

### Community Prayer

1. Pray that God will raise up Chodae Community Church of faithful worshippers.
2. To live as a worshipper and stewards of the kingdom of God at both workplace and home.
3. For those in the community who are going through difficulties and sickness to be restored in grace.
4. To ensure that the children of each family are nurtured and raised to become mature in their own faith.
5. The pastor, clergy, session and all spiritual leaders are filled with the Holy Spirit.
6. Pray that new leaders are being nurtured in all the communities and that all the church departments have new volunteer workers who can serve faithfully.

### Church Schedule

10/27(Sun): November SG Leader Training  
10/31 (Thr): Fall Festival  
11/2 (Sat): one-to-one mentor conference  
11/24(Sun): Thanksgiving, Community Together

## Worship the Lord with Joyful Songs

### Blessings for Saints Who Trust in God

Psalm 121: 1-8

### Announcements

1. The 2019 church motto is "Worship the Lord with Joyful Songs".
2. Please use the following order for SG Meetings:
  - 2~3 praise songs/Representative prayer/Bible verse reading/Sharing of teaching material/Prayer Requests
  - It's recommended that all members have an opportunity to share their thoughts on the study material and share their prayer requests.
3. Community Recitation(Psalm 100:1~5)& Praise Schedule:  
10/25 (F) - Balm Community. Pl, 11/1 - , 11/8 - 26 Community, 11/15 - Young Couple, 11/22 - 21
4. Family SG training is in the PJM room on 10/27 at 3pm. There are downloadable children material on the church website.
5. Please submit the SG report online on the church website.
6. Second SG meeting material will be available in the church lobby on the second Sunday of each month.
7. Diaspora Ministry: If there are any families leaving the church, please notify our Community pastor-in-charge.

## Blessings for Saints Who Trust in God (Psalm 121:1-8)

**Focus** Worshippers who trust in God have a conviction that God will help them in times of suffering and adversity, and they continue with their journey of faith.

**Opening your heart** Open your heart by sharing your week's life, QT, and/or thanks

**Opening with the Word** | Read Psalm 121:1-8 together

### Understanding the Background

Psalm 121 is the second psalm of the Song of Ascents. The psalmist is confidently testifying God's help in the face of life's crisis. Historically, in 1969 it is said that Neil Armstrong recited this psalm after landing on the moon. In the last scene of "Sound of Music", the protagonist, Maria, confesses "I lift up my eyes to the hills - where does my help come from?" as she crosses the Alps with her family.

This psalm is not meant to serve as a comforting couch but as a great comfort to those believers going through suffering.

This psalm is written in a dialogue manner. Depending on the scholar, it can be viewed as the poet asking and answering his questions, dialogue between father and son or a dialogue between priest and a worshipper. If it's viewed as a song that the community sings along the path of pilgrimage, then this psalm is a confession of faith through dialogue between the leaders (fathers, priests) and pilgrims.

The community of the psalmist is a diaspora (scattered people) who are far from Zion. They are setting off on a pilgrim's towards Zion, believing that through their journey of suffering they will finally reach the temple of Jerusalem.

### > Sharing the Word: Observations and Contemplation

1. In the v1-2, where does the psalmist confess the help will come from? What do you think it means?

2. How does the psalmist confess God will protect the pilgrims heading towards the temple of Jerusalem? (v3-4)

3. How will God protect the pilgrims by becoming the shade of their right hand? (v5-6)

### Application and Sharing

1. The poet confesses that God will not allow tribulations to harm us and that He will protect our souls (v7). Let us remember the time that God kept you and your family from suffering and share with each other His grace that kept you from letting go of your faith.

2. The poet confesses that God will watch over pilgrims' "coming in and out" of their journey to temple of Jerusalem forever. The "coming in and out" signifies all the comings and goings in and out of the house. Let's share the precious promise of God that He will protect our home and workplace. Community of faith relies on God together and relies on each other.

### > Meditating on the Word

The pilgrims confessed together, prayed together and praised together on their journey towards the temple. Their spiritual level was probably elevated when they finally reached the temple after going through sufferings and adversities. The community of faith holds hope in heaven and marches onward as citizens of heaven. They remember His grace and matures higher and higher. God promises that He will keep our homes and our souls forever. Holding on to that conviction of faith, let us vigorously walk the rest of the pilgrim's journey.

**Praying through the Word** | We thank you, for our feet may walk in the wilderness, but our eyes are directed toward Zion. We thank you for your promise of keeping us from all tribulations. You created the heaven and earth, established churches and gave us salvation; please guide us forevermore until the day we meet with you.

**Words to remember** | the LORD will watch over your coming and going both now and forevermore (Psalm 121:8)