



# Westside Baptist Church Bulletin

December 29, 2024  
1st Sunday of  
Christmas

Speaker: Rev. Alan Yu

## 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 your donation envelope number and your 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.
- ▶ Please supervise your children after you have picked them 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. Afterwards, 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 our 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, congregants are required to register online annually to park at the church or 8508 Ash during worship services. Registration link: <https://forms.gle/TDSft5sAJgk5QMEN8>



## Scripture Reading Plan

- ▶ While the world thinks that Christmas is over (even the Christian radio station is not playing Christmas music anymore), we are in the deep of observing Christmas and reading the Christmas narrative in Matthew and Luke. Let this misalignment of the worldly culture and the Christian calendar remind us of the nature of the Kingdom order that we follow, that it is in dissonance and opposition with the world. As you read this week, notice the same dissonance and opposition embedded within the Christmas narrative.
- ▶ Reading Plan for this week:
  - ▶ Dec 29 (Sunday) Luke 2:1-7
  - ▶ Dec 30 (Monday) Luke 2:8-21
  - ▶ Dec 31 (Tuesday) Matthew 1:1-17
  - ▶ Jan 1 (Wednesday) Matthew 1:18-25
  - ▶ Jan 2 (Thursday) Matthew 2:1-12
  - ▶ Jan 3 (Friday) Matthew 2:13-23
  - ▶ Jan 4 (Saturday) Luke 2:22-40
  - ▶ Jan 5 (Sunday) Luke 2:41-52

Co·Mission

# 5. The Humble King

[ Matthew 2:1-12 ]

We saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him. [ Matthew 2:2b ]

## Sermon Outline

Introduction

Content

1. The Time

2. The Place

## My Reflection

▶ What did God tell me through the message today?

## **My Reflection**

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

3. The Gifts

Conclusion

## **My Prayer Response**

- ▶ Write down your responsive prayer for God's word today.

## **My Action Response**

- ▶ What changes will you make in response to God's word today?

## Small Group Discussions

### Testimony

1. Please share about your scripture reading this week? What do you find rewarding? What do you find frustrating?

### Know

2. Please review your sermon notes for this week. What did you learn that you did not know previously?
3. Read together again Matthew 2:1-12. What impression does this passage give you? What is the most intriguing saying in this passage to you? Why?
4. Why do you think Jesus deliberately chose to be born during such a dark and oppressive time?
5. What does Jesus' birth in Bethlehem, as a migrant and homeless person, reveal about his character and mission?
6. How does the idea of Jesus' incarnation reflect the values of the Kingdom of Heaven compared to the values of this world?
7. What parallels do you see between Jesus' birth and the "opposite order" of the Beatitudes in the Sermon on the Mount?

### Feel

8. How does Jesus' willingness to embrace suffering and humility make you feel about your own challenges?
9. What emotions arise when you consider Jesus' choice to be born into a world of oppression and darkness?
10. When you think about the spiritual reality revealed to the shepherds on the night of Jesus' birth, what feelings does it evoke?
11. What fears or hesitations do you have about living a life modeled after Jesus, especially in embracing humility or facing injustice?
12. How do the angels' proclamation of peace and glory challenge the reality of the brokenness we see in the world today?

### Plan

13. What are the hindrances (including internal and external) for you to fully embrace a life of humility and self-sacrifice? What are the effective ways to remove these hindrances? Please ask your group members for advice.

### Do

14. Resolve to fully embrace a life of humility and self-sacrifice. Share how practically you'll do this with your group members.
15. Invite a group member to be your accountability partner, and give him/her permission to rebuke you when you have not followed through on your resolution.
16. Commit to fully embrace a life of humility and self-sacrifice. Ask the Holy Spirit to mould you more into the likeness of Jesus.

## Announcements

- ▶ **Baptism and Transferral** ceremony will be held today during the Cantonese Worship Service. Baptismal member: Jeslyn Yuen. Transferral are: Edmund Poon, Katherine Yip and Samuel Yeung. Their profiles are posted on the bulletin board.
- ▶ A new Christian Education will begin on January 12 at Room E between 10:45 - 11:45am. Topic: **Emotionally Healthy Spirituality** (8 lessons). Please register on [universe.com/westside](https://universe.com/westside).
- ▶ **Monthly bulletin** consists of summary of deacon board meeting and financial report has been posted on the church website and bulletin board.
- ▶ The **church office** will be closed on January 1, 2025.
- ▶ **2024 Clothing Drive**. We have collected 152 bags of clothing this year. Thank you all for your donations. All proceeds approximately \$380 will be donated to [Covenant House](#).
- ▶ 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.
- ▶ **2024 Tax Receipts** will be distributed via email in February 2025. Please update your personal information before January 31, 2025 if there is any change over the past year. <https://forms.gle/iYS78wonyHxD14bQA>



## 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](https://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](https://universe.com/westside)

