



3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Lent

March 3, 2024

***"Be reverent, for this is the house of the Lord.  
Before the service, speak to God.  
During the service, let God speak to you.  
"After the service, speak to one another at the fellowship area."***

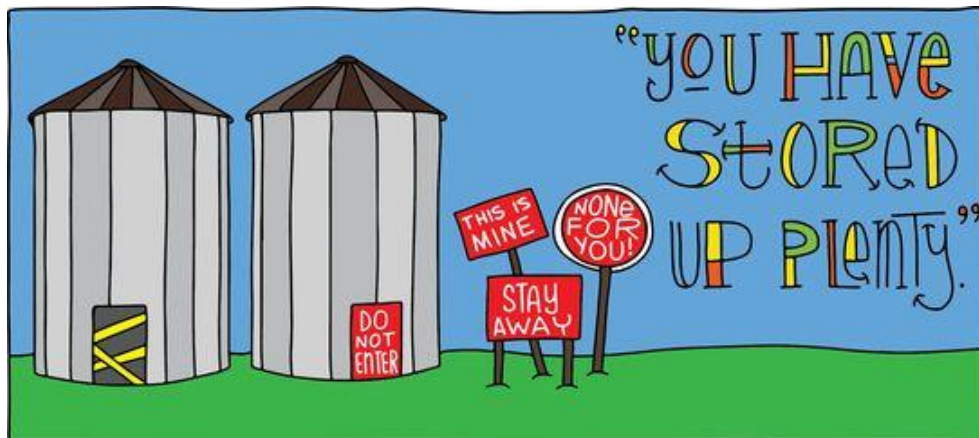


Photo credits: Illustrated Ministry

**Our Vision**

***Nurturing Disciples to be a Spirit-filled, Impactful Church***

**The 4 Essentials**

***Personal Growth, Building Community,  
A Voice to Our Nation, A Vision for the World***

**SCRIPTURE SENTENCE**

“Blessed are all who fear the LORD,  
who walk in obedience to Him.”

*Psalm 128:1, NIV*

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP** (*Responsively*)

L: Praise be to God, Who rescues us from the power of darkness.

**P: Praise be to God, Who redeems us, and sets us free.**

L: Praise be to God, Whose presence sustains us.

**P: Praise be to God, Whose breath renews all creation.**

L: Come, O God, and make Your home among us.

**P: Pour out Your Spirit, and renew the face of the earth. Amen.**

**OPENING PRAYER****OPENING SONG**

Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven

UMH 66

Praise, my soul, the King of heaven  
To the throne thy tribute bring  
Ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven  
Evermore God's praises sing  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Praise the everlasting King

Father-like, God tends and spares us  
Well our feeble frame God knows  
Mother-like, God gently bears us  
Rescues us from all our foes  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Widely yet God's mercy flows

Praise the Lord for grace and favour  
To all people in distress  
Praise God, still the same as ever  
Slow to chide, and swift to bless  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Glorious now God's faithfulness

Angels in the heights, adoring  
You behold God face to face  
Saints triumphant, now adoring  
Gathered in from every race  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Praise with us the God of grace

Seek ye first the kingdom of God  
And His righteousness  
And all these things shall be added unto you  
Allelu, Alleluia!

Ask, and it shall be given unto you  
Seek, and you shall find  
Knock, and the door shall be opened unto you  
Allelu, Alleluia!

CCLI #1352

*"Seek Ye First" words & music by Karen Lafferty*

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## **PRAYER OF INTERCESSION**

1. Continue to pray for the war between Israel and Hamas and the tens of thousands of lives that have been reported to be lost, as well as the hostages that remain in captivity. Pray for ceasefire negotiations to be successful and for aid to reach those in need.
2. Pray for Malaysia and the still present need for political reforms. Pray especially for the causes of impartial justice and political accountability and transparency for all levels of governance, starting from the top.
3. Pray for Penang Trinity and the Parenting Teenagers Course starting in April. Pray for a good response, particularly from those who might not know the Way of Jesus for themselves.
4. Pray for ourselves, that we would be rich in love and treasures of God's Kingdom.

## **E-OFFERING & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

*Give to: MBB 5072 4612 6505 (Trinity Methodist Church Penang)*

*Please indicate for "Offering/Pledge" or "Poor & Needy" in Recipient Reference for online transfers.*

## **DOXOLOGY**

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

## **SUNDAY SCHOOL CHILDREN'S DISMISSAL**

*(...Those leaving for their Sunday School Classes will stand...)*

Pastor: Praise the Lord. Give thanks to the Lord.

Children: For He is good, and His love endures forever.

People: The Lord be with you.

Children: And also with you.

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!  
O, my soul, praise Him, for He is thy health and salvation!  
All ye who hear, now to His temple draw near  
Join me in glad adoration!

Praise to the Lord, Who doth prosper thy work and defend thee  
Surely His goodness and mercy here daily attend thee  
Ponder anew what the Almighty can do  
Who with His love doth befriend thee

Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me adore Him!  
All that hath life and breath, come now with praises before Him!  
Let the amen sound from His people again  
Gladly forever adore Him

*CCLI Song #785135*

*"Praise to the Lord, the Almighty" words & music by Catherine Winkworth | Joachim Neander | Paul Schilling | Rupert Eric Davies*

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**SCRIPTURE READING** 1 Kings 10:14-29

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**SERMON** Wealth and Riches: Blessing or Stumbling Block? Mr Tan Chong Jin

**REFLECTION / DISCUSSION**

1. In what areas do I need God's wisdom in managing wealth and career development?
2. In what ways can my attention to wealth-building distract from my worship of God?
3. Am I using wealth for God's Kingdom?

**HOLY COMMUNION**

## **CLOSING SONG**

## **Take My Life, and Let It Be**

UMH 399

Take my life, and let it be  
Consecrated, Lord, to Thee  
Take my moments and my days  
Let them flow in ceaseless praise  
Take my hands, and let them move  
At the impulse of Thy love  
Take my feet, and let them be  
Swift and beautiful for Thee

Take my voice, and let me sing  
Always, only, for my King  
Take my lips, and let them be  
Filled with messages from Thee

Take my silver and my gold  
Not a mite would I withhold  
Take my intellect, and use  
Every power as Thou shalt choose

Take my will, and make it Thine  
It shall be no longer mine  
Take my heart, it is Thine own  
It shall be Thy royal throne  
Take my love, my Lord, I pour  
At Thy feet its treasure-store  
Take myself, and I will be  
Ever, only, all for Thee

*CCLI #7012031*

*"Take My Life, and Let It Be" words & music by Frances Ridley Havergal | George Kingsley | Louis J. F. Herald*

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## **BENEDICTION**

## **THREE-FOLD AMEN**

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## **BENEDICTION**

## **THREE-FOLD AMEN**

## SERMON OUTLINE

Title: Wealth and Riches: Blessing or Stumbling Block?

Scripture Passage: 1 Kings 10:14-29

### **BIG IDEA: How we handle wealth reflects how we worship God**

#### **Key Verse: 1 Kings 10:23 (NIV)**

King Solomon was greater in riches and wisdom than all the other kings of the earth.

#### **Introduction**

- God promised to bless Solomon with wealth and honour (1 Kings 3:11-13)
- Solomon's wisdom in administering the kingdom, exacting tribute, and building wealth benefitted the people (1 Kings 4:20-28)
- Eventually, the wealth accumulated exceeded anything thought possible (1 Kings 10:14-27)
- Although the nation enjoyed a golden era of peace and prosperity, the description of Solomon's accumulation of wealth and practices run counter to the God's commands for kings in Deuteronomy 17:14-20
- From the height of glory and stature in 1 Kings 10, Solomon begins the disturbing descent into disobedience and idolatry in 1 Kings 11.

3 important aspects of managing wealth in Scripture:

#### **1. Wisdom that knows True Riches**

*God-fearing Wisdom to manage wealth without losing sight of what is truly important*

- God bless Solomon with wealth because he asked for a wise and discerning heart (1 Kings 3:11-13) and the people did benefit from a prosperous kingdom (1 Kings 4:20-28)
- But God-fearing wisdom is always necessary to know how much is enough since God's law to kings is not to over-accumulate (Deuteronomy 17:17), something which Solomon started to do
- Store up true riches in heaven, not temporary wealth on earth (Matthew 6:19-20)
- True wisdom is found in godly contentment (1 Timothy 6:6-8)
- Take-away: God's blessing does not take away the responsibility of managing wealth wisely in obedience to God's commands.

#### **2. Worship Uncorrupted by Wealth**

*Faithful and true worship to God is the only way to manage wealth well*

- Understand the power and lure of money as a rival for our devotion and worship to God (Matthew 6:21,24; 1 Timothy 6:9-10)
- Worship God and use money; and not be devoted to the accumulation of riches
- Take-away: How we handle wealth reflects how we worship God.

#### **3. Whole-hearted Devotion to God's Kingdom**

*Seek first God's Kingdom*

- Understand the priority and urgency of God's Kingdom
- Worldly wealth/possessions are part of the old age that is passing away (1 Corinthians 7:29-31)
- Priority under the Kingdom is to be generous, not on building lifestyles (2 Corinthians 8:1-4, 9:6-14)
- Take-away: Our focus and priority are on God's Kingdom and righteousness, not on wealth itself (Matthew 6:33).

## Today's WORSHIP ENABLERS

	<u>10.00 am Service</u>	<u>5.00 pm Service</u>
<b>Sermon Title/Text</b>	Wealth and Riches: Blessing or Stumbling Block? ( <i>1 Kings 10:14-29</i> )	Wealth and Riches: Blessing or Stumbling Block? ( <i>1 Kings 10:14-29</i> )
<b>Preacher</b>	Mr Tan Chong Jin	Mr Tan Chong Jin
<b>Liturgist</b>	Dr Khoo Cheok Kau	Mr Lim Lai Keat
<b>Reader</b>	Mrs Mary Wolf	Ms Vanessa Goh
<b>Musician</b>	Mr Bernard Lee	n/a
<b>Sound</b>	Mr Tan Siew Jin	Mr William Ng
<b>Visual</b>	Mr Calvin Fong	Mr William Ng
<b>Streaming</b>	Ms Wong Fong Yi	n/a
<b>Ushers</b>	Mr Mak Ngai Leong, Mrs Maggie Mak Mrs Connie Lim, Ms Emmy Chia	Mr Tony Teh Ms Vivian Lim
<b>Finance Stewards</b>	Ms Liew Chin Yee Mdm Low Sheok Yin Mr Yee Eh Hornng	n/a

## Next Sunday's WORSHIP ENABLERS

	<u>10.00 am Service</u>	<u>5.00 pm Service</u>
<b>Sermon Title/Text</b>	TBA	TBA
<b>Preacher</b>	Rev Shearn Sya	Rev Shearn Sya
<b>Liturgist</b>	n/a	Mrs Esther Wong
<b>Worship Leaders</b>	YFSG + Sg Nibong SG	n/a
<b>Reader</b>	Mr Ryan Loke	Dr Chuah Hock Aun
<b>Musicians</b>	Dr Melvin Saw, Ms Clarissa Hii Mr Matthew Yap, Mr Edwin Oon Mrs Joyce Lau	Mrs Audrey Tan
<b>Sound</b>	Mr Daniel Purba, Mr Jason Tham	Mr William Ng
<b>Visual</b>	Mr Joshua Timothy	Mr William Ng
<b>Streaming</b>	Mr David Law	n/a
<b>Ushers</b>	Mr Cheong Kum Loong, Ms Helen Aw Ms Wong Choon Moi, Ms Tan Siew Ngoh	Ms Aileen Tan Ms Lilian Yeoh
<b>Finance Stewards</b>	Mr Ling Lek Chian Mr Tan Kok Huat, Mdm Keow Poh Lean	n/a

## ONLINE MINISTRIES & ACTIVITIES

### **SUNDAY**

- 9.15am Church School  
10.00am Worship Service in English  
12.30pm Methodist Youth Fellowship  
1.30pm Young Families 1 Small Group –  
Tairven Lee  
Young Families 2 – James Hii  
2.15pm Sungai Ara II Small Group –  
Jason Chieng  
3.00pm Post Alpha Small Group  
Boys' Brigade

### **MONDAY**

- 10.00am Tanjung Bungah Small Group –  
Chan Chen Weng  
8.00pm Lighthouse Watchmen Prayer Network  
(LWPN), Bayan Lepas – Teng Leong

### **TUESDAY**

- 7.00pm Young Adults III Small Group –  
Gerviene Sya

### **WEDNESDAY**

- 10.00am Wednesday Small Group –  
Tan Saw Lee (1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Wed)  
11.00am Church Office Staff Meeting  
3.00pm Galilee Kopitiam (2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Wed)

### **THURSDAY**

- 10.00am Island Glades Small Group –  
Tan Kok Huat (2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup>)  
8.30pm Church Prayer Meeting –  
<http://bit.ly/tmcprayer>  
9.00pm Tree Residency Small Group  
– Jesse Ong

### **FRIDAY**

- Small Groups:  
2.45pm Cheeseman Rd (Bethel) – Sabrina Lee  
8.30pm Young Adults I – Seah Por Shen  
Taman Sri Nibong – Dr Saw Kim Guan  
Bethel – Ch'ng Geam Liang  
Permai Village I – Ooi Lay Chen

### **SATURDAY**

- 10:30am Permai Village Small Group –  
Daniel Teh  
1:30pm Alzheimer's Caregivers Support Group  
Small Groups:  
2.00pm Century Garden – Lim Lim Ling  
8.00pm Young Adults II – Hendrix Cheong  
8.30pm Sungai Ara I – Florence Tan (fortnightly)

## WEEKLY PRAYER

### World

- Pray that the war in Russia and Ukraine which has brought death, suffering and destruction to both countries these past two years and affected their neighbours as well as the world, will cease. Pray for God's protection, strength, comfort and healing upon the victims. Pray for God's wisdom among the leaders of both nations, that they will work toward peace, forgiveness and reconciliation.

### Nation

- Pray that our government will prioritise affordable healthcare and education as the people struggle to keep up with the soaring cost of living, particularly in the urban areas. Pray for divine wisdom to guide our nation's policy-makers to swiftly and decisively come up with clear and more effective measures to implement reforms that will tackle economic uncertainties and the depreciating ringgit.

### Church

- Pray that God will enable us to abide in His love, that we may produce much fruit out of the abundance of His grace. Pray that He will continue to bless all the ministries in our church, that many lives will be touched and transformed. Pray also, that our church will be a place where Christ is made known to all who enter it; a place of love and care, to the end that His name will be glorified and honoured.

### Self

- Pray that God will grant us His wisdom, strengthen our faith and draw us closer to Him as we meditate on His Word. Pray for hearts that are humble and receptive to the Holy Spirit's prompting. Pray that during this Lenten season as we spend time in the presence of God, His power will transform us to be more like Christ in our attitudes, thoughts, words and deeds.

# CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

**WELCOME** to worship at *Trinity*. For any assistance please contact:

Pastor – Rev Shearn Sya: 04-828 7445

Administrator – Ms Angeline Choo: 013-243 1282

- Sermons and past worship services are available online (<http://replay.penangtrinity.org>).
- Visitation ministry for the homebound, please inform Angeline Choo.
- Floral Gifts: From Catherine Chew in Thanksgiving.
- Online/ATM Transfer: **Maybank Account No. MBB 5072 4612 6505 (Trinity Methodist Church Penang)**. Please indicate for “Offering/Pledge” or “Poor & Needy” in Recipient Reference for online transfers.

## TODAY – March 3

Communion Offering for March 2024 will go to Asia Community Service.



The Parenting Teenagers Course is for any parent or carer of children ages 11-18. This Course helps parents build a stronger relationship with their teenagers to guide them through the challenges of adolescence. It will be run from 3-5pm for five consecutive Sundays from April 7 at GYM (15 Jalan Kennedy). A course fee of RM10 per participant applies. For registration and inquiry, please contact Lai Keat at 019-423 1749 or Connie at 013-324 1382.

## 2024 Lent Devotions

February 14 – March 30, 8:30pm  
Join our nightly “Zoom in” sessions  
(excluding Sundays)  
for a time of sharing and reflection.  
Go to <http://bit.ly/tmclent2024>.

## Coming up in March!

- 16 – 2<sup>nd</sup> LCEC Meeting
- 24 – Palm Sunday
- 28 – Maundy Thursday Service (8:30pm)
- 29 – Good Friday Service (8:30pm)
- 31 – Easter Sunday Combined Service (10:00am)

Prayer Request Form – <https://bit.ly/tmcprayforme>.  
All requests are confidential unless permission is given to circulate to larger prayer group.

## 2024 Church-wide Bible Reading Plan:

<http://bit.ly/tmcbible2024>

## 10AM / 5PM Service

- ✗ *Booking of Seats – Not required*
- ✗ *MySejahtera checks – Not required*
- ✓ *Record names of attendees – Required*
- ✓ *Masks, Social Distancing – Strongly encouraged*

Breakfast options will be available for sale between 9am – 10am, whilst refreshments will be served after the 10am service at The Solid Rock. Lunch options will also be available for sale between 11:30am – 1:30pm. For takeaways, please bring your own containers.