



**North
Point
Alliance
Church**

Senior Pastor: Rev. Arnold Chow

Pastors: Rev. Stera Chan (stera@npac.org.hk)

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EM website: www.npacem.org; email: em@npac.org.hk

EM Youth Ministry website: www.npacemyouth.com

EM Facebook & Instagram page: "NPAC English Ministry"

Worship Order

Prelude

Call to Worship – Psalm 34:1-3

I will extol the LORD at all times; his praise will always be on my lips.

I will glory in the LORD; let the afflicted hear and rejoice.

Glorify the LORD with me; let us exalt his name together.

Songs of Praise

Corporate Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

Scripture Reading – Exodus 20:4-6; 1 Kings 12:25-33; Proverbs 3:5-8

Sermon – Worship the LORD, rely not on your own understanding

Response Song

Offertory Prayer

Welcome & Family News

Monthly Bible Verse – Proverbs 2:3-5

*Indeed, if you call out for insight and cry aloud for understanding,
and if you look for it as for silver and search for it as for hidden treasure,*

then you will understand the fear of the LORD

and find the knowledge of God.

Doxology & Benediction

Speaker:	Rev. Stera Chan	Chairperson :	Joshua Kan
Praise Leader :	Joshua Kan & Team	Scripture Reader :	Timothy Ng
Pianist:	Lilian Chow	PowerPoint:	Claire Liao
Welcome Team:	Couples Fellowship – Josephine Kam, Fenny Wong, Howard Liu		
Offering Counters:	Jasmin Delos Reyes, Stanley Kam		
Sound System:	Amanda Chan, Bono Lee, Clarence Fok		

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.

Be Not Discouraged but Boldly Move Forward with Perseverance

By Rev Gordon Siu

I heard many valuable testimonies from brothers and sisters at the 2022 Year-end Thanksgiving Meeting. These words sounded in my heart: Yes, do not be discouraged but keep following the Lord closely!

One sister has a child with special needs. The child has learning difficulties. For many years, they had been in and out of the hospital. The sister was worried about the child all through the years, and despite frequent prayers, there was no improvement... To everyone's great surprise, the child had been admitted to university and his mental state miraculously improved. This mother had waited more than 20 years. God answered her prayers when His time came. Another sister said she had been praying for one thing for years. There is still no solution in sight but seeing a ray of hope, she would continue to persist in facing it and to wait for the Lord to accomplish it in His time.

Jesus told a parable about a widow with a plea. The judge ignored her for a long time but she did not give up. She kept *"bothering"* the judge for help. The Lord said: *"And will not God bring about justice for his chosen ones, who cry out to him day and night? Will he keep putting them off? I tell you, he will see that they get justice, and quickly..."* (Luke 18:7-8).

Will God *"keep putting them off"*? God has His perfect plan. He may not answer our prayer right away but when His time comes, He will not delay and will very quickly give us what we pray for! The key thing, though, is whether the one who prays is still waiting with perseverance by then or has already given up faith.

The Book of Hebrews mentions many spiritual role models who never gave up hope. They had not necessarily received the things promised during their lifetime and yet they still held fast to the Lord all their lives. It is because they prayed, above all, for a heavenly reward, a better home that God promises. Their faith is reflected in their insistence to do good, to be patient in adversity, and in not giving up earnestly following the Lord. These people were not discouraged nor did they regress when what they hoped for had not been realized, for they never lost faith in God! Theirs is the kind of "faith" the Lord will find when He comes.

Sometimes, we are discouraged because we are disappointed in ourselves – we are not as good as we used to; our love for God has turned cold; we have lost the motivation to connect with brothers and sisters and to worship God... When we tend to "look to the self," we become depressed and weak. We will also be tempted by our pride, which says: My past good performance was due to my strength and wisdom, but now I am powerless and can no longer do anything. This temptation is saying: All my past achievements and ferventness came from my abilities! When we think that our future hinges on our present abilities, our pride will make us discouraged and frustrated.

A father asked Jesus to heal his boy who had been possessed by demons since childhood. Then the father said, *"I do believe; help me overcome my unbelief!"* Now this father was aware of his own inadequacy and he did not think it all depended on himself. He "looked to the Lord," trusting that He can help with his inadequacy! Brothers and sisters, whenever we feel weak, we only need to turn our thoughts to the Lord's grace and faithfulness, focus on trusting in Him, and we will be able to move forward boldly. We will be able to "smile at" our weaknesses *"so that Christ's power may rest on me."*

Read the article online: <https://npacem.org/ps20230115/>

Family News

1. Regular meetings

- **Gatekeepers** (secondary school): Fri, 7:30-9:30pm, Rm 219
Jan 20 Topical: Money Money *27* Treasure Room: Leaders
Feb 3 Bible Study: Jesus Christ's Death *10* Special: Escape Game
- **Peacemakers** (uni students & above): Fri, 8-9:45pm, Rms 217-8
Jan 20 No meeting *27* Prayer Meeting
Feb 3 Topical: Discipleship *10* Bible Study: Jeremiah
- **Tentmakers** (young working adults): Praying and seeking God's direction for the fellowship. *Jan 28, Feb 11 & 25*, 5-7pm, Truth Centre's Retreat Room.
- **Joint Adult Fellowship**: Topical: God's will, my plan; *Sun Jan 15 (TODAY)*, 1:30-3pm, Rms 217-218; Children's Room: Rm 219
- **Couples Fellowship**: Book Study: Growing Old Gracefully (Chapters 7-9); *Sun Jan 29*, 1:30-3pm, Rms 217-218; Children's Room: Rm 219
- **Women's Fellowship**: Thanksgiving & New Year Resolution; Introduction of the study of "Gospel of John" using WordGo App; *Sun Jan 29*, 1:30-3:15pm, Rm 215
- **EM Prayer Meeting**: *Sun morning*, 8:30-9am, Rm 204
- **Sunday School** (Children, youth and adults): Sun from 9:15-10:20am (No class on next Sun Jan 22)
- **Children's Program**: For children aged 3-10 during English worship service; CP2: Rm 219; CP3: Rm 211 (No class on next Sun Jan 22)

2. Other meetings

- **Sunday School Teachers Monthly Prayer Meetings**: *Sun Feb 5*, after worship service
- **Men's Group Meeting**: *Sat Feb 18*, 12:30-2:30pm

3. **EM 19th 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 (TODAY)*. The baptismal class will begin in Feb. *Enquiries*: Rev. Stera or Pastor Lawrence.

4. **Share the gospel with our community in the Chinese New Year**: Come to the booth and pick up a set of Spring couplets (Fai Chun), gospel tracts, and five-color beads for your unbelieving friends and relatives. *Date & time: Sun Jan 15 (TODAY)*, 2-4pm; *Venue*: Living Stone, G/F, Truth Centre; *Enquiries*: Ms. Resanda Lai (2909-9700).

5. **SAT-7 MENA Satellite TV Sharing & SAT-7 HK Inauguration Ceremony**: SAT-7 has been broadcasting Christian content to support churches and Christians in the Middle East & North Africa (MENA). NPAC has been one of its supporters. *Date & Time: Sun Jan 29*, 2:30-4:15pm; *Speakers*: Rita El-Mounayer, SAT-7 CEO & Kurt Johansen, Executive Director, SAT-7 Europe, Asia and Pacific; *Venue*: Worship Hall, 1/F, Truth Centre. *Sign up*: Click this link: <http://bit.ly/SAT7HKinaug>; *Language*: English (Cantonese interpretation is available).

6. **The Art of Chinese Seal Exhibition “The Seal of Grace” 「〈恩典印記〉閒章展」**: Artist: Mr. Mo Po Chun 毛寶珍, Date: Sat Jan 14-Sun Feb 26; Time: 10am-9pm (Fri & Sat); 2-5pm (Sun); Venue: Gallery, G/F, Truth Centre (next to block 6 reception); Enquiries: Pastor Lo Yuet Mei (2979-3600). (Detail: Chinese Bulletin Page 5)
7. **NPAC is now recruiting for short-term mission trips:**
- Medical team to Bali, Indonesia (Mon Jun 26-Sat Jul 1)
 - Short-term mission team to Kupang, Indonesia (Sat Jul 1-Thu Jul 6)
 - Easter visitation and service team to Cambodia (Wed Apr 5-Mon Apr 10)
- For detail, sign-up and enquiries, please refer to Chinese Bulletin Page 7.
8. **Moses Chen and Bonnie Chin’s wedding:** Sat Jan 28, 2pm at Main Church. You are all invited to share the joy and be their witnesses. Let’s lift them in our prayers.
9. **Chinese New Year Sunday (Sun Jan 22):** There will NOT be Sunday School and Children’s Program. Families are encouraged to worship together that day.
10. **Public Holiday Office Hours:** Mon-Wed Jan 23-25: All NPAC sites 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 4th Sun) will be collected in the green bag. Please prayerfully prepare beforehand. For other collection channels, please [click here](#).

Prayer Items

1. **Cambodia:** Cambodia is suffering in poverty, corruption, crimes and war. The majority of the population are Buddhists, and less than two percent of Christians can be found in the country. Pray for justice and healing from the Khmer Rouge genocide of the late 1970's. Pray for deliverance and salvation for the millions of children in bondage to forced labor, human trafficking, and the sex trade. Pray for God’s power and growth within the Cambodian Church. (Learn more from [Prayercast](#).)
2. **EM:** Give thanks to God for our ministry leaders and all who serve in EM. Pray for their spiritual strength and growth. Ask God to help all brothers and sisters to exercise the spiritual gifts from Him to build up His church (Ephesians 4:4-13).
3. **Ourselves:** *God, You are righteous, honorable, trustworthy, and true. You crush darkness and shatter despair. You heal people and restore relationships, and You continually invite people to know You personally. You are so great and mighty and worthy to be honored! Amen.* (YouVersion Prayer)

Next Sun Jan 22 (Chinese New Year Sunday): Speaker: Rev. Sylvia Kwok (“Blessings in the Lunar New Year” Psalm 84:1-12); Chairperson: Christina Bruce; Praise Leader: Christina Bruce & Team; Pianists: Fenny Wong, Marianna Yu; Scripture Reader: Claudia Chan; Welcome Team: Edna Sable Faith Trinh, Abeline Quebatay; Offering Counter: Kent Ang, Dawn Yiu, Imelda Choi, Roland Bruce; PowerPoint: Shayne Descartin.