

# The Methodist Church in Singapore

新加坡基督教衛理公會

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Dear Brothers and Sisters in the Methodist Church in Singapore,

Singapore has taken the difficult decision to control the unlinked local spread of COVID-19 in our nation. The Methodist Church in Singapore will give our best to this effort and each member is encouraged to comply with the instructions of the authorities.

Whilst your pastors and leaders wrestle with the delivery of online sermons and worship to you, we ask that every one of you help with the following:

1. **Stop meeting physically for small groups and cell groups.** We need to break the chain of transmission and even small group meetings may lead to difficult-to-trace clusters forming. Please use online teleconferencing tools or even the telephone to keep in touch as you continue to pray and study God's word.
2. **Stay in your homes and only go out when you need to buy essential supplies or to exercise on your own. Stay home to stay safe.** When you do go out, please wear a mask over your nose and mouth so as to prevent your droplets from contaminating surfaces around you or spreading your germs to others.
3. **Practise good personal hygiene;** wash your hands with soap and water often. Avoid touching your mouth, eyes and nose and cough or sneeze into a piece of tissue and dispose of it properly in a litter bin. Please do not spit.

**All church premises will be closed during this Circuit Breaker (7 April – 4 May),** and your pastors will give you information on how to receive urgent ministry should you need it.

As you find yourself in the quietness of the additional time you have at hand, use it to reconnect to God. We so easily miss the company of friends during isolation and try to connect, but do we miss the companionship of Jesus and crave for Him? Have you a quiet corner in your home to stop to listen to His soft voice? It is at times like these that we need to come together on our knees before God to lament and petition and He will hear our cry.

**We have celebrated Palm Sunday and now enter Holy Week leading to Good Friday and Easter.** We remember how quickly the Jews turned from cheering Jesus in His triumphal entry to condemning Him to death on the Cross. Let us not turn from Christ in betrayal but cling to Him instead in this hour of need.

**We will miss our Holy Communion on Maundy Thursday; let us keep this rite sacred and not try to conduct Holy Communion on our own in our homes.**

We may celebrate a quieter Easter this year, but we will celebrate it with exceeding joy nonetheless for we know and serve a Risen Saviour. Wherever the Lord finds you this Easter, be His light and love to those around you; be the Samaritan to a neighbour in need, perhaps one who struggles to leave their home to get groceries, or who cannot cook or fend for themselves.

I keep you in my prayers as you keep me in yours.

Humbly in His service,

Bishop Dr Chong Chin Chung  
The Methodist Church in Singapore