOGOS 2 (Eng)
<i>Nicene Creed</i>		
<i>Gospel Reading</i>	John 1: 6-8; 19-28 Elizabeth Kho	Luke 1: 26—38 Enc Albert Lintikan (BM)
<i>Message</i>	Preparing for Christ's Return by Rector	Christ is born by Rector
<i>Response Hymn</i>		
<i>Intercession</i>	Stephanie Chin	-
<i>Confession</i>		
<i>Offertory Hymn</i>	While Shepherds ... (HFTC 94)	"Ounsikou Ginawoku"
<i>Holy Communion, Lord's Prayer, Thanksgiving, Blessing & Dismissal</i>		
<i>Thanksgiving Hymn</i>	I am Thine O Lord (HOP 253)	Once in royal David's city (Hftc 67)

Serving One Another :		
Cell Group Leader	LOGOS 1 (Dr Arthur Chung)	LOGOS 2 (Dr Robert Ong)
Welcome Team / Visitors Centre	Mr & Mrs Eddie Wong Henley Liew, Angela Hon	LOGOS 2
Sidesmen	Dr & Mrs Arthur Chung Ngo Su Hian, Annie Liu	LOGOS 2
Server	Lam Kai Kwong	Charles Chong
Prayer Ministry	Steven Chung Annie Liu	LOGOS 2
Offertory Count	Rosie Chia (C) Yee Chee Hong, Betty Kwan Melissa Ong, Cindy Liew Alvin Wong	Lily Mok (C) Mr & Mrs Yuen Kat Min Emily Ng, Lena Wong Mark Mak
Washing up	Mr & Mrs Anton Ngui	LOGOS 2

WEEKLY SERVICES

Saturday

7:30 p.m.
Chinese

Sunday

7:00 a.m.
Chinese

9:30 a.m.
English

9:30 a.m.
Bahasa M'sia

2:30 p.m.
Chinese

CHAPEL PRAYERS

Wed - 7:00 a.m.

Thur - 6:30 a.m.

Sat - 4:30 a.m.

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