



**North  
Point  
Alliance  
Church**

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EM Youth Ministry website: [www.npacemyouth.com](http://www.npacemyouth.com)

EM Facebook & Instagram page: "NPAC English Ministry"

## Worship Order

### Prelude

### Call to Worship – Psalm 116:12-13

*What shall I return to the LORD  
for all his goodness to me?  
I will lift up the cup of salvation  
and call on the name of the LORD.*

### Songs of Praise

### Corporate Prayer

### The Lord's Prayer

### Scripture Reading – 1 John 5:1-12

### Sermon – Who is it that overcomes the world?

### Response Song

### Offertory Prayer

### Welcome & Family News

### Monthly Bible Verse – 1 John 4:9

*This is how God showed his love among us:  
He sent his one and only Son into the world  
that we might live through him.*

### Doxology & Benediction

### Postlude

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<b>Speaker:</b>	Rev. Philip Chow	<b>Chairperson :</b>	Moses Chen
<b>Praise Leader :</b>	Moses Chen & Team	<b>Scripture Reader :</b>	Dawn Yiu
<b>Pianist :</b>	Sarah Chow	<b>PowerPoint:</b>	David Yeung
<b>Welcome Team:</b>	Women's Fellowship – Edna Sables, Veronica Tamondong, Shayne Descartin		
<b>Offering Counters:</b>	David Wong, Josephine Kwan		
<b>Sound System:</b>	Amanda Chan, Bono Lee, Clarence Fok		

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For Live broadcast, please [click here](#) or search "NPAC English Service" on YouTube (recording available until Tue).

For onsite meeting guidelines and prevention measures, [click here](#).

For worship service arrangements in extreme weather, [click here](#) for details.

## Online, Offline, Connected, Disconnected

By Rev Andrew Tsang

In the midst of the pandemic, getting involved in the online world becomes inevitable to us – students need to take classes online; seniors have to learn to use smartphones in order to go to places conveniently and to stay connected with family and friends who are far away; in quarantine facilities, video calls are the only means to see the family; believers can attend worship services, fellowship meetings and Bible talks online... Now, pandemic prevention measures have been relaxed but we still see many empty seats in the worship halls each week. We also think of brothers and sisters whom we have not seen for a long time. That we care very much.

Man cannot see the most holy and glorious LORD with our eyes. That was why in Old Testament times, God gathered the Israelites for sacred meetings at the tabernacle and temple (1 Chronicles 28:2; Hebrews 9:1-5) to let man understand that God dwelled and walked with them through the tough time from Egypt to Canaan. In New Testament times, God has believers unite with Christ through the church, to remember the Lord through various liturgy in worship services and experience the presence of the real albeit unseen Lord. The Bible says: *“not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing [i.e. their custom], but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching”* (Hebrews 10:25). The Scripture contrasts *“giving up meeting”* against *“encouraging one another.”* This reminds believers that amid today’s busy, intense schedules and a lifestyle with no rest throughout the week, we still need to gather before the Lord in corporate worship and, from there, encourage one another so we can face the temptations and challenges of the last days and proclaim to the world in worship that we are a consecrated community. But how can we experience this in front of the TV monitor? It is true that it is more difficult to engage believers in active participation in online worship services, let alone feeling the presence of the LORD as well as the companionship, mutual love and encouragement of brothers and sisters.

In the past when I pastored college students and working young adults, someone shared with me the opinion that young people are only interested in the online world. But I found that they are very eager to really experience life and build up real relationships. The last few years have even seen college students fed up with online tuition. Virtual reality and the metaverse may seem attractive but they are by no means comparable to the experience of connection in real life and relationship building. Though my two sons enjoy driving the Mario Kart (a TV car race game), they fell in love with the real sense of freedom and speed once they have learned to ride a bicycle. In quarantine, it is undoubtedly precious that one can see one’s family on the iPad. But this can never compare with holding the hands of the beloved and talking with them face to face.

The “online world” has both advantages and disadvantages. It can help those separated to remain connected to a certain extent and draw attention to the messages shared. If the church uses this medium well, it can certainly help fish for man online effectively and reach those who are otherwise difficult to reach. However, if used inappropriately, it can affect the connection between believers and God as well as others, even leading to deviations in faith. Therefore, unless you are staying online solely for health reasons, I sincerely invite you to come back in person and experience once again the reality of the LORD together with us!

Read the article online: <https://npacem.org/ps20221218/>

## Family News

### 1. Regular meetings

- **Gatekeepers** (secondary school): Fri, 7:30-9:30pm, Rm 219  
Dec 23 Winter Camp: Monogenes (10am-9:30pm) 30 Extra: Free play  
Jan 6 Bible Study: Jesus Christ 13 Special: Archery Day
- **Peacemakers** (uni students & above): Fri, 8-9:45pm, Rms 217-8  
Dec 23 Outreach: Gifts distribution 30 Year-end dinner
- **Tentmakers** (young working adults): 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Sat, 5-6:45pm, Rms 217-8  
Dec 24 Social
- **Couples Fellowship**: No meeting on Sun Dec 25
- **Women's Fellowship**: No meeting on Sun Dec 25
- **Joint Adult Fellowship**: Prayer Meeting (TBC); Sun Jan 15, 1:30-3pm, Rms 217-218;  
Children's Room: Rm 215
- **EM Prayer Meeting**: Sun morning, 8:30-9am, Rm 204
- **Sunday School** (Children, youth and adults): Sun from 9:15-10:20am
- **Children's Program**: For children aged 3-10 during English worship service
  - CP2: Rm 219, CP3: Rm 211

### 2. Other meetings

- **Sunday School Teachers Monthly Prayer Meetings**: Sun Jan 1, after worship service

### 3. EM New Year's Eve Online Prayer Meeting: Let's gather around to share and give thanks to God and pray for His will and guidance for 2023. *Date & Time*: Sat Dec 31, 10:30pm-12:00midnight, *Mode*: Online (Zoom). The link will sent through fellowship groups. If you are not in any fellowship group but want to join us, please [click here to fill out](#) the contact form then we will send you the zoom link separately.

### 4. Christmas Evangelistic Meetings:

- **"When the star shines in the dark night"**: *Date & Time*: Fri Dec 23, 8pm. *Speaker*: Rev. James Hon. *Language*: Chinese. *Venue*: Main Church.
- **"A way out in this chaotic world"**: *Date & Time*: Sat Dec 24, 8pm. *Speaker*: Rev. Kenneth Chong. *Language*: Chinese. *Venue*: Main Church  
Live online broadcast available. *Enquiries*: Ms. Resanda Lai (2909-9700).

### 5. Gospel Tracts: We've prepared different gospel tracts for your use in sharing the good news with your families and friends. Please take them from our Info Table and make good use of them. You can also use this online gospel booklet called **"A Story of Hope."** It shares the gospel in a friendly and easy-to-understand manner. It explains God's love and shows why only Jesus can give us true hope. Read online [here](#).

### 6. NPAC Retreat Corner 「靜修閣」: As you may be planning for next year's fellowship meetings, you can make use of the NPAC Retreat Corner. It is located on 1/F of Truth Centre. To book the venue, [download the application form here](#). Details of application and the use of the venue are printed on the form.

7. **Dawn Prayer Meetings “Behold the LORD in all things”** (「在一切事上「看見」上主」): God is closer than you think. Through the book by John Ortberg, we practice taking heed on God’s footprints. *Date & Time:* Jan 9-13 (Mon-Fri) from 7-7:50am. *Venue:* Main Church (Onsite participation is encouraged; with live online broadcast. Recording will be kept until Tue Jan 31).
  8. **EM 19<sup>th</sup> Baptismal Service:** *Date & Time:* Sun Jul 2, 2023, 3-5pm. *Venue:* Main Church. If you have received Jesus as Lord and Savior, are aged at least 14, and have been regularly attending onsite NPAC worship service for at least six months, you are welcome to join our baptismal class and get baptised. Submit your registration form by Sun Jan 15. The baptismal class will begin in Feb. *Enquiries:* Rev. Stera or Pastor Lawrence.
  9. **Public Holidays Office Hours:** Mon & Tue Dec 26-27: Office in all NPAC locations will close.
- ★ **What’s at our Info Table?** NPAC newsletter, Barnabasaid, Bible reading plans, devotional materials, gospel tracts, evangelism resources, and much more!

### Prayer Corner

We pray for your personal needs, your unbelieving friends, and families. Please find and join our prayer meeting outside the A/V Room after the worship service.

### Tithe & Offering

Tithe & offering will be collected in the red offering bags at the end of the worship service at the entrance of the worship hall. Charity offering (every 4<sup>th</sup> Sun) will be collected in the green bag. Please prayerfully prepare beforehand. For other collection channels, please [click here](#).

## Prayer Items

1. **Advent Prayer:** “For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.” (John 3:16) Give thanks for God’s unique gift to the whole of humanity: His beloved Son. Pray for opportunities to share the true meaning of Christmas and our testimonies with our friends and beloved ones. Pray for our attentiveness to the work of God so that we will act responsively. Pray that more people will receive Jesus as their Savior this Christmas.
2. **Homeless:** Let’s remember the homeless in HK for they may need shelter in cold weather and care from the community. Pray that the government will give them sufficient support. Ask for God’s mercy to lead them into His love. Pray that this Christmas, they will have an opportunity to know Jesus and for some of them to rebuild their relationship with their families. Learn more about their needs from [Christian Concern For The Homeless Association](#).
3. **Winter Camp (Coming Fri Dec 23):** Pray for the preparation. Pray for more youth to join and their readiness to learn the true meaning of Christmas. Pray that the camp will be carried out smoothly. Pray that this will be a meaningful time for all participants in their spiritual life. Pray that the youth will devote their lives to pursuing Jesus.

**Next Sun Dec 25 (Christmas Sunday):** Guest Speaker: Rev. Wallace Louie (“The Son of God has come” 1 John 5:13-21); Chairperson: Joseph Trinh; Praise Leader: Joseph Trinh & Fri Team; Pianist: Minnie Ho; Scripture Reader: Caitlin Trinh; Welcome Team: Beatrice Wong, Timothy Ng, Veronica Tamondong; Offering Counter: Claudia Chan, Howard Liu, Nathaniel Bruce, Wilson Lam; PowerPoint: Shayne Descartin.