



நல்ல மேய்ப்பன் சுவிசேஷ சபை
GOOD SHEPHERD GOSPEL CHURCH

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER

LIVING TO SERVE

APRIL 2025

- **SUNDAY SERVICE**
(BILINGUAL TAMIL & ENGLISH)
10.00 AM TO 12.30 PM
- **HOLY COMMUNION FOLLOWS**
THE 1ST SUNDAY SERVICE
- **FASTING PRAYER**
1ST SATURDAY OF THE MONTH
@ 9:30 AM - 1:30 PM
- **BIBLE STUDY**
EVERY THURSDAY
@ 6:30 PM - 7:45 PM
- **YOUTH MEETING**
EVERY MONDAY @ 6 AM
2ND SATURDAY OF THE MONTH
@ 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM
- **MEN'S MEETING**
LAST WEDNESDAY OF EVERY MONTH
- **LADIES MEETING**
2ND FRIDAY OF THE MONTH
@ 10:30 AM - 12:30 PM
- **UK NATION PRAYER**
2ND WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH
@ 8:30 PM - 9:15 PM
- **KIDS CLASS**
EVERY FRIDAY @ 4:30 PM
- **FAMILY PRAYER**
EVERY FRIDAY @ 6:30 PM - 7:30 PM
- **LEADERS PRAYER MEETING**
EVERY FRIDAY @ 5.30 AM - 6.15 AM

GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE -18TH

@6PM

RESURRECTION SERVICE -20TH

@10AM

Birthdays

09TH APR – BRO. ANTONY SELVAKUMAR
11TH APR – BABY. SUSANNAH
16TH APR – BRO. JEYAPRAKASH
20TH APR – BRO. ROCHE
28TH APR – SIS. PAVITHRA
30TH APR – BRO. ROBIN

Anniversaries

06TH APR – BRO. ANTONY SELVAKUMAR & SIS. SONU
15TH APR – BRO. ISAAC & SIS. SANDHYA
18TH APR – BRO. MADHAN & SIS. CATHERIN
21ST APR – BRO. SATHEESH & SIS. VAANI

LEAD MINISTER -PASTOR RAJAN ROBERT
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From the Pastor's Desk

GOD WHO UPHOLDS US

GREETINGS TO YOU ALL IN THE NAME OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST!

The Lord enabled me to meditate on and share the Sunday message based on the powerful verse from Isaiah 41:10 **"Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you, yes, I will help you, I will uphold you with My righteous right hand."** Sometimes, even the strongest among us walk through seasons of fear and uncertainty some situations can be so overwhelming that they bring shame or sorrow. But today, God is reminding us not to fear, assuring us of His abiding presence. In the latter part of this verse, the Almighty promises not only to strengthen and help us but also to uphold us with His righteous right hand. There are moments in life when we cannot carry ourselves through pain, loss, disappointments, shame, or difficult circumstances. Even Cain, though deserving of punishment, couldn't bear the burden of his exile. Moses, too, found it overwhelming to lead such a vast congregation, and God intervened through Jethro's wisdom to delegate responsibilities. During the battle with the Amalekites, Moses also needed prayer support from Aaron and Hur to uphold his hands. Similarly, God is the one who faithfully upholds us in every situation. In Isaiah 46:1-4, we see how the Israelites, during their captivity, worshipped false gods like Bel (meaning "supreme master") and Nebo (associated with wisdom and writing), but these idols became burdens rather than sources of strength. In contrast, God declares that He has carried His people from the womb and will continue to carry, support, and sustain them even into their old age. If we are believing in anything other than Christ it is a burden for us and even if anyone don't believe or rely on God's provision He is the one who sustains and bears us.

Satisfying reward in famine days. The Lord upholds and satisfies the righteous even in times of famine. In Genesis 26:1-3, we read how God instructed Isaac not to go to Egypt—a prosperous land—but instead to dwell in the land of the Philistines, an enemy nation. Isaac obeyed God's word and responded in faith, and as a result, he reaped a hundredfold harvest, despite the famine in that foreign land. As written in Ecclesiastes 11:4, "He who observes the wind will not sow, and he who regards the clouds will not reap." This reminds us that in difficult seasons, we are often faced with critical decisions. But rather than focusing on the challenges or the season of life we are in, we must look to the God who changes seasons. Don't run to "Egypt"—the seemingly prosperous solutions of the world. Instead, listen to His Word and act in faith. Jesus emphasized this in:

- Matthew 13:23 - "He who hears the Word and understands it..."
- Luke 8:15 - "Those who hear the Word and keep it with a noble and good heart..."
- Mark 4:20 - "Those who hear the Word, accept it, and bear fruit some thirty, some sixty, and some a hundredfold."

May we be like Isaac hearing, receiving, and trusting God's Word—so that even in famine days, we bear fruit abundantly.

Sound sleep in midst of enemies. Peaceful sleep belongs to those who trust in the Lord. Throughout the Bible, we see many who found peaceful rest even in times of great trouble, because they chose to cast their anxieties on the Lord. One powerful example is David, whose life was filled with grief, sorrow, and relentless opposition. His Psalms are filled with heartfelt cries about how his enemies hated and mocked him—often for no reason. Even his own son Absalom and trusted advisor Ahithophel turned against him. Yet, in the face of all these trials, David turned to the Lord. As he declares in Psalm 18:3, he called upon the Lord and was saved. In Psalm 4:8, he confidently states, "I will lie down and sleep in peace, for you alone, O Lord, make me dwell in safety." David's peace didn't come from his circumstances—it came from his trust in God. He understood that true victory over enemies comes from the Lord, as written in Psalm 54:7: "For He has delivered me from all trouble, and my eyes have looked in triumph on my enemies."

"David constantly longed for God's presence and guidance. In Psalm 5:8, he prays, "Lead me, O Lord, in Your righteousness because of my enemies. "And in Psalm 63:8, he beautifully declares, "My soul follows close behind You; Your right hand upholds me. "Just like David, we must crave for God's presence and lean on His strength. When we meditate on David's life and the Psalms he wrote, we see a clear path to overcoming any kind of enemy whether external or internal by staying focused on God and His ways. Even though David was anointed to be king, he was not accepted immediately. Yet he didn't rely on his own strength or retaliate in the flesh he trusted God and dealt with his enemies according to God's will. We too must grow in spiritual maturity, especially when dealing with opposition from those closest to us even fellow Christians or family members. We are called to see them as brothers and pray earnestly for them, asking God to help both them and us. We don't need complicated treatments or remedies to overcome the attacks that come against our minds. What we need is a heart and mind filled with God's Word. When His truth is embedded in our hearts, we can stand strong and at peace no matter the opposition. Like Peter in Acts 12:1, who slept peacefully even in prison while awaiting execution, we too can rest without fear when we've learned to cast all our anxieties on the One who sustains us.

Sustaining spirit in repentance. Unrepented sin often opens the door to sickness and unrest. In Psalm 51:11-12, David pleads, "Restore to me the joy of Your salvation, and uphold me by Your generous Spirit. "He understood the importance of a cheerful spirit, which is given by the Holy Spirit to those who genuinely repent and allow transformation in their lives. The Hebrew word for repentance is "Teshuva", meaning a complete turnaround—a change in direction, a change in heart and mind toward God. True repentance means a radical shift in behavior and spirit a burning of the old ways, never to return, and walking forward in God's path and with His presence. A beautiful example of this is seen in the Prodigal Son (Luke 15:20), who came to his senses, turned back, and was welcomed by the Father. Likewise, we cannot enjoy the fullness of God's presence unless we truly repent. A heart that cannot praise God is often burdened void of cheer and spiritually unwell. That's why it's essential to examine our lives and worship. If there is unrepented sin, we must humbly come before God and ask for His forgiveness. When the paralyzed man was lowered through the roof, Jesus first said, "Your sins are forgiven." This teaches us that some illnesses may stem from sin or undisciplined living. Moreover, unrepented sins can impact generations, affecting not just us but our children. It's no coincidence that the very first message of the Gospel by John the Baptist, Jesus Christ, and even after the resurrection, was "Repent" (Matthew 3:1-2; 4:17; Mark 1:14-15). Repentance is the first step into the Kingdom of God. Repentance is not a one-time act—it must become a daily posture. As written in 1 John 1:7-9, "If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. " His blood purifies us completely. Even when we fall, God sustains us, as we read in Psalm 94:18, "When I said, 'My foot slips,' Your mercy, O Lord, held me up. "Remember this: "Though a righteous man falls seven times, he will rise again" (Proverbs 24:16). So don't be discouraged by failure cry out to God. He knows every detail about you, even the number of hairs on your head. As Jesus says in Luke 12:6-7, "Are not five sparrows sold for two copper coins? And not one of them is forgotten before God. But the very hairs of your head are all numbered. Do not fear; therefore, you are of more value than many sparrows. "God sees you. He values you. And through repentance, He restores you.

Conclusion. As we read in Hebrews 1:1-4, God upholds the entire universe by His powerful Word so how much more will He uphold and sustain us? He has engraved us in the palm of His hands, assuring us of His unfailing care. Therefore, like Isaac, sow the Word of God even in times of famine, and you will be sustained. Like David, trust in the Lord, and you will find peaceful rest even in the presence of your enemies. And as long as we repent and examine our ways daily, God will never withdraw His Holy Spirit, who fills our hearts with true joy and cheerfulness.

Pastor Rajan Robert



DID YOU KNOW?? SOME FACTS ABOUT “CAVE OF PATRIARCHS”

- ONE OF THE MOST FAMOUS PIECES OF REAL ESTATE ON EARTH IS THE CAVE OF MACHPELAH (ALSO KNOWN AS THE “CAVE OF THE PATRIARCHS”) IN THE SOUTHERN ISRAELI CITY OF HEBRON.
- MACHPELAH MEANS “DOUBLED” IN HEBREW. ONE REASON GIVEN IS THAT FOUR PRESTIGIOUS COUPLES ARE BURIED THERE: ADAM AND EVE, ABRAHAM AND SARAH, ISAAC AND REBECCA, AND JACOB AND LEAH. (OUR MATRIARCH RACHEL WAS BURIED ELSEWHERE.)
- AS RECOUNTED IN GENESIS, ABRAHAM PURCHASED THE CAVE AND THE SURROUNDING FIELD AS A BURIAL PLACE FOR HIS WIFE, SARAH, MAKING IT THE FIRST PLOT OF LAND IN THE HOLY LAND TO BECOME THE LEGAL POSSESSION OF THE JEWISH PEOPLE. THIS TOOK PLACE IN 1677 BCE.
- ABRAHAM, WHEN HE DIED, WAS BURIED THERE, TOO, AND SO WERE ISAAC AND HIS WIFE, REBECCA. LEAH WAS BURIED THERE, AND BEFORE JACOB DIED IN EGYPT, IN 1523 BCE, HE MADE JOSEPH PROMISE THAT HE WOULD CARRY HIM OUT OF EGYPT AND BURY HIM WITH HIS FATHERS IN THE CAVE OF MACHPELAH. AND INDEED, THEY MADE A SPECIAL JOURNEY TO DO SO.



FROM TEST TO TESTIMONY

WE WERE PRAYING FOR OUR VISA AS MY HUSBAND'S VISA WAS EXPIRING ON MARCH 5, 2025. AFTER PRAYING, I DECIDED TO CHECK WITH MY COMPANY, WHICH HAD INFORMED ME DURING MY INTERVIEW THAT THEY DON'T SPONSOR VISAS FOR MY ROLE. MY MANAGER REJECTED MY REQUEST FOR SPONSORSHIP THREE TIMES DUE TO BUDGET CONSTRAINTS. I ALSO CHECKED WITH HR, BUT THEY COULDN'T HELP BECAUSE I WAS A FIXED-TERM CONTRACTOR. WE CONTINUED TO PRAY AND HAVE FAITH IN GOD THAT THE LORD WOULD GRANT US THE VISA AND ALLOW US TO STAY IN THE UK TO GROW SPIRITUALLY, WHICH IS OUR GREATER BLESSING.

IN JANUARY, HR DECIDED TO PROVIDE THE VISA THROUGH AN IMMIGRATION LAWYER. BY FEBRUARY, WE RECEIVED OUR WORK VISA BY GOD'S GRACE. WE THANK THE LORD AND ALL THE CHURCH FAMILY MEMBERS FOR THEIR PRAYERS.

SIS. RADHU SIVA

CHURCH DEDICATION SERVICE

WITH HEART FULL OF GRATITUDE, WE INVITE YOU TO JOIN US FOR THE CHURCH DEDICATION SERVICE AS WE COMMIT OUR PLACE OF WORSHIP TO THE GLORY OF GOD. THIS SPECIAL OCCASION WILL BE A TIME OF PRAYER, THANKSGIVING, AND WORSHIP AS WE SEEK GOD'S BLESSINGS OVER HIS HOUSE AND MINISTRY FOLLOWED BY DINNER.

A poster for a church dedication service. The background is a photograph of a church interior with a large cross and a golden chalice. The text is overlaid on the image. At the top, there is a banner with the text 'நல்ல மேய்ப்பன் சுவிசேஷ சபை' and 'GOOD SHEPHERD GOSPEL CHURCH'. Below this, the words 'Dedication Service' are written in a large, elegant, purple script. Underneath, the Tamil text 'பிரதிஷ்டை ஆராதனை' is written in a bold, purple font. A golden banner at the bottom contains the date and time '26TH SATURDAY APRIL 2025 @ 2PM', the address '14 ST. JOHNS ROAD, HEDGE END, SOUTHAMPTON, SO30 4AB', and the name of the officiant 'Will be Dedicated by Pastor S.J. Dhinagharan' in a red script font. Below the golden banner, there is a line of text in purple: 'Our Praise & Worship time: Every Sunday at 10am (Tamil & English)' and a contact number 'Contact: Pastor Rajan Robert 07916123274 / 07932698951'.

FOR THOSE TRAVELLING TO JOIN US, ACCOMMODATION ARRANGEMENTS ARE AVAILABLE. KINDLY REACH OUT TO BROTHER ANAND FOR ASSISTANCE.

LET US COME TOGETHER IN FAITH AND JOY AS WE DEDICATE THIS HOUSE OF GOD, PRAYING THAT IT WILL BE A PLACE OF WORSHIP, FELLOWSHIP, AND SPIRITUAL GROWTH FOR GENERATIONS TO COME.

What happening

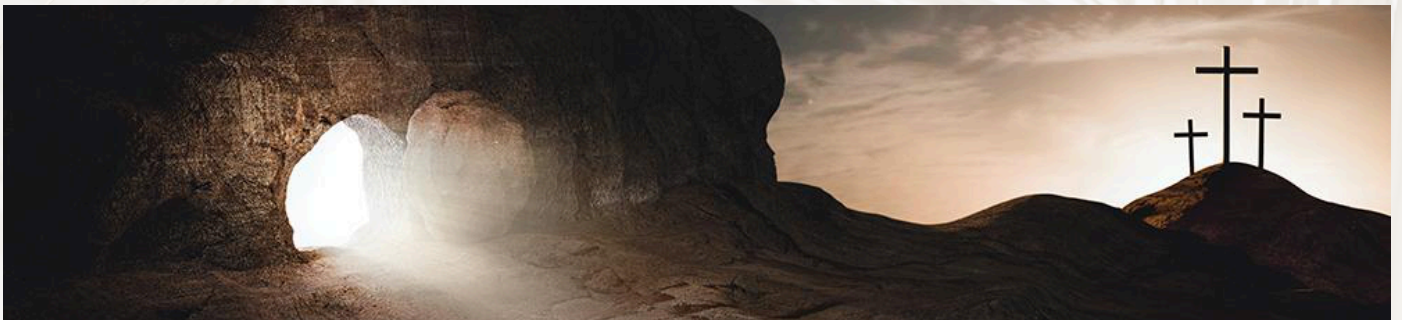
GOOD FRIDAY & RESURRECTION SUNDAY SERVICE

WE INVITE YOU ALL TO JOIN US FOR OUR SPECIAL GOOD FRIDAY AND RESURRECTION SUNDAY SERVICES AS WE REMEMBER CHRIST'S SACRIFICE AND CELEBRATE HIS VICTORIOUS RESURRECTION.

GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE (18 APR 2025) AT GOOD SHEPHERD GOSPEL CHURCH FROM 6PM ONWARDS: A TIME OF REFLECTION ON THE ULTIMATE SACRIFICE OF JESUS THROUGH WORSHIP, SCRIPTURE, AND PRAYER.

RESURRECTION SUNDAY SERVICE (20 APR 2025) AT GOOD SHEPHERD GOSPEL CHURCH: A JOYOUS CELEBRATION OF CHRIST'S TRIUMPH OVER DEATH AND THE HOPE WE HAVE IN HIM.

Come and be blessed as we worship and rejoice together.



CHURCH FAMILY UPDATE & A WARM WELCOME!

GREETINGS IN THE NAME OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST!

WE THANK GOD FOR HIS CONTINUED BLESSINGS UPON OUR CHURCH FAMILY. AS WE GROW TOGETHER IN FAITH, WE ALSO REJOICE IN WELCOMING NEW MEMBERS BRO. SHALAH, BRO. NELSON, SIS. SHERIN INTO OUR GSGC CONGREGATION. MAY THEY FIND LOVE, ENCOURAGEMENT, AND SPIRITUAL NOURISHMENT IN OUR FELLOWSHIP. LET US CONTINUE TO EXTEND OUR WARMTH AND PRAYERS TO THEM AS THEY BECOME PART OF OUR CHURCH FAMILY.

MAY GOD BLESS EACH ONE OF YOU ABUNDANTLY!

"THEREFORE WELCOME ONE ANOTHER AS CHRIST HAS WELCOMED YOU, FOR THE GLORY OF GOD."

ROMANS 15:7

Thou hast
found Grace
in my Sight

EXODUS 33:17



BIG THANK YOU FOR ALL LENDING HANDS!!

WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR OUR FOOD MINISTRY VOLUNTEERS AND THEIR FAMILIES WHO PREPARED AND SERVED FOOD AFTER THE SUNDAY SERVICE.

For Prayer Request

Taking other's hands and praying for them is a powerful blessing you can give another person. We are here to support you through prayers.

Send your prayer requests by SMS or call
07916123274 / 07871872086

