



To build a God-fearing, Christ-centered and Spirit-filled Fellowship of Disciples, Committed to Worship, Prayer, Scripture, Evangelism and Church-planting, Blessing the Nations in Schools, Communities and Missions.

**Bishop:** Rt Rev. Rennis Ponniah  
**Vicar:** Rev. David Lee

**Clergy:** Rev. Christopher Chan, Rev. Jeremy Ponniah  
Rev. Dr. Timothy Chong (Hon), Rev. Jeremy Joe Tan  
Rev. Lee Kong Kheng (Chinese Congregation)

**COLLECT FOR 8-9 DECEMBER SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

God our Father, you spoke to the prophets of old of a Saviour who would bring peace. You helped them to spread the joyful message of his coming kingdom. Help us, as we prepare to celebrate his birth, to share with those around us the good news of your power and love. We ask this through Jesus Christ, the light who is coming into the world. Amen.



**COURAGE UNDER FIRE**

In 1960, Kwame Nkrumah, the president of Ghana, built a huge statue of himself in front of the Parliament House. The statue bore an inscription that read: 'Seek ye first the political kingdom and all other things shall be added unto you' - a deliberate perversion of Jesus' teaching in Matthew 6.33. This would, of course, bring to mind the account of Daniel 3, when Nebuchadnezzar set up a great statue of himself and demanded that his subjects bow down before it.

Despite the intense pressure, three Hebrew men - Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego - disobeyed the king's command because they would worship no one but Yahweh. Nebuchadnezzar angrily gave them one last chance to bow down before his image. If they still refused to do so, they would be thrown into a very furnace. The king arrogantly asked, 'And who is the god who will deliver you out of my hands?' But Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego knew that Yahweh was greater than any earthly king. They declared, 'Our God is able to deliver us... and He will deliver us out of your hand. But if He does not deliver us out of your hand, even then, we will not serve your gods or worship the image you have set up.'

The resoluteness of Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego drove the king into a fury, and they were bound and cast into the very furnace. Amazingly, thereafter, the king saw the three men walking about in the midst of the fire together with a god-like figure, and he called for them to come out of the furnace. Their hair and clothes were not burned, and there wasn't even the smell of fire on them! God had intervened and delivered them.

In 1966, just 6 years after Nkrumah had erected his statue, he was ousted in a bloodless coup and the statue was destroyed. Christians continue to live and witness in Ghana, a testimony of how God had intervened on their behalf. The once mighty kingdom of Babylon has ceased to exist, while the kingdom of God continues to advance and grow. The example of Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego challenges us to stay true to God, and to honour Him above all else despite pressure from the world or those in authority over us. Will you stand up and be counted?

Rev. Christopher Chan

**REFERENCES OF THE VERSES**

- August: Acts 10:38
- September: Colossians 4:2
- October: Matthew 24:14
- November: Romans 1:16

**This Week's Service Order**

- Lighting of Advent Candle
- Praise and Worship
- Collect
- Scripture Reading and Sermon
- Ministry Time
- Intercession
- Announcements
- Offertory
- Blessing and Dismissal
- Closing Song

**PRAYER POINTS**

**Monday (10/12) - COR**  
Dear Jesus, you entered our world on Christmas as the Prince of Peace. This Advent, as we strive to become the best version of ourselves, fill us with a deep and abiding peace. Help us share that peace with everyone we encounter, especially those who need it most. Amen.

**Tuesday (11/12) - COR: Youth Camp (15 - 18 Dec)**  
Pray for the message of being faithful to the end will impact the hearts of the youth, reach out to the new people in MSS and divine protection from harm and injuries.

**Wednesday (12/12) - Diocese: St Andrew's Community Hospital**  
Pray for SACH to be a light in society, relieving suffering and enriching lives with the love of Christ; by reaching out to the sick and the needy by ministering to their physical, mental and social needs based on Christian values.

**Thursday (13/12) - Singapore: Family on Holidays**  
Pray for Singapore families on holidays during the festive season to have safe journeys and quality family bonding.

**Friday (14/12) - World: Uzbekistan**  
Much of the population is by poverty, corruption and failure to progress. Pray for genuine change, reform and leadership that demonstrates uprightness and governs for the sake of the people. Pray that in the midst of the struggle, many may find true peace that only Jesus can give.

**Saturday (15/12) - The Sick**  
Pray for those you know who are not well. Pray that in this difficult period, there is hope and trust in the faithfulness of God. Pray also for God's healing grace and touch.

If you have any confidential prayer requests, please email [suatngoh@cor.org.sg](mailto:suatngoh@cor.org.sg).

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- Condolences**  
Our deepest condolences to the family of Keo Savy, the children worker in our Kampong Speu partner church in Cambodia, who passed away on Dec 6 in Phnom Penh Hospital. She was 32, and leaves behind her husband Makara and their two-year-old son Karunia. Savy was an invaluable and well-loved worker on the field, and also supported COR's missions trips in translation work. Please keep her family in prayer.
- Appointment of Rev Jeremy Ponniah**  
Rev Jeremy Ponniah has been formally appointed as the Vicar-Designate of St Paul's Church with effect from 1 February 2019. He will assume the vicariate from 1 March 2019. Please keep Rev Jeremy and his family in prayer.
- Ministry Appreciation Meal**  
All leaders and ministry members are invited for a thanksgiving meal. This is for the church to thank you for your service to the Lord and His people this past year.  
Date: 29 & 30 December 2018  
Time: After Service  
Venue: Eatery  
Please RSVP through your cell/ministry leaders by 16 December. Do include the number of children if you intend to bring them along. This will help us facilitate the catering.
- Watchnight Service 2018**  
This year's watchnight service will take place at 10.30pm on 31 December at the COR Sanctuary. Come join us for a time to renew our covenant with God and to meet with Him around the Eucharist. There will also be opportunities for you to bring your testimonies of God's blessing.
- Christian Education**  
Spade & Spoon commences in 2019 with the Gospel of John.  
Date & Time: 5 January, 3.00pm-4.00pm (Sat class); 6 January, 8.30am-9.30am (Sun class)  
Venue: #01-16  
Please sign up by emailing [corchristianeducation@gmail.com](mailto:corchristianeducation@gmail.com).

**Highlights**

**CANDLELIGHT SERVICE @ COR 2018**

**SATURDAY**  
22.12.18  
7pm to 9pm  
COR Sanctuary

**SUNDAY**  
23.12.18  
7pm to 9pm  
COR Sanctuary

**Candlelight Service @ COR 2018**

Please note that on 22/23 December, our regular weekend services will be replaced by special candlelight services. Invite your family and friends to join us as we celebrate the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ at these services.

There will NOT be any service on Christmas Day.

Date: 22 Dec (Sat), 23 Dec (Sun) 2018  
Time: 7.00pm-9.00pm  
Venue: COR Sanctuary

**9 December**  
Project Christmas (MSS)

**15 December**  
Morning Prayer  
#01-16; 7.30am-9.00am

**15-18 December**  
Youth Camp (MSS)

**22 & 23 December**  
Candlelight Service  
Sanctuary; 7.00pm-9.00pm

**Sermons**

**This Weekend**

- SPS (8 Dec)**  
**SWS (9 Dec)**  
**Sharing The Good News: Jesus And The Samaritan Woman**  
John 4:1-42  
Rev. Jeremy Joe Tan
- MSS (9 Dec)**  
**The Message of the Gospel**  
Matthew 7:13-14  
Ian Chew

**Next Weekend**

- SPS (15 Dec)**  
**SWS (16 Dec)**  
**The Power Of Intercession**  
2 Chronicles 7:11-16  
1 Timothy 2:1-6  
Ps. Robin John
- MSS (16 Dec)**  
No Service

**SERVICE TIMINGS**

**ENGLISH CONGREGATION**

**Saturday Praise Service (SPS)**  
Sat, 4.30pm, Sanctuary

**Sunday Worship Service (SWS)**  
Sun, 10.00am, Sanctuary

**Mustard Seed Service (MSS - Youth)**  
Sun, 10.00am, Shaw Hall, #03-09

**KINGDOM CHILDREN'S CHURCH**

SAT, 4.30 PM | SUN, 10.00 AM

**JOYFUL PRESCHOOLERS**  
3-4 years old  
#01-16

**CARING KINDEES**  
5-6 years old  
#02-15

**EXPLORER KIDZ, PRAISE KIDZ, FAITHFUL KIDZ**  
7-12 years old  
#02-11

**EXTENSION CENTRE**

**Century Christian Fellowship**  
Sun, 4.00pm  
407 Jalan Kayu

**CHINESE CONGREGATION**

**Mandarin Service**  
Sun, 1.45pm, Sanctuary

**New Life Service (Youth)**  
Sun, 1.45pm, #01-14

**Canto-Hokkien Service**  
Sun, 10.00am, #01-14

**Children's Service**  
3 to 12 years old  
Sun, 1.45pm, #01-16, #02-11



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