



THE ANGLICAN DIOCESE OF SABAH

# The Church of The Good Shepherd

Weekend Worship Service: 10 May 2020



## Message from Our Senior Priest

*I come across this article by Michael Kelley which is very helpful and like to share it here with all. Let us reflect how we are going to practice what Hebrews 10.24-25 teaches with reference to meet together.*

### Pursuing Community When We Cannot Gather

We did not gather on Sunday. It was the right thing to do. But it was also the hard thing to do. Now, of course, you might say that we did gather, virtually, but it's not the same, and we all know it. Virtual meetings and sermons is a substitute, but it's not a perfect one. It is what we must do for a while, but not what we ought to do forever. The people of God are meant to gather together; indeed, that is our very trajectory, moving forward to a time when we will be gathered together forever more.

But not this week. And not next week either.

And we missed gathering together, didn't we? We missed the handshakes and the hugs; we missed hearing the people of God around us singing together; we missed the very sight of one another, a visual reminder of presence that we are still here and still in the faith. Together. And yet the church remains. Because the church is people. And people remain. But here we have this challenge to our biblical communities, communities of faith which have been forced apart by the threat of disease. How are we, as church leaders and Christians, to continue in community with one another when we cannot – and should not – gather together in large groups? Here are a few suggestions:

#### 1. Embrace The Bigger Vision Of Discipleship.

Imagine someone walking into a church and asking a regular, everyday church member this question: "Who is responsible for discipleship in this congregation?" That church member might name a member of their staff that has "discipleship" in their job description. Or they might name someone they know who is a great Bible study leader. Or they might pick out someone who regularly meets one on one with several different people. All those answers would be right, but they would all be wrong at the same time.

The truest answer to that question is this: "We are." The church itself, made up of men and women, teenagers, boys and girls who are all trying to follow Jesus is responsible for discipleship. Certainly, the program part of that effort might be managed and centralized out of the church office, but the actual work of helping each other follow Jesus falls to us all. That's true in the best of times, and it seems to be especially true in the worst of times. Here we have an opportunity for the church to remember that we, each one of us is responsible for each other, even when we cannot be with each other in the same room. Once we embrace that, we are compelled to do simple things in order to help each other move forward with Jesus, which leads to the second suggestion:

#### 2. Embrace The Need For Service.

If we are all responsible for each other, then we should not wait for a direction from a church leader to pick up the phone and contact, for example, elderly members of the congregation, urging them to stay home and offering to buy and deliver groceries. We should not wait for someone we know who struggles with anxiety to reach out proactively and check on them. These are things that can and should be done without violating any of our consciences by becoming a potential carrier of this disease.

## COGS Vision

**To Be like Jesus** (Rom 8.29)  
**so to fulfill the Great Commission** (Mat 28.18-20)  
**by obeying the Great Commandment**  
(Mat 22.37-39) **with the empowerment of the Holy Spirit** (Acts 1.8) **in Sandakan & beyond.**

## Worship Services

### Saturday:

7:30 pm (Hakka 1), Church

### Sunday:

7:00 am (Hakka 2), Church

9:30 am (English), Church

9:30 am (BM), Barrett Hall

2:30 pm (Mandarin), Church

## Our Contact

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## Our Team

### ARCHBISHOP

The Most Revd Datuk  
Melter Jiki Tais

### PRIEST IN-CHARGE

Canon James T V Lee

### PASTORAL ZONE

Revd Timothy Jerry  
Revd Chin Kah Jin  
Revd Chong Fen Chung  
Revd Albert Lintikan  
Ps Wong Hyen Tze  
Ps Chin Yock Len

### ZONES

Chi Adults - Canon James Lee  
Eng Adults - Canon James Lee  
BM Adults - Revd Timothy Jerry

### MINISTRIES

Children Zone (Ch/Eng/BM)  
- Ps Chin Yock Len

Youth Zone (Ch/Eng/BM)  
- Ps Wong Hyen Tze

Service, you see, is both a means of and an effect of discipleship. When we serve one another, we do so because we are growing in Christ, but we also do so as an act of self-denial in order to follow Christ. And when we serve one another, we will find that community is deepened. And that community is especially sweet and Christ-honoring when it goes beyond our particular demographic or friend circle. It's through service on days like today that we can see relationships build beyond their current boundaries.

### 3. Embrace Sharing Truth As Personal Rather Than Public.

Friends, with all the good that might come from it, it's my strong feeling that these are days when we would all do a little better through less interactions on social media. Now you might argue that social media is the way in which we can maintain our sense of community – I fear it's actually the opposite.

We might have all the best intentions in broadcasting to the world how our family is dealing with this crisis, what our opinion of it is, or even what we are learning from God's Word. But let me gently suggest that true, real and lasting community isn't going to be found through a massive forum but a smaller personal one. Consider instead of using Facebook, an actual phone call with a few people to talk about what you are reading in the Bible. I believe what we'll find there is a forum in which we can share our fears and our comfort in a way that is much more helpful in the end, one that is actually sustainable for when we are able to meet together again.

Let us surely be sad that we cannot gather together for the time being. Sadness is not a bad thing, and in this case, it is the right thing. But in our sadness, let us not despair as if there is nothing we can or should do. These are days, friends, when we need to love each other well. We need to serve each other well. We need to encourage each other well. And the Spirit of God has equipped us to do so.

Michael Kelley is the Sr. Vice President of Church Ministries at LifeWay and author of [Boring: Finding an Extraordinary God in an Ordinary Life](#)

## COGS' NEWS



Please be advised that  
**COGS' CHURCH  
ONLINE SERVICES**  
will be  
continued until  
**31 MAY 2020.**  
We will update  
accordingly.

## GIVINGS AND OFFERING



For the convenience of members who wish to put in your givings into the offering box, it will be placed there on the following days and times:

Day: **Every Monday & Wednesday**

Time: **9:00 am - 12:00 noon.**

Please indicate your type of givings. Thank you.



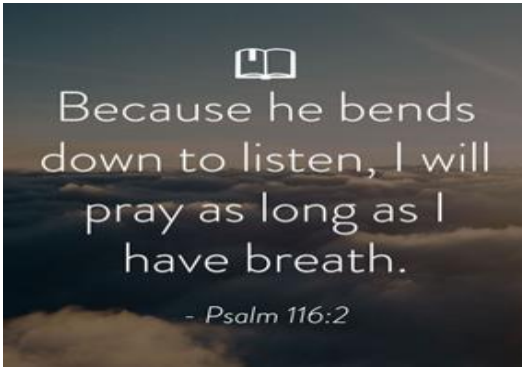
For all who needs help to set up Zoom app for weekly CG meeting or Online Prayer Meet, please contact Josiah Soh  **018-3202822**

# LET US PRAY

## Collect for Today (Easter 5)

Almighty God, we pray that the course of this world may be so peaceably ordered through your guidance that your church may joyfully serve you in all Godly quietness, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

### Intercession:



#### PRAY FOR THE ON-GOING COVID-19 CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC:

- Pray that the COVID-19 victims will find Jesus as the sure hope at this time of suffering and fear.
- Pray against fear, anxiety and hopelessness.
- Every strong power of death and destruction behind this Corona virus be brought down by the power of God.
- Pray that there will be a reset in economy, financial system and international relations in the world for a better future.

#### THANKSGIVING:

*"If my people who are called by my name will humble themselves, and pray and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sins and heal their land. (2 Chron 7:14)"*

We thank and praise God that He is faithful to His words. When we humble ourselves before Him and turn away from our rebellion, He will hear our prayers and heal us.

#### PRAY FOR THE CHURCHES OF ALL NATIONS:

- Pray for all Christians in politics in the nations, that they will humble themselves before God in the fear of the Lord and make Godly choices and responsible decisions for the welfare of the people and the nations.
- Pray that the people of God will find the reality of God's love so close to us in our daily lives and our faith continues to be strengthened.

#### Pray For The Sick

*Liew Oi Hyen, Chan Fon Ping,  
Michael Yio Cho Kui, Tang  
Hong Piau, Pang Min Chiew,  
Pun Chun Ming, Chang Kon  
Fatt, Eng Fook Kit, Chin Tshun  
Leong, Chan Mei Ngo, Tham  
Nyuk Mui, Emily Lau, Chang  
Suk Heng, Lai Nyuk Jin,  
Tai Nyuk Min.*

# Serving The Servant King

Jonah 3:1-10 ; Mark 10:17-31

## Introduction:

**Mark 10:17-31**, that the Lord Jesus is the Almighty God. He came to the world so that we can learn from His servanthood, as an honorable King. He was also the resurrected Lord and Savior who gave us eternal life. So how do we live for Him? How to respond to His love for us?

## 1. Live for Jesus (Mark 10: 17-27)

## 2. Deny Ourselves for Jesus (Mark 10: 28-31)

## Conclusion:

As disciples of Jesus, we must follow and serve Him wholeheartedly, let our focus be on the Lord, learning to live for Jesus, and to deny ourselves to honor His holy name. Dear brothers and sisters, may God give you peace and good health.

## Reflection/Application:

1. The biggest mistake of the young official was that he thought he could do something to inherit eternal life. He was not aware that eternal life was a free gift from the Lord to the world, but we will receive it by faith.
2. The Lord said to him: [One thing you lack], is there one thing we lack in our lives? If we want to serve the Lord, we ought to give up the idols in our hearts (the people or things that are more valuable than God in our hearts). Otherwise, we will fall into a sorrowful life.
3. State the name of a non-believer that you know of. Pray and ask the Holy Spirit to bring them back to Jesus for eternal life.
4. What practical action should we take to preach the gospel?