## Sunday, November 15, 2020

#### Welcome to Monterey Park Chinese Baptist Church!

Thank you for worshipping with us today. Our prayer is that you would experience Jesus in a fresh way as we worship together. If you have any questions about our church or would like to speak with a pastor, please contact the church office at 626-289-1284.

## **Call to Worship Song**

#### **Welcome and Announcements**

## **Praise Songs**

Scripture Reading: Ephesians 6:10-24

## Sermon Message:

Book of Ephesians Series: How Do You Identify? (Part 14)

"IN CHRIST: I Am: <u>Victorious</u>" *Rev. Eric Kuykendall* 

**Offertory Prayer and Offerings** 

**Benediction** 

**English Pastor:** 

Pastor Eric Kuykendall <a href="mailto:training4impact@gmail.com">training4impact@gmail.com</a>
English Deacons:
Jeff Cha jeff@mpcbc.net

Charles Leung charles@mpcbc.net

## **Announcements**

#### Baptism Testimony:

 Praise the Lord, we have 2 new members – Yesenia Carillo & Quan Yongjie joined our church family through baptism. Please see their testimonies enclosed herewith and pray for their faith & spiritual growth.

#### Offering:

- As our church continues it's ministries, a financial offering is still a channel of blessing for Christians, and is acceptable to God. Please continue to give to the church faithfully so that we can continue to do the God's work. You may thru the following options to do your offering:
  - If writing a check, make it payable to MPCBC and mailed to the church's address: 302 W. Commonwealth Ave., Alhambra, CA 91801.
  - Our church Website: mpcbc.net/english/offerings/
  - Our church PayPal a/c: donations@mpcbc.net
  - Set aside your offering and bring it to the church at a later time.

# Monterey Park Chinese Baptist Church



"Loving God, loving people, and serving the world."

(Matthew 28:19-20, Matthew 22:37)

302 W. Commonwealth Ave. Alhambra, Ca 91801

(626) 289-1284 www.mpcbc.net

English Ministry Facebook - https://m.facebook.com/MPCBC-English-Ministry-744603922340603/

**November 15, 2020** 

## **Mission Statement:**

Knowing God is our foundation, glorifying God is our goal. Through worship, fellowship, discipleship, ministry, and evangelism, we seek to know God, and make His name known.

## **Core Values:**

#### Christ as the Head of the Church – Ephesians 1:22-23; 2:19-21

We value Christ as the head of our lives and as the foundation of our church. We submit ourselves to his direction, guidance and control.

#### Biblical Teaching – 2 Timothy 3:16-17 and 2 Timothy 4:2

We value Biblical teaching because the Holy Bible is the complete, inerrant and infallible word of God to all mankind. It is the foundation of our beliefs and it is proclaimed from our pulpit, taught in our classes and honored by our obedience.

#### Worship – Romans 12:1

We value worship that draws us closer to God's presence. Whether whispering our personal desires for him or passionately singing his praise, we declare God is worthy.

## Prayer – Matthew 6:9-13, Philippians 4:6, 19

We value prayer as our means of communicating intimately and reverently with God.

## Evangelism - Acts 1:8, Matthew 28:19-20

We value Evangelism because we love people and want to see them come to know Christ as their Lord and Savior.

## Community -Acts 2:44-47

We value a sense of community in order to develop relationships that nurture, support and teach others to be Christ-like.

## Discipleship - 2 Timothy 2:1-2; John 8:31

We value discipleship that leads to authentic life change. It is our goal to develop followers of Christ who grow and live in the knowledge of Him and His teachings.

## **Prayer**

### Pray for Outreaching Ministry:

- Pray to revive our church to love unsaved people. Bible said, "For God so love the world, that He gave His only begotten son" (John 3.16). Spreading the gospel and reaching out for the unsaved is one of the top agendas in God's heart. We pray that God awakes our church members to care what God cares, to love what God loves.
- Pray to ask younger generations to join the church. Our church is in aging stage, over 60% of current members are over 50 years old now. The future of our church depends on having younger generation join the church.
- 3. Pray to ask God's wisdom to plan and start outreaching programs. Well planning and choosing suitable program is the key of success. Pray for the leadership.
- 4. Pray for unity and spirit of serving. When we start new outreaching programs, it is not just activities for a small group of people. It needs the participation of the whole church. Our members need to see the same vision and bear the burden in one according.
- 5. Pray for every member fervently engage in reaching friends/ neighbors/relatives.
- Pray for the development of new small groups (Connect Groups) within the church by which we can grow in fellowship, discipleship, and ministry.
- 7. Pray for the new online ministry, ask the Lord to use the Internet to let us reach out more people in different places.
- 8. Pray for our church will emphasize on evangelism and prayer.
- In the evangelism, may the Lord grants pastors the motivation and enthusiasm, wisdom and courage, so that they can plan the outreaching ministry together.
- 10. Pray for the pastors and deacons will have the same visions and goals, and the unity on the ministry.
- 11. Pray for the Lord to provide all the resources that we need for the ministry development.
- 12. Pray that the Lord will prepare, move and call more brothers & sisters to participate the ministry.
- 13. Pray for the people who live nearby our church, ask the Lord to save their souls, grants them opportunity to hear the gospel, and give us chances to reach out to them.
- 14. Long term ministry planning: promotion, preparation, resources and implement.

#### Missions:

- Mexicali Mission MCBC ministry.
- · Missionary Clara Cheng's heath, retirement planning & her ministry.
- · COVID-19 & nationwide reopening process.
- · Racial justice
- · New US president & the government

#### **English Congregation**

- Connect Group Development & English Sunday's Connect Groups.
- English adult & youth ministry development.
- Revival Pray that God would do something God-sized in our congregation and mold us into a people He can use to change the world.
- Outreach Pray that we would be more faithful in sharing Christ's love with those around us. Pray that God would call our workers into the harvest.
- Worship Pray for the worship leader, moderator, speaker; and the live-streaming online service.
- Brothers & sisters would desire to pray, read the Bible daily, memorizing scriptures & serve.
- Brothers & sisters who are working on Sun. Pray that their work schedules can be changed & they can join us for worship service.
- Strength and energy and good time management for the married couples who are raising multiple children.
- Pray for Sister Lu who is waiting for a kidney transplant.
- Pray for Charles Leung as he recuperates from eye surgery.
- Melissa Chin's recovery from her cataract surgery.
- Pray for Henry Tri's recovery from tongue cancer surgery.
- Pray for Pastor Barnabas' wife's visa application for returning to the U.S.
- Pray for Ben Wong's (Bernie Wong's father) family & Ray Chan's (Melody Chan's father) family, Charles Leung & his family, Alice Lui's family, may God comfort them during the difficult time.
- Pray for the Thanksgiving Baptism candidates: Yesenia Carillo & Quan Yongjie.

## Sunday Worship

- · Special Thanksgiving offering: Quan Yongjie \$9.
- Next Sunday's Worship Speakers:

English Service – Rev. Eric Kuykendall, Cantonese Service – Rev. Caleb Cheung, Mandarin Service – Rev. Barnabas Xie.

#### **TESTIMONY OF YESENIA CARILLO**

As a child, I was raised as a catholic. But, it's never been a source of spiritual guidance. As an adult, I attended a few churches, but real life always seemed to get in the way. Recently, I went through something at work that seemed to surround me with negativity.

I was stressed, physically burned out, and angry at my bosses. My problems at work were manifesting themselves in physical ways; to the extent that I was experiencing serious medical issues that doctors could not solve. It seemed to be affecting every aspect of my life. I was becoming consumed by the anger I felt toward the people I believed were responsible for everything I was going through.

I hated feeling this way and I could not find a way out. I decided to turn to prayer. I asked God for guidance. I quit my job and almost all of my medical issues went away. I was blessed with a new job within a few weeks (a miracle considering the pandemic). New, better opportunities were presenting themselves.

I felt like I was on the right path, and I had God to thank for it.

I turned to Pastor Eric for more guidance. I began participating in a bible study. I began watching his sermons. I've learned how to pray. I've learned what it means to have a personal relationship with God through Jesus Christ. I live my life with confidence, knowing that He is there to keep me on the right path, to comfort me in times of struggle, and to give me strength when I am weak. I know that Jesus died on the cross for my sins and has made me a new person.

I know that I can live my life in peace and love because I have been saved by God's grace.

#### **TESTIMONY OF QUAN YONGJIE**

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

My name is Quan Yongjie and I come from Beijing, China (origin: Jilin). I have been in the United States for a year now. I am currently working as a technician in a game company. I am happy to share my testimony with you today.

I am excited about to be baptized to become a Christian. I think back to the journey of my life. I have not really experienced any stormy sea. I am just an ordinary person who wants to explore the true meaning of life. Before believing in Christ, I often thought about what is worth pursuing - money, fame, or status? However, I have never been able to find the answer.

As a child, I was like thousands of children who grew up in China. I always strive to learn and live according to the image of a good child in the eyes of my parents, elders, and teachers. Although life is not always smooth, the result has always been relatively good. At the time, I did not know it was God's care and guidance. Before going abroad, I never understood or even thought about my goal and direction in life. I went to school, looked for a job, got married and started a career step by step, but I did not know where my soul was.

On November 3, 2019, I was fortunate enough to come Monterey Park Chinese Baptist Church. For the first time in my life, I have ever come to church to participate in a Christian worship. Before that, I did not know anything about Christianity and even had preconceived rejection. But when I heard the pastor's preaching, his words and behavior have made me feel warm and welcomed. I could not help wondering what kind of faith can make people so full of joy and love. After that, I participated in the Sunday School and later the Bible study group. I began to formally study and understand everything about faith. I finally realized that

we are all sinners, and only by trusting in God, that our sins can be washed away. Every time in church, the peace and harmonious atmosphere, the mutual support and love between brothers and sisters, deeply infected me. I feel that the church is like a spiritual resting place in this chaotic world where the tired soul can take a breath.

Just when I was just starting to enjoy this joy, COVID-19 broke out and it was fierce. It swept the world in just a few months. The virus raged ruthlessly and took the lives of many people. In order to prevent the spread of the pandemic, California began to implement a stay-athome order ( It is required to stay at home and not to go out) Schools are closed, shops are closed, and social activities are prohibited. As a result, the unemployment rate has risen sharply. Fortunately, the government generously provided a helping hand and began to issue relief funds and unemployment benefits, which solved the urgent needs of many people. But my situation is different. I have just arrived United States for less than half a year, I am not eligible for the government's assistance. The money I brought from China is running out. It is difficult to reach out and ask for money from home, the only thing I can do is to go and find a job. However, during this period, if you want to work, you had to face 2 problems. One is the spread of the virus. There is a possibility of getting infected when you go out to work. Second, job opportunities are difficult to find. You can use the word "rare" to describe it, because basically all businesses are closed. Who wants to hire! However, even so, I cannot control that much anymore. If I want to survive, I had to go out to work. At this time, something magical happened. I suddenly cried out "God, my lord, help me please! Let me find a job!" Why is it magical? Because before I encountered Christianity, people who are in difficult times would ask for help from relatives and friends, or the heavens and the earth. But not in any case, from "God" and "Lord". This is my first time. A voice subconsciously cried out from my heart. Later I learned that our dialogue with God is through prayer. We pray in

the name of the Lord Jesus Christ. Although I did not pray in this manner, it was a prayer from my heart.

After that, I found a job through online recruitment. It was not as difficult as I thought. People around me said that I was lucky, but I knew that this was the result of God's mercy and love for me. In order to thank the Lord for his love, I solemnly prayed, thank the Lord for the job he has given me, and ask the Lord to continue to love me, take care of me, and be with me. Therefore, because of the Lord's kindness and compassion, everything has been going on smoothly. Because of the nature of the job, I must be in contact with many people every day, but the Lord has always been with me, protecting me from the virus and keeping safe. Praise the Lord that I have finally found a job that is satisfactory!

With the deepening of my studies in church, I gradually gained a certain understanding of faith, and had a basic knowledge of God's nature and sin. And because of knowing Jesus Christ, I am also quietly changing. I have always regarded the Bible as a book with a rich philosophy of life, there are still many obstacles for me to becoming a believer in it. Because we studied natural sciences and we are materialists, it is difficult to believe in the invisible and intangible God. In my mind, science and Christianity seem to be in opposite. However, advanced science and technology, and abundant materials cannot answer the question of where we will be. I remember the pastor once said that the Bible not only gave birth to modern science, but also answered questions beyond science such as the origin of life and human development. Psalm 111:10 says: "The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom." And I, a person who thinks I have mastered the tools of science, realized how helpless and insignificant I was when facing the difficulties in work and life. Well-known scientists are witnessing and glorifying God's wisdom with their own personal experience. Why should we then not be humble at the feet of God? Jesus said: "I have come into the world as a light, so that no one who

believes in me should stay in darkness." "I am the way and the truth and the life." (John 12:46 and 14:6). In this way, the shackles in my heart are gone, the light of God illuminates my heart and makes me truly realize the sinful nature of myself. Because of the love of the Lord Jesus, our sins are forgiven, and by the salvation of Jesus Christ, we have eternal life. From then on, my mind suddenly became clear. This is the truth I have been looking for a long time. Because I have been moved inside, deciding to accept Christ as my Savior is a natural process.

After the decision, I felt the change in my life. I think my wife has the deepest experience of my change. Before I became a Christian, I was a very impatient person. Because I was separated from my wife, we can only communicate via video calls daily, I often got impatient with her nagging. Now I pay more attention to her emotions, just as said in 1 Corinthians:13, love is patient and kind; .... love never ceases. Following the words of the Bible, the relationship between my wife and I are getting better and better. Although my wife has not yet believed in the Lord, and does not have much comprehension of our faith, she is happy that I have decided to accept Christ as my savior. Praise God!

Thank the Lord Jesus for the redemption on the cross. His blood cleansed me from all sins. His resurrection gave me new life and made me a child of God and a new creation. I would like to follow the Lord Jesus all my life and experience God's love and abundance in Christ. I am willing to accept Christ as my only savior and Lord of life. I will worship and serve him throughout my life. May glory, thanksgiving, and praise be to God, the holy trinity!

Finally, I am ending my testimony with this prayer: "Heavenly Father, I admit from my heart that you are the only true God. You love mankind. You sent your only begotten son Jesus Christ to come into the world and be crucified for our sins. He was resurrected on the third day

and saved us from the power of sin and death. I believe that Jesus Christ is the only Savior of mankind, the way, the truth, and the life. Only through Him can I return to you, know the truth, and have eternal life.

I understand that in the past, because I did not know you, my direction and course of life were wrong. I confess that I am a sinner, and now I have decided to turn back and no longer go my own way. I am willing to follow Jesus throughout my life and do the Father's will. Please help me understand the truth and strengthen my faith. I pray this in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, amen!"

Quan Yongjie Sunday, November 8, 2020