

# TRINITY METHODIST CHURCH PENANG



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Watchnight Covenant Service

December 31, 2025

***"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."***

A large rectangular graphic with a dark background and a bokeh effect of warm, golden-yellow light circles. In the center, the words "WATCH" and "NIGHT" are written in a white, sans-serif font. "WATCH" is enclosed in a white rectangular border, while "NIGHT" is positioned directly below it.

**WATCH**  
NIGHT

*Photo credits: ngumc.org*

## 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**

“Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.”

*Joshua 1:9, NIV*

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

L: When the road before us is uncertain,

**P: God goes before us.**

L: When the waters seem too deep to cross,

**P: God makes a way where there is no way.**

L: As God led the people through the Jordan,

**P: God leads us into new life and new beginnings.**

**All: Let us worship the God who calls us to cross over in faith.**

**\*OPENING SONG**

O God, Our Help in Ages Past

UMH117

O God our help in ages past  
Our hope for years to come  
Our shelter from the stormy blast  
And our eternal home

Before the hills in order stood  
Or earth received her frame  
From everlasting Thou art God  
To endless years the same

Under the shadow of Thy throne  
Still may we dwell secure  
Sufficient is Thine arm alone  
And our defence is sure

A thousand ages in Thy sight  
Are like an evening gone  
Short as the watch that ends the night  
Before the rising sun

*CCLI Song #43152*

*“O God, Our Help in Ages Past” words & music by Isaac Watts | William Croft*

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## SONG OF PRAYER

And Can It Be that I Should Gain  
(Stanzas 1,2,3,5)

UMH363

And can it be that I should gain  
An interest in the Savior's blood  
Died He for me who caused His pain  
For me who Him to death pursued  
Amazing love how can it be  
That Thou my God shouldst die for me  
Amazing love how can it be  
That Thou my God shouldst die for me

He left His Father's throne above  
So free so infinite His grace  
Emptied Himself of all but love  
And bled for Adam's helpless race  
'Tis mercy all immense and free  
For O my God it found out me  
'Tis mercy all immense and free  
For O my God it found out me

'Tis mystery all th'Immortal dies  
Who can explore His strange design  
In vain the firstborn seraph tries  
To sound the depths of love divine  
'Tis mercy all let earth adore  
Let angel minds inquire no more  
'Tis mercy all let earth adore  
Let angel minds inquire no more

No condemnation now I dread  
Jesus and all in Him is mine  
Alive in Him my living Head  
And clothed in righteousness divine  
Bold I approach th'eternal throne  
And claim the crown through Christ my own  
Bold I approach th'eternal throne  
And claim the crown through Christ my own

*CCLI Song #25280*

*"And Can It Be that I Should Gain" words & music by Charles Wesley | Thomas Campbell*

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## A PRAYER FOR THE NEW YEAR

## SONG OF PREPARATION

My Hope is Built

UMH368

My hope is built on nothing less  
Than Jesus' blood and righteousness  
I dare not trust the sweetest frame  
But wholly lean on Jesus' name

When darkness veils His lovely face  
I rest on His unchanging grace  
In every high and stormy gale  
My anchor holds within the veil

*On Christ the solid Rock I stand  
All other ground is sinking sand  
All other ground is sinking sand*

His oath His covenant His blood  
Support me in the whelming flood  
When all around my soul gives way  
He then is all my hope and stay

When He shall come with trumpet sound  
O may I then in Him be found  
Dressed in His righteousness alone  
Faultless to stand before the throne

CCLI #25417

*"My Hope is Built" words & music by Edward Mote | William Batchelder Bradbury*

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**SCRIPTURE READING** Deuteronomy 31:3-8

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**SERMON**

Crossing Over with God

Pr Tan Chong Jin

**A COVENANT PRAYER**

I am no longer my own, but Yours.

Put me to what You will, put me alongside whom You will.

Put me to doing, put me to suffering.

Let me be employed by You or laid aside for You,  
exalted for You or brought low for You.

Let me be full, let me be empty.

Let me have all things, let me have nothing.

I freely and wholeheartedly surrender all things to Your pleasure and disposal.

And now, O Glorious and blessed God,

Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,

You are mine, and I am Yours. So be it.

And the covenant which I have made on earth,  
let it be confirmed in heaven. Amen.

**HOLY COMMUNION**

Guide me O Thou great Jehovah  
Pilgrim through this barren land  
I am weak but Thou art mighty  
Hold me with Thy powerful hand  
Bread of heaven Bread of heaven  
Feed me till I want no more  
Feed me till I want no more

Open now the crystal fountain  
Whence the healing stream doth flow  
Let the fiery cloudy pillar  
Lead me all my journey through  
Strong Deliverer strong Deliverer  
Be Thou still my strength and shield  
Be Thou still my strength and shield

When I tread the verge of Jordan  
Bid my anxious fears subside  
Death of death and hell's destruction  
Land me safe on Canaan's side  
Songs of praises songs of praises  
I will ever give to Thee  
I will ever give to Thee

CCLI # 1448

*"Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah" words & music by John Hughes | Peter Williams | William Williams*

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**BENEDICTION**

**THREE-FOLD AMEN**

## **SERMON OUTLINE**

### **Crossing Over with God**

*Deuteronomy 31:3-8*

**Big Idea:** God moves with His People

### **Key Verse: Deuteronomy 31:8 (NIV)**

*The LORD himself goes before you and will be with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged.*

### **Introduction**

- As the nation of Israel stood before the Promised Land, many dangers and obstacles stood in their way.
- God spoke to Joshua and the people not to give in to fear and doubt because of the circumstances and potential dangers.
- God Himself was crossing over ahead of them, and will be with them as they moved forward in faith.

### **Crossing Over with God means having:**

#### **1. God's Provision**

- God moves ahead to prepare what His people needed to secure victory (Deut. 31: 3).
- God prepares what we need beforehand, as we move into a new season of life.

#### **2. God's Promise**

- Israel's entry into Canaan was not based on its own ambitions, but according to God's promise (Deut. 31:7).
- God's promises to His people never fail (Joshua 21:43-45, 2 Corinthians 1:20).

#### **3. God's Presence**

- God's presence with His people means that they will never be abandoned or forsaken (Deut. 31:8).
- Jesus promised His presence as we obey to live on mission for Him (Matthew 28:18-20).

### **Conclusion:**

As we move into the new year, God has already gone ahead of us and will be with us as we live for Christ.

## Reflection Questions:

1. How does the knowledge of God moving ahead of you in the new year help address your anxiety about the future?
2. What are some of the key promises in Bible that have been fulfilled in Christ? How are we to live in the light of this?
3. Jesus promised to be with us as we live on mission for Him (Matthew 28:18-20). How do we orientate our lives to live for Jesus?

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## Tonight's WORSHIP ENABLERS

<b>Sermon Title/Text</b>	Crossing Over with God (Deuteronomy 31:3-8)
<b>Preacher</b>	Pr Tan Chong Jin
<b>Liturgist</b>	Mrs Angela Khong
<b>Reader</b>	Mrs Joanna Tham
<b>Musician</b>	Mrs Angela Cheong
<b>Sound</b>	Mr Jason Tham
<b>Visual</b>	Ms Tan Yu Ai
<b>Streaming</b>	Ms Wong Fong Yi
<b>Ushers</b>	Ms Pauleen Khoo Mr Oon Chee Soon