



# Westside Baptist Church Bulletin

December 8, 2024  
2nd Sunday of  
Advent

Speaker: Pastor Wayne Kwok

## During Worship

- ▶ Be still and prepare your heart for worship.
- ▶ Please close the main hall doors gently during worship services.
- ▶ Please take care of your personal belongings to avoid theft.

### Offering

- ▶ Welcome to donate via E-transfer, email: [westsidebaptistoffering@gmail.com](mailto:westsidebaptistoffering@gmail.com)
- ▶ To donate by cash or cheque, please use an offering envelope and put it into the offering bag during worship.
- ▶ When making a donation, please indicate the donation envelope number and the full legal name. The offering envelope number can be obtained from the church office.

### Notes to CitRUs parents :

- ▶ The enrollment age for CitRUs Children's Ministry starts from age 3; one parent can accompany children under 3 to participate in worship in Room B.
- ▶ Classes are held on Sunday mornings at 9:00 am at Room E & F.
- ▶ After class, please supervise the children who have been picked up from the classroom.

## Parking

- ▶ The upstairs parking lot (Parking Lot 1) is designated for new comers, people with reduced mobility, the elderly and families with young children.
- ▶ The indoor parking lot downstairs (Parking Lot 2) will be closed at 1:00 pm on Sundays. If you exceed the time limit, you will have to wait until 10:00 am on Tuesday morning to collect your vehicle.
- ▶ Additional parking spaces are available at 8508 Ash Street (Parking Lot 3) on Saturdays from 4:00 - 7:00pm and Sundays from 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. [Maps](#) are available in the foyer.
- ▶ **To be considerate of your neighbors, please do not park in the residential area.**
- ▶ Please do not double park.
- ▶ When parking in the outdoor parking lot downstairs (Parking Lot 2), please be careful not to block the emergency exits and keep a distance of 3 feet from the building's exterior wall so that the emergency exit doors can be fully opened.
- ▶ Please park and lock your bike/e-bike outside. Do not park the bike inside the building.
- ▶ Starting from January 2025, parking at the church or 8508 Ash during worship services congregants are required to register online annually. Registration link: <https://forms.gle/TDSft5sAJgk5QMeN8>



## Scripture Reading Plan

- ▶ This week we will continue to read Revelation. We will read about the tribulations of the seven seals and seven horns. Our attention is often captured by the horrible descriptions of the tribulations, and we are concerned if we need to go through these tribulations. The fact is that, we are already living in these tribulations. War, famine, decease, death are already our everyday realities. Yet we should not forget the other side of our reality, that Jesus is King, and he is in control. In between the descriptions of the tribulations are descriptions of what is happening in the heavenly realm, where Jesus is worshipped, and the people of God are saved and rewarded. We do have hope.
- ▶ Reading Plan for this week:
  - ▶ Dec 8 (Sunday) Revelation 6:1-17
  - ▶ Dec 9 (Monday) Revelation 7:1-17
  - ▶ Dec 10 (Tuesday) Revelation 8:1-13
  - ▶ Dec 11 (Wednesday) Revelation 9:1-21
  - ▶ Dec 12 (Thursday) Revelation 10:1-11
  - ▶ Dec 13 (Friday) Revelation 11:1-19
  - ▶ Dec 14 (Saturday) Revelation 12:1-17
  - ▶ Dec 15 (Sunday) Revelation 13:1-18

Co·Mission

## 2. The Suffering Saints

[Revelation 6:9-11, 7:9-17]

These are they who have come out of the great tribulation; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

[Revelation 7:14b]

### Sermon Outline

#### THOUGHT

Has there been times where because of adhering or abiding to some standard or values cost you inconvenience or even hardship in certain situations?

The normalities of life...

#### SOULS OF THOSE WHO HAD BEEN SLAIN

#### THE GREAT TRIBULATION

#### WHITE ROBE

### My Reflection

- ▶ What did God tell me through the message today?



## Small Group Discussions

### Testimony

1. Can you share a time when holding to your faith or values caused hardship or challenges in your life?
2. Have you experienced God's presence in the midst of suffering? How did it shape your understanding of faith?

### Know

3. What is the significance of being "marked" or "sealed" as belonging to God? How does this reality impact your daily life?
4. How does the sermon explain the idea that "victory comes through defeat" in the context of discipleship?
5. Why is the image of worship in Revelation 7:9-12 important for understanding the hope we have in Christ?

### Feel

6. When you reflect on those who have suffered for their faith, how does it make you feel about your own journey with Christ?
7. What feelings arise when you consider that following Christ means embracing self-sacrifice and perseverance?
8. How do you reconcile the tension between the present reality of suffering and the promised reality of God's ultimate victory?
9. What comfort do you find in the vision of worship before God's throne amidst trials and tribulations?
10. What does the phrase "life comes through death and victory comes through defeat" mean for your spiritual growth?
11. In what ways does Advent, as a season of waiting, parallel the endurance described in Revelation 6 and 7?

### Plan

12. What are some practical ways you can actively wait and engage with hope in the midst of trials?
13. What spiritual disciplines or habits can help you develop endurance as a follower of Christ?


### Do

14. Resolve to worship amidst trials. How can you incorporate more worship into your daily routine, especially when facing challenges?
15. Invite a group member to journey with you in accountability as you seek to endure with hope in your life.
16. Pray specifically for those who are suffering for their faith around the world. How can you support them in practical ways?
17. Reflect on how you can live a life of self-sacrifice that mirrors the Lamb's example. What practical steps will you take?

## Announcements

- ▶ We would like to extend our warm welcome to today's **guest speaker**, Pastor Wayne Kwok. Pastor Wayne is a Youth Worker with the Greater Vancouver Youth Unlimited.
- ▶ **Monthly bulletin** consists of summary of deacon board meeting and financial report has been posted on the church website and bulletin board.
- ▶ The church planned to have the following outreach events during the Christmas season :
  - ▶ A **Clothing Drive** will be held in December as a Christmas donation to Covenant House to support youth in need. Congregants can place donated clothing in Room G downstairs after worship services on December 14, 15, 21, 22 and 24.
  - ▶ **Christmas Carolling** – December 22 between 2–3pm at Marine Gateway. The church is recruiting singers. Practice Date: Sunday, December 15, Time: 2:00 pm to 3:30 pm.
  - ▶ **Candlelight service** will be held on December 24 from 8:00 - 9:30pm. Due to limited seating, all participants must register at [www.universe.com/candlelight](http://www.universe.com/candlelight). Scanning QR code for admission is required. 
  - ▶ **Hopeful gifts for Change** – the church encourage congregants to support this program organized by CBM. Donation can be made directly through the CBM website. 
- ▶ The **Annual General Meeting** will be held on January 26, 2025 at 3:00pm via Zoom. Details of the meeting and voting procedures will be announced. Members, please reserve time to attend.
- ▶ There was a **membership transfer** yesterday during Saturday worship service. The new member's, Priscilla Yu, profile is posted on the bulletin board.
- ▶ The church office will be closed on December 17 Tuesday between 12:00noon and 3:00pm.

## Fellowship Life

- ▶ **Westside 101** is a course designed for anyone who wishes to join us as a member through baptism or transfer of membership. It consists of approximately five 90-minute classes. Please register at [universe.com/westside](http://universe.com/westside) 
- ▶ **Small groups** are the heart of our fellowship life and an essential part of our holistic Christian living. We invite you to join our small groups if you are willing to commit. To register, please visit [universe.com/westside](http://universe.com/westside) 