



# Westside Baptist Church Bulletin

December 22, 2024  
4th Sunday of  
Advent

Speaker: Rev. Alan Yu

## During Worship

- ▶ Be still and prepare your heart for worship.
- ▶ Please close the main hall doors gently during worship services.
- ▶ Please take care of your personal belongings to avoid theft.

### Offering

- ▶ Welcome to donate via E-transfer, email: [westsidebaptistoffering@gmail.com](mailto:westsidebaptistoffering@gmail.com)
- ▶ To donate by cash or cheque, please use an offering envelope and put it into the offering bag during worship.
- ▶ When making a donation, please indicate the donation envelope number and the full legal name. The offering envelope number can be obtained from the church office.

### Notes to CitRUs parents :

- ▶ The enrollment age for CitRUs Children's Ministry starts from age 3; one parent can accompany children under 3 to participate in worship in Room B.
- ▶ Classes are held on Sunday mornings at 9:00 am at Room E & F.
- ▶ After class, please supervise the children who have been picked up from the classroom.

## Parking

- ▶ The upstairs parking lot (Parking Lot 1) is designated for new comers, people with reduced mobility, the elderly and families with young children.
- ▶ The indoor parking lot downstairs (Parking Lot 2) will be closed at 1:00 pm on Sundays. If you exceed the time limit, you will have to wait until 10:00 am on Tuesday morning to collect your vehicle.
- ▶ Additional parking spaces are available at 8508 Ash Street (Parking Lot 3) on Saturdays from 4:00 - 7:00pm and Sundays from 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. [Maps](#) are available in the foyer.
- ▶ To be considerate of your neighbors, please do not park in the residential area.
- ▶ Please do not double park.
- ▶ When parking in the outdoor parking lot downstairs (Parking Lot 2), please be careful not to block the emergency exits and keep a distance of 3 feet from the building's exterior wall so that the emergency exit doors can be fully opened.
- ▶ Please park and lock your bike/e-bike outside. Do not park the bike inside the building.
- ▶ Starting from January 2025, parking at the church or 8508 Ash during worship services congregants are required to register online annually. Registration link: <https://forms.gle/TDSft5sAJgk5QMeN8>



## Scripture Reading Plan

- ▶ This week, as Advent concludes, we will also finish our reading of Revelation. With our perspective shaped by the vision in Revelation, let us begin our reading of the Christmas narratives in Matthew and Luke during the 12 days of Christmas. You may be familiar with these Christmas stories. Yet, when we read them this Christmas, pay closer attention to the social, political, and economic contexts of Jesus' birth. You may have a different understanding of Jesus' mission.
- ▶ Reading Plan for this week:
  - ▶ Dec 22 (Sunday) Revelation 20:1-15
  - ▶ Dec 23 (Monday) Revelation 21:1-27
  - ▶ Dec 24 (Tuesday) Revelation 22:1-21
  - ▶ Dec 25 (Wednesday) Luke 1:1-25
  - ▶ Dec 26 (Thursday) Luke 1:26-38
  - ▶ Dec 27 (Friday) Luke 1:39-56
  - ▶ Dec 28 (Saturday) Luke 1:57-80
  - ▶ Dec 29 (Sunday) Luke 2:1-7

Co·Mission

## 4. The Restored Garden

[ Revelation 22:1-7 ]

Look, I am coming soon! Blessed is the one who keeps the words of the prophecy written in this scroll.

[ Revelation 22:7 ]

### Sermon Outline

Introduction

Content

1. The \_\_\_\_\_ - the unhindered \_\_\_\_\_ of God

2. \_\_\_\_\_ - the destruction of all \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_

3. The Garden of \_\_\_\_\_ - the restoration of everything

\_\_\_\_\_

### My Reflection

► What did God tell me through the message today?

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- ▶ What did God tell me through the message today?

4. The New \_\_\_\_\_ - the \_\_\_\_\_ of our every \_\_\_\_\_

5. The perfected \_\_\_\_\_ - the \_\_\_\_\_ as God originally intended

Conclusion

## My Prayer Response

- ▶ Write down your responsive prayer for God's word today.

## My Action Response

- ▶ What changes will you make in response to God's word today?

## Small Group Discussions

### Testimony

1. Please share about your scripture reading this week? What do you find rewarding? What do you find frustrating?

### Know

2. Please review your sermon notes for this week. What did you learn that you did not know previously?
3. Read together again Revelation 21 and 22. What impression does this passage give you? What is the most intriguing saying in this passage to you? Why?
4. How does Revelation 22:1-7 compare with the initial descriptions of Eden in Genesis? What do you think this implies about God's original and final intentions for humanity?
5. Why is the New Jerusalem described as a cube, and what does this tell us about our future relationship with God?
6. Why do you think Revelation uses the name "New Jerusalem" despite the city's historical associations with sinfulness and rebellion?
7. What does it mean for you that New Jerusalem symbolizes both redemption and a perfect community?

### Feel

8. How do you feel knowing that God will make His dwelling place with us, as stated in Revelation 21:3? Does it bring you comfort or raise questions?
9. What emotions arise when you imagine living in a world without evil, sin, or darkness as described in Revelation?
10. When you hear that God will "make everything new" (Rev 21:5), what hope or concerns come to mind for you personally?
11. How does the idea that we will become the New Jerusalem, a restored community, make you feel about your current relationships within the church?
12. What does the removal of all curses in Revelation 22:3 mean for your personal journey of faith?



### Plan

13. What are the hindrances (including internal and external) for you to help create a church community that embodies the characteristics of the "New Jerusalem"? What are the effective ways to remove these hindrances? Please ask your group members for advice.


### Do

14. Resolve to help create a church community that embodies the characteristics of the "New Jerusalem". Share how practically you'll do this with your group members.
15. Invite a group member to be your accountability partner, and give him/her permission to rebuke you when you have not followed through on your resolution.
16. Commit to help create a church community that embodies the characteristics of the "New Jerusalem". Ask the Holy Spirit to mould you more into the likeness of Jesus.

## Announcements

- ▶ A new Christian Education will begin on January 12 at Room E between 10:45 - 11:45am. Topic: **Emotionally Healthy Spirituality** (8 lessons). Please register on [universe.com/westside](https://universe.com/westside).
- ▶ **Monthly bulletin** consists of summary of deacon board meeting and financial report has been posted on the church website and bulletin board.
- ▶ A **Clothing Drive** will be held in December as a Christmas donation to [Covenant House](https://www.covenanthouse.org) to support youth in need. Congregants can place donated clothing in Room G downstairs after worship services on December 15, 21, 22 and 24.
- ▶ **Christmas Carolling** – December 22 between 2–3pm at Marine Gateway.
- ▶ **Candlelight service** will be held on December 24 from 8:00 - 9:30pm. Due to limited seating, all participants must register at [www.universe.com/candlelight](https://www.universe.com/candlelight). Scanning QR code for admission is required. Overflow parking is available at 8508 Ash as well.
- ▶ **Hopeful gifts for Change** – the church encourage congregants to support this program organized by CBM. Donation can be made directly through the CBM website. 
- ▶ The **church office** will be closed on December 25, 26 and January 1, 2025.
- ▶ The **Annual General Meeting** will be held on January 26, 2025 at 3:00pm via Zoom. Details of the meeting and voting procedures will be announced. Members, please reserve time to attend.
- ▶ **2024 Tax Receipts** will be distributed via email in February 2025. Please update your personal information before January 31, 2025 if there is any change over the past year. <https://forms.gle/iYS78wonyHxD14bQA> 

## Fellowship Life

- ▶ Westside 101 is a course designed for anyone who wishes to join us as a member through baptism or transfer of membership. It consists of approximately five 90-minute classes. Please register at [universe.com/westside](https://universe.com/westside) 
- ▶ Small groups are the heart of our fellowship life and an essential part of our holistic Christian living. We invite you to join our small groups if you are willing to commit. To register, please visit [universe.com/westside](https://universe.com/westside) 