



*Stand alone*  
SERMON

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2 February 2025

**Nothing Matters More**

Joel 2:1-17, 28-32



WATERMARK  
COMMUNITY CHURCH

**Joel 2:1-8 (ESV)**

**2** Blow a trumpet in Zion;  
    sound an alarm on my holy mountain!  
Let all the inhabitants of the land tremble,  
    for the day of the LORD is coming; it is near,  
<sup>2</sup> a day of darkness and gloom,  
    a day of clouds and thick darkness!  
Like blackness there is spread upon the mountains  
    a great and powerful people;  
their like has never been before,  
    nor will be again after them  
    through the years of all generations.

<sup>3</sup> Fire devours before them,  
    and behind them a flame burns.  
The land is like the garden of Eden before them,  
    but behind them a desolate wilderness,  
    and nothing escapes them.

<sup>4</sup> Their appearance is like the appearance of horses,  
    and like war horses they run.

<sup>5</sup> As with the rumbling of chariots,  
    they leap on the tops of the mountains,  
like the crackling of a flame of fire  
    devouring the stubble,  
like a powerful army  
    drawn up for battle.

<sup>6</sup> Before them peoples are in anguish;  
    all faces grow pale.

<sup>7</sup> Like warriors they charge;  
    like soldiers they scale the wall.  
They march each on his way;  
    they do not swerve from their paths.

<sup>8</sup> They do not jostle one another;  
    each marches in his path;  
they burst through the weapons  
    and are not halted.

**Joel 2:9-15 (ESV)**

<sup>9</sup> They leap upon the city,  
they run upon the walls,  
they climb up into the houses,  
they enter through the windows like a thief.

<sup>10</sup> The earth quakes before them;  
the heavens tremble.  
The sun and the moon are darkened,  
and the stars withdraw their shining.

<sup>11</sup> The LORD utters his voice  
before his army,  
for his camp is exceedingly great;  
he who executes his word is powerful.  
For the day of the LORD is great and very awesome;  
who can endure it?

<sup>12</sup> “Yet even now,” declares the LORD,  
“return to me with all your heart,  
with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning;  
<sup>13</sup> and rend your hearts and not your garments.”

Return to the LORD your God,  
for he is gracious and merciful,  
slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love;  
and he relents over disaster.

<sup>14</sup> Who knows whether he will not turn and relent,  
and leave a blessing behind him,  
a grain offering and a drink offering  
for the LORD your God?

<sup>15</sup> Blow the trumpet in Zion;  
consecrate a fast;  
call a solemn assembly;

**Joel 2:16-29, 30-32 (ESV)**

<sup>16</sup> gather the people.  
Consecrate the congregation;  
assemble the elders;  
gather the children,  
even nursing infants.  
Let the bridegroom leave his room,

<sup>17</sup> Between the vestibule and the altar  
let the priests, the ministers of the LORD, weep  
and say, "Spare your people, O LORD,  
and make not your heritage a reproach,  
a byword among the nations  
Why should they say among the peoples,  
"Where is their God?" ....

<sup>28</sup> "And it shall come to pass afterward,  
that I will pour out my Spirit on all flesh;  
your sons and your daughters shall prophesy,  
your old men shall dream dreams,  
and your young men shall see visions.

<sup>29</sup> Even on the male and female servants  
in those days I will pour out my Spirit.

<sup>30</sup> "And I will show wonders in the heavens and on the earth, blood and fire  
and columns of smoke. <sup>31</sup>The sun shall be turned to darkness, and the moon  
to blood, before the great and awesome day of the LORD comes. <sup>32</sup>And it  
shall come to pass that everyone who calls on the name of the LORD shall be  
saved. For in Mount Zion and in Jerusalem there shall be those who escape,  
as the LORD has said, and among the survivors shall be those whom  
the LORD calls.

# THE FLOW OF WORSHIP

## ADORATION

Welcome  
Call to Worship Together  
Worship in Songs

## CONFESSION & RENEWAL

Intercessory Prayer  
Guests' Spotlight  
Greeting, Offering, Dismissal  
Scripture Reading  
Sermon  
Communion

## COMMITMENT

Songs of Response  
Benediction

## COMMUNITY GROUPS

We are small disciple-making communities pursuing Jesus and serving, growing and reaching out together. For more information, email [community@watermarkchurch.hk](mailto:community@watermarkchurch.hk).

### ISLAND WEST

BROKEN VESSELS (Sai Ying Pun) | Mon 7:30pm  
SHALOM (Sai Ying Pun) | Thu 7:30pm  
LIVING STONES (Sai Ying Pun) | Thu 7:30pm  
JARS OF CLAY (Sai Ying Pun) | Fri 7:30pm  
MANDARIN CG | Fri 8:00pm  
INNER CHAMBERS (Kennedy Town) | Sat 3:00pm

### ISLAND CENTRAL

UPPER ROOM (Wan Chai) | Fri 7:30pm  
BREAKING BREAD (Parkview) | Fri 7:30pm  
ABIDE (Tin Hau) | Thu 8:00pm  
MIDLEVELS CG | Thu 8:00pm

### OTHERS

THE OAKS (Shatin) | Wed 7:30pm  
INSIDE OUT (Jordan) | Thu 7:30pm  
THE MESSENGERS (West Kowloon) | Fri 7:30pm  
OASIS (Jordan) | Fri 7:30pm

*\* We also have a number of Family Groups meeting after the service at Ebenezer, for families with young children.*

## REGULAR MINISTRIES

MOMS FELLOWSHIP (Sai Ying Pun) | Wed 10:00am  
INTERNATIONAL CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP (Sai Ying Pun) | Wed 7:30pm

## WHAT'S HAPPENING

**WhatsApp Communications** | To receive weekly announcements, please add the following phone number to your contact list: **5501 5196** (if you miss this step you will not be able to receive our messages). If you have not given us your contact details prior, please send us a WhatsApp message with your full name, so we can add you to our WhatsApp message list. Aside from WhatsApp, you'll be able to find Watermark information on our Website, Watermark Post (send to email), and Sunday Announcements.

**Feb 5 (Wed) | ICF Board Game & Chill Night** | If God called you to share your story of salvation and how good God is to new believers and non-believers in university, invite them to ICF board games night happening 1st Wednesday of every month! Food will be provided, and we welcome people to bring food as a potluck to feed the Uni student with good food and Scriptures with fun too. Talk to Solace, our university minister who's the tall guy at the back, or email [solace@watermarkchurch.hk](mailto:solace@watermarkchurch.hk).

**Feb 6 (Thu) | Prayer Meeting with Fasting** | Come join us on Thursday February 6, at the CC for our monthly Prayer Meeting. As a sign of our total dependence on God, we encourage people to fast that day. The prayer meeting will be 7.30-8.30pm, and then we break fast together with a meal afterwards.

**Feb 10 to Mar 31 (Mon) | God, Sex and Your Marriage** | Each of us has a picture of what sex is supposed to look like. The picture is often shaped by Culture, The Church, and your own personal experiences. But is this truly how God designed sex within marriage to look like? Join us for a book discussion on the book "God, Sex and Your Marriage" starting Mondays Feb 10-March 31st from 7.30-9 pm. All meetings will be on Zoom, except the first and last which will be held at the community center. The cost will be \$150 per couple (which will include two copies of the book). Sign up is open to **married couples only** and spaces are limited. To sign up, please scan the Events Sign up Form QR code below.

**Feb 17 to Mar 10 (Mon) | Explore** | Is there more to life than this? How can I build flourishing relationships? Where can I find peace and hope? Explore is a chance for those unfamiliar with Christianity to explore these and other questions together. Do join us or invite your friends who would be interested! Starts February 17, every Monday for 4 weeks, 7:30-9:30pm at the CC including a meal. To sign up, please scan the Events Sign up Form QR code below.

**Feb 22 (Sat) | HK Men's Conference 2025** | Come join the 2025 Men's Conference at St Andrew's! Gather with hundreds of Christian men from around Hong Kong for a morning of worship, teaching and fellowship, encouraging each other to live as men for Christ in this city. Saturday 22 February, 9:30am-12:30pm followed by lunch. Speak to Niels for more info.



Events Sign up Form

# TITHING & OFFERING

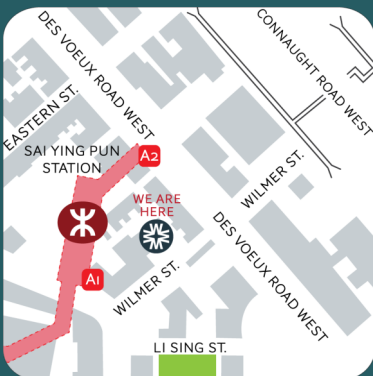
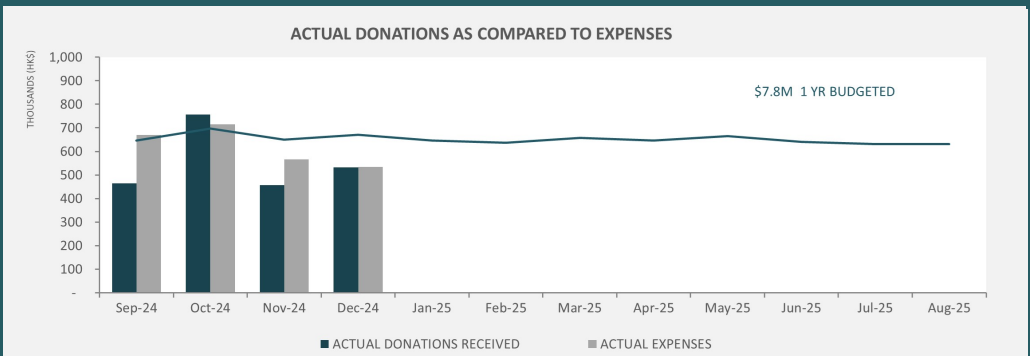
The gospel is the story of God's radical generosity to us: the giving of Himself. Knowing that all we have is from Him, as an act of faith, obedience and worship, we joyfully give back to His kingdom advancement through tithes and offerings.

## Here are ways you can give on Sunday at our collection boxes or during the week:

For direct transfers, please debit to our HSBC account: 004 808 829 709 838 (savings) and email [finance@watermarkchurch.hk](mailto:finance@watermarkchurch.hk) to inform us of the transfer.

Cheques should be made payable to: "Watermark Community Church Limited". For US citizen/residents who wish to have a US tax receipt, each donation must be at least US\$100 (or HK\$800) and made payable to "Friends of Hong Kong Charities Inc." We cannot accept cash offerings for FOHK; all contributions must be made by cheque. Cheques (both to Watermark and to FOHK) can be mailed to Watermark Community Centre.

You can also donate via FPS. Our FPS ID is: 164253833.



## WATERMARK COMMUNITY CENTRE (CC)

5/F, 6 Wilmer Street, Sai Ying Pun, Hong Kong

Sai Ying Pun MTR Station  
(Exit A1, LG if coming via elevator)

T 2857 6160 F 2857 6100

### Sunday Services

Ebenezer: 10:30am

Watermark Community Centre: 2:30pm