



Worship Service

29 March 2020, 8.45am

PRINSEP STREET

77 Prinsep Street, Singapore 188649 • T: 6337-0595 / 6339-1266

PRESBYTERIAN

F: 6336-1123 • E: office@pspc.org.sg • W: www.pspc.org.sg

CHURCH

Service: 8am, 8.45am & 11am • Holy Communion: Every 1st Sunday of the month



5th Sunday in Lent
Order of Service
29 March 2020
8:45 a.m.

Silent Meditation

Call to Worship

Songs

How Great Is Our God
Because He Lives
Blessed Be Your Name
This Kingdom

Offering

Doxology & Thanksgiving (*Hope draws its conclusion from the past to the future producing a doxology.*)

Welcome & Exchange of Peace (*handshakes replaced by verbal greetings.*)

Pastoral Prayer & The Lord's Prayer

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

Scripture Reading

Proverbs 8: 1 - 36

Reader

This is the Word of the Lord.

Congregation

Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Wisdom's Call

Dr Eileen Poh

Hymn of Response

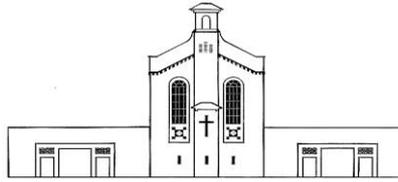
The Perfect Wisdom Of Our God

Benediction

Threefold Amen

Postlude and Silent Meditation

Let us give to the Lord our undivided attention by putting our handphones on silent mode.



PSPC COMMUNIQUE ON THE SUSPENSION OF WORSHIP SERVICES

25 March 2020

A. PREAMBLE

The Multi-Ministry Task Force issued an advisory on 24 March 2020 to implement tighter control measures to reduce the risk of local Covid-19 clusters. Among the measures include the immediate suspension of religious services until 30 April 2020. This communique seeks to notify all congregants of PSPC's responses.

B. SUSPENSION OF WORSHIP SERVICES

- PSPC worship services on these Sundays will be suspended: 29 March, 5 April, 12 April, 19 April and 26 April. We will monitor government advisory to determine when to resume worship services. Congregants may receive latest updates through PSPC website (www.pspc.org.sg), PSPC Facebook group and PCGM cell group notification.
- The 8:45am English service and 11am Mandarin service will continue to be live-streamed and recorded for later viewing. Congregants may receive live-stream instructions from PSPC website.

C. POSTPONEMENT AND CANCELLATION OF CHURCH EVENTS

The government advisory limits all groups to a maximum of 10 people at any one time. Therefore, the following church events and programmes will be postponed or cancelled:

1. All baptisms, confirmations and membership transfers on Easter Sunday (12 April) will be postponed until the PSPC Anniversary Service (13 September).
2. The PSPC Prayer & Praise (Church Prayer Meeting) on 15 April will be cancelled.
3. The PSPC Annual Congregational Meeting (ACM) on 26 April will be postponed until further notice. The Commissioner of Charities (COC) has assured the National Council of Churches in Singapore (NCCS) that churches' postponement of their ACMs will be permitted under the current situation.

D. PASTORAL CARE

It is especially during the suspension of worship services that the cell groups take centre place as the key vehicle of discipleship and the first line of congregational care. Together with the Pastoral Team and church leadership, cell group leaders and co-leaders are called to shepherd the flock at such a time like this when many congregants are affected by health concerns, economic uncertainties and suspension of worship services. At the same time, the Pastoral Team will broaden the pastoring work. Therefore, please do contact the Pastoral Team directly if you know of any congregant who needs pastoral care. Where home or hospital visitation is not possible, the Pastoral Staff will extend pastoral care through phone calls or WhatsApp video calls.

E. ADVISORY FOR PCGM CELL GROUPS

1. Cell groups are encouraged to use online meeting tools, such as Zoom (www.zoom.us). Cell group leaders and co-leaders who wish to find out more about Zoom may contact Dn Tay Bee Kiat from the PCGM Committee.
2. Cell groups that wish to meet physically must limit to a maximum of 10 attendees and also ensure: (i) Social Responsibility – Those who are unwell are to refrain from attending; (ii) Safe Distancing – Attendees are to be seated with 1 metre spacing. Larger groups may arrange for members to take turns to attend each week or multiply into smaller groups.
3. Due to the maximum limit of 10 people at any single time in any single venue, cell groups that meet in PSPC are to relocate to homes or use online meeting tools.
4. Cell groups that are unable to comply with this advisory should suspend temporarily.

F. FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

The economic impacts of the pandemic might have started to affect the livelihood of some congregants and/or their family members. The Presbyterian Community Services have an Emergency Relief Service (ERS) that provides short-term financial help to individuals and families regardless of race, religion or nationality. Please refer such individuals or families to the ERS website (www.pcs.org.sg/services/community-support/ers). The application for ERS is strictly confidential and does not require PSPC's endorsement.

G. PASTORAL EXHORTATION

According to the Christian liturgical calendar, today (25 March), marks the Annunciation of the Lord when the angel Gabriel announced to the virgin Mary that she would conceive a child by the power of the Holy Spirit to be called Jesus (Luke 1:26-38). The way that Mary responded to such a great “disruption” to her life with faith and courage for a greater divine purpose is instructive for us as we respond to “disruptions” in our own lives as well.

Today, we experience “disruptions” in the form of health concerns, economic uncertainties and suspension of worship services. May we discern God’s sovereign ways in times of “disruptions” to reflect on what it means to find in God and God alone an anchor for our soul; what it means to deepen our spiritual life even without the support of church ministries; what it means to disciple our children without Sunday School, Prinsep Lighthouse or YACHT; what it means to be Christian citizens who are part of SG United to pray for the authorities and support their control measures for the wellbeing of our society and nation; what it means for us to be the church – the body of Christ – in the world at such a time.

With Jesus Christ as the Head, the church will not be overcome by the gates of Hades, let alone plagues in the past or a pandemic in the present. We live in extraordinary times with an extraordinary God, so let us **“Trust God, Take Care, Stay Calm, Carry On”**.

“Pour Your grace into our hearts, O Lord, that we who have known the incarnation of Your Son Jesus Christ, announced by an angel to the virgin Mary, may by His cross and passion be brought to the glory of His resurrection; who lives and reigns with You, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.”

From the Book of Common Prayer

Rev Darryl Chan
With PSPC Elders and Deacons Court

The Annunciation of the Lord
25 March 2020

SERMON OUTLINE

Speaker: Dr Eileen Poh

Text : Proverbs 8: 1 - 36

Title : Wisdom's Call

Introduction

1. To whom does Wisdom call? (8:1 - 5)
2. What is Wisdom's message? (8:6 – 11)
3. What are the benefits of pursuing Wisdom? (8:12 – 21)
4. What has Wisdom to do with God and His creation? (8:22 – 31)
5. Wisdom's Invitation and Warning (8:32 – 36)

For Reflection and Action

BOOK REVIEW

Mental health awareness has been on the rise in no part due to the influence of social media. In fact, so much on mental health has been publicised on social media that at times, one begins to wonder whether this too has turned into a sort of fad or social trend. Is this something the church should pay attention to? The resounding answer is “Yes!”. But perhaps you might be thinking “Where do I begin?” Fortunately, a team of committed Christians have strung together a series of essays just for you in “Good News For Bruised Reeds: Mental Health & The Gospel Community”.

The book covers three major aspects: Testimonies from those who have/had mental illnesses, accounts from people who journeyed with close friends/family members with mental illness, and last but not least, pastors who have struggled with mental illness or are intentionally providing support for people with mental illness.

Before launching into the stories of people’s lives, the book provides readers with a helpful biblical and theological perspective on this pertinent issue. One writer, Wen Pin, argues persuasively against a common and over-spiritualized diagnosis of mental illness. Such diagnosis often ends up attributing mental illness to demonic possession. However, in so doing it fails to consider that the biblical data for such an assessment is weak, to say the least. The typical Greek word used for “being mad” (*mainomai*) is absent from accounts of demonic possession in Scripture and when it is found or used, it is often used as a polemic *against* Jesus and his disciples.

All this is not to suggest that mental illness can be easily explained away purely through biological explanations as though it is entirely the fault of the individual facing mental illness. On the contrary, what is affirmed in the book is the complexity involved when it comes to mental illness. What Christians need to do is to take a holistic account of the human person. This also means learning to take responsibility for the role Christian communities play in its relation to a person’s mental health as shown in the subsequent testimonies found in the book.

The testimonies collated are insightful. Narrated from a first-person account, it gives us insights into the struggles and sensory experience of those facing mental illness. But more than that, the book also lends a voice to those who have journeyed with such people. Often overlooked, spouses and families of members who are mentally ill can easily feel jaded, neglected, helpless, and at times, depressed. Hearing their voices help to put them back on the radar of churches. The natural tendency for many of us, upon realising that someone is mentally ill, is to direct and channel our energy into helping them. Quite often, this takes on the form of telling *their* caregivers what to do. But in so doing, we fail to remember that caregivers need to be recipients of God's care too. The other neglected community that is highlighted in the book are the pastors themselves. Soo Inn's sharing about his own depression highlights the humanness of pastors. With the growing number of pastors having depression and taking their lives, we are forced to abandon myths that try to connect a certain level of spirituality with good mental or biological health. Instead, what is needed as implicitly suggested by the different narratives of this book is for us to retrieve a healthy theological understanding of God, Sin, Humanity, Christ, Church, Spirit and Redemption. An understanding that moves us from intellectual assent to intentional action.

Adriel Yeo

AFTERNOTE

The Covid-19 pandemic has not only added stress on our healthcare system and economic outlook, it has also exacted a toll on people's psychological-emotional health. Since the start of the pandemic, Family Service Centres reported a 10% rise in the number of counselling cases.

With the suspension of worship services, the cell group takes centre stage as the key vehicle of discipleship and the first line of congregational care. Meanwhile, if you know of congregants who are in need of pastoral care, please do contact the Pastoral Team directly. The Pastoral Team is broadening our pastoring work at such a time. If visitation is not viable, we will extend the pastoral care via phone calls or WhatsApp video calls.

Rev Darryl Chan

INFODESK

This is a modified duty roster for the live streaming of the 8:45am English service.

	29 March 2020 (8:45am Service)	05 April 2020 (8:45am Service)
Preacher		
	Dr Eileen Poh	Rev Darryl Chan
Worship Leader		
	Eld Jack Lum	Sharilyn Wong
PA / LCD Projectionists		
	Ian Chia / Mei Smith	Benjamin Smith / Mark Chen

PSPC has rolled out the option of collecting offerings electronically. To enable the Church Office to allocate your offerings to the right funds, please follow the details below when making your e-Offering.

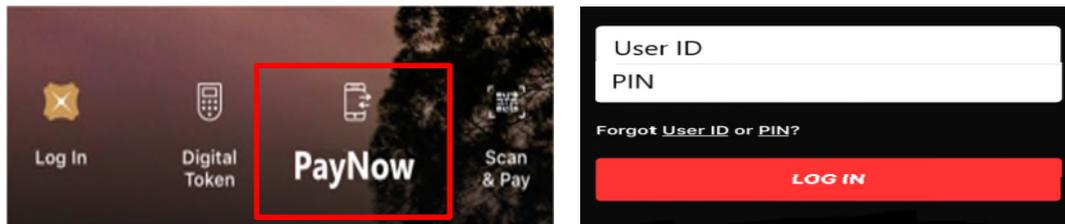
There are 3 Methods of e-Offering: Electronic Bank Transfer, PayNow via UEN number and PayNow via QR code. Choose the method that you are familiar with.

Method 1: Electronic Bank Transfer

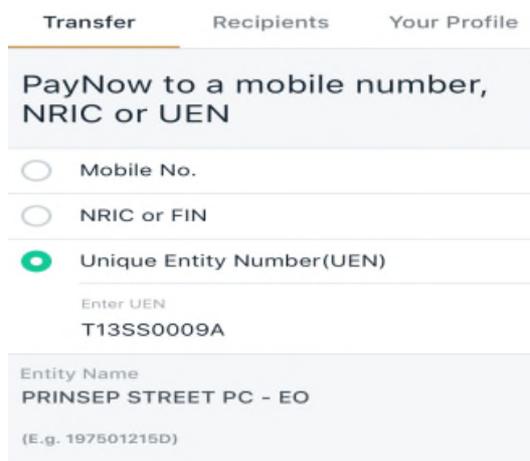
PSPC Bank details	Bank Code	Branch Code	Account Number
	7171	100	1009051531

Method 2: Paynow via UEN number

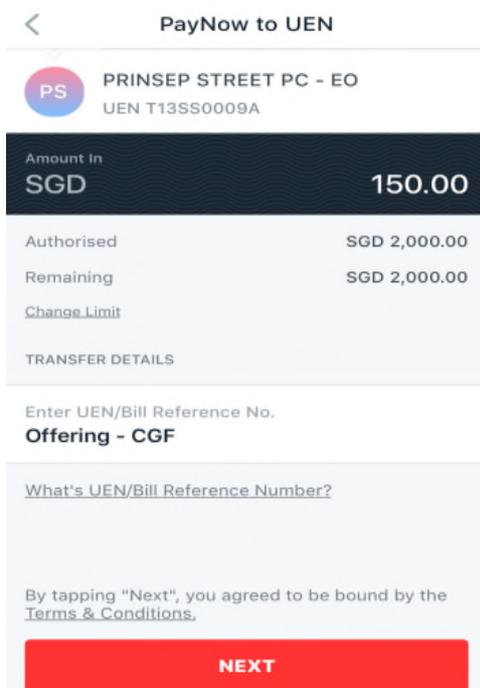
a) Select PayNow from your banking app and log in.



b) Select Unique Entity Number (UEN), input T13SS0009A and click “Next”.

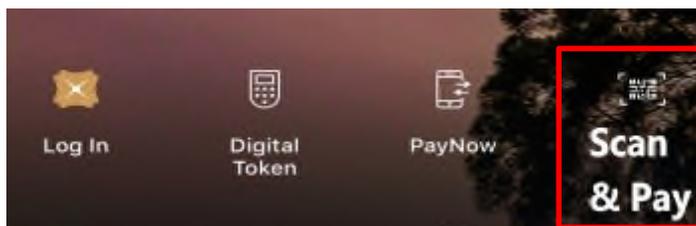


c) Enter your offering amount and details of your offering under “Enter UEN/Bill Reference No” or “PayNow Ref No”. Click “Next” and “Transfer Now” after checking that the details and amount are correct.



Method 3: Paynow via QR Code

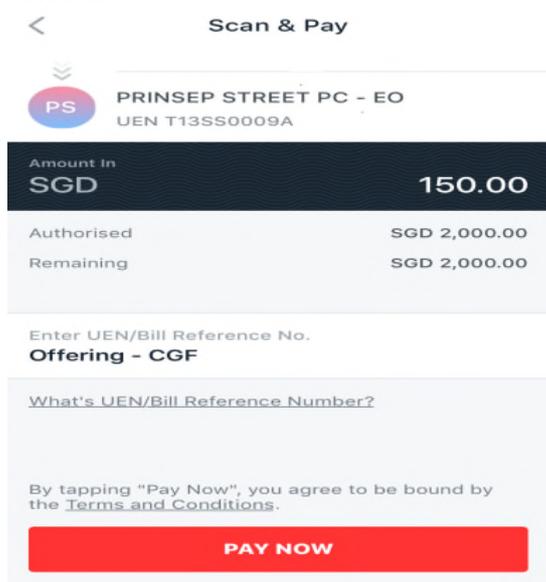
- a) Select Scan & Pay from your **banking app**.



- b) Scan the following QR Code.



- c) Enter your offering amount and Details of your offering under “Enter UEN/Bill Reference No” or “PayNow Ref No”. Click “Next” and “Transfer Now” after checking that the details and amount are correct.



For all methods, if you wish to direct your offering to a specific fund or recipient, please indicate the details below in the Bill Reference Number section.

Details to indicate in e-Offering	Type of offering
Offering CGF	Church General Fund
Offering CBF	Church Building Fund
Offering ASF	Anniversary Seminary Fund
Love gift <name of designated individual or family>	Full amount given directly to designated individual / family
Support <name of designated individual or family>	Contribute to 20% support via missionary organization e.g. SIM, OMF etc.
EPJM, Love in Action, Chiang Rai, Chiang Mai, Angel Tree etc	Designated Funds

In the event that no details are indicated, offering will be treated as contribution to Church General Fund. If no indication of love gift or support, amount will be treated as love gift to individual or family.

Cheques are still accepted via making it payable to “Prinsep Street Presbyterian Church” or “PSPC”. They can be mailed to PSPC at 77 Prinsep Street Singapore 188649 should the need arises.