



GOD WITH US

CHRISTMAS EVE AT
CHINESE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH,
SURRY HILLS



THE NAMES OF THE SAVIOUR

REV CHRIS CHAN

God named the Saviour Jesus Christ "Immanuel", which means "God with us". In biblical culture, a person's name specifies the person's identity, status or office. Jesus Christ is the God who dwells with His people.

Is having God dwelling with us at all times a desirable thing? That depends on what He is like. If He is one who penalises us punitively every time we violate His rules, and always robs us of freedom, then frankly, it would be miserable. Through the prophet Isaiah, God also told us that this Saviour is to be named:

"Wonderful Counsellor" – one who journeys with us through the thick and thin of life, is empathetic and guides us in decisions with godly wisdom,

"Almighty God" – one who is in control of all things and whose power transcends all circumstances, even physical laws that He Himself established,

"Everlasting Father" – a loving and merciful heavenly father who never leaves us or forsakes us, and

"Prince of peace" – one whose mission is to rebuild and sustain our intimate relationship with God, a mission that He accomplished by sacrificing Himself on the cross.

Such a God being with us is a blessing far beyond the rich blessing of having a loving earthly family and a faithful friend. Even since His creation of the world, God's heart is to enjoy a loving intimate personal relationship with each one of us whom He has created. It was for this purpose that He sent the Saviour Jesus Christ at the first Christmas in the form of a human, so that He could represent humankind to pay the debt of sin, in order that those who believe in Him will be adopted back into God's family again to be His children.

The Apostle John said when Jesus came, the world rejected Him, "Yet to all who did receive Him, to those who believed in His name (meaning those who accept Him for who He is as His names indicate), He gave the right to become children of God" John's Gospel 1:11-12. Would you open your heart this Christmas to receive Him as your Saviour and Lord, so that you will truly be able to celebrate "Immanuel - God with us"?



ORDER OF SERVICE

REFLECTION

O COME EMMANUEL

WELCOME

SELWYN WU

CAROL

JOY TO THE WORLD /
JOYFUL WE ADORE THEE
EMMANUEL

BIBLE READING

ISAIAH 9:6-7

SETH TSE

CAROL

BEHOLD /
O COME LET US ADORE THEE
O HOLY NIGHT

PRAYER

ELDER PHILLIP
LOWE

CAROL

FIRST NOEL
O COME ALL YE FAITHFUL
ANGELS WE HAVE HEARD ON
HIGH

BIBLE READING

MATTHEW 1:20 – 2:12

SUSAN QUAY

SERMON

HOPE FROM BEYOND THE STARS

PASTOR ADAM
BREASLEY

COLLECTION

HARK THE HERALD

CAROL

O PRAISE THE NAME /
O COME ALL YE FAITHFUL

PRAYER

SELWYN WU





WORSHIP SERVICES

9am	Family English Service
9am	Mandarin Service
10:30	Cantonese Service
12pm	English/Cantonese Service
4pm	English Service (Young Adults)

MINISTRIES

9am/10:30am	Sunday School (creche to year 6)
10:45am	CYA (year 7 to 12)
11am	Living Word and Adult Seminar

CHRISTMAS EVE COLLECTION

CPC General Fund

BSB: 032044

Account number: 225830

This year's collection from the Christmas services will be given to:

- SHUM (Surry Hills Urban Mission)
- Edward Egar Lodge residents
- PresAid, to support the following projects:
 - i. Basic sanitation and fresh water for the residential Chasefu Theological College, Zambia that are training pastors for future gospel ministry.
 - ii. Church plant for the Evangelical Presbyterians of Timor Leste, who are constructing new chapels for worship in villages.
 - iii. New dormitories at Talua Theological Training Institute, Vanuatu for training pastors.

