

Sunday 18th October 2020

4pm, Arborfield Green Community Centre



Welcome to Church@TheGreen, a new church for the new community of Arborfield Green.

We are so happy to be back together in person, even if things are a bit different. There is no singing during the service, but feel free to read and reflect on the words. If you are visiting us, please fill in a visitor form (for the purposes of track and trace) and do introduce yourself to Piers (Minister). Today we're delighted to be sharing in the Lord's supper together; in light of current restrictions we've adapted our normal arrangements.

Arrangements for The Lord's Supper

Once Piers has led us in the prayers of preparation for receiving the Lord's supper we'll be ushered to the exit (make sure you take everything with you as we'll not return to the Hall). If you wish to receive bread (this time in the form of a wafer) please lift your hands so that Piers can drop one into your hands, then pick up a cup (there will be no spoken words at this point). Please avoid touching any other cup by accident. Then head outside where elders will usher you under cover round the courtyard.

Please don't eat the bread or drink the wine until we are all outside and we are led to do so by Piers. After taking the bread and the wine, we'll pray the Prayer of Thanksgiving together (so please have your service sheets to hand) to finish the service. We'll then leave the courtyard (ie not return to the Hall). This seems to us to be the safest way of proceeding.

Welcome – Ed Clark

Song

1. Give me an undivided heart
That I might fear Your name
Teach me to walk in righteous paths
And follow in Your ways
For You are gracious and forgiving
Hear, O Lord, and answer me

2. Give me an undivided mind
That I might love Your word
Help me to hunger for Your voice
And know Your spirits sword
For You are good, Your truth unchanging
Life is found in serving You

Undivided

I want to live for You

Single minded

All that I say, all that I do

Sanctify me

Take me and make me new

That I might live for Christ, my Lord

3. Give me an undivided love
For all that You desire
Make me a living sacrifice
Ignite in me your fire
For you O Lord are God eternal
All my ways are known to You

Undivided

Counting my gains as loss

Single minded

Whatever the pain, whatever the cost

Sanctify me

Help me take up my cross

And live for Him who died for me

Rob Smith
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Prayers

Reading – *Matthew 16:21-28*

²¹ From that time on Jesus began to explain to his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things at the hands of the elders, the chief priests and the teachers of the law, and that he must be killed and on the third day be raised to life.

²² Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. 'Never, Lord!' he said. 'This shall never happen to you!'

²³ Jesus turned and said to Peter, 'Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling-block to me; you do not have in mind the concerns of God, but merely human concerns.'

²⁴ Then Jesus said to his disciples, 'Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. ²⁵ For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me will find it. ²⁶ What good will it be for someone to gain the whole world, yet forfeit their soul? Or what can anyone give in exchange for their soul? ²⁷ For the Son of Man is going to come in his Father's glory with his angels, and then he will reward each person according to what they have done.

²⁸ 'Truly I tell you, some who are standing here will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom.'

Sermon – *Piers Bickersteth*

Song

1. When I survey the wondrous cross
On which the Prince of glory died,
My richest gain I count but loss,
And pour contempt on all my pride.

2. Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast,
Save in the death of Christ my God:
All the vain things that charm me most,
I sacrifice them to His blood.

3. See from His head, His hands, His feet,
Sorrow and love flow mingled down:
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet,
Or thorns compose so rich a crown?

4. Were the whole realm of Nature mine,
That were an offering far too small;
Love so amazing, so divine,
Demands my soul, my life, my all!

The Lord's supper

Summary of the Law:

In Mark 12 our Lord Jesus Christ said

The first commandment is this: 'Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God, the Lord is one. Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind and with all your strength.'

The second is this: 'Love your neighbour as yourself.' There is no other commandment greater than these.

Amen. Lord have mercy.

**Almighty God, our heavenly Father,
we have sinned against you and against our fellow men,
in thought and word and deed,
through negligence, through weakness,
through our own deliberate fault.
We are truly sorry, and repent of all our sins.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
who died for us, forgive us all that is past;
and grant that we may serve you in newness of life to the glory of your name.
Amen**

Words of assurance from Matthew 11:28, John 3:16, 1 Timothy 1:15, 1 John 2:1

We do not presume to come to this your table, merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in your manifold and great mercies.

We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under your table. But you are the same Lord whose nature is always to have mercy.

Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of your dear Son Jesus Christ and to drink his blood, that our sinful bodies may be made clean by his body, and our souls washed through his most precious blood, and that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen

The Lord's Supper

Prayer of thanksgiving:

Almighty God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ.

Through him we offer you our souls and bodies to be a living sacrifice. Send us out into the world in the power of your Spirit, to live and work to your praise and glory. Amen

SERMON NOTES

Walking the way of the cross

1. Denying yourself

to deny =

to deny =

2. Taking up your cross

3. Finding life



Find us online!

Know someone who is isolating but would like to join us? Or maybe you'd like to catch up on talks that you've missed in the series? Every week we live stream our service on Youtube and you can find all our previous talks there too.

Search ABCH Churches on Youtube
Visit our Facebook: facebook.com/churchatthegreen