

Sunday 18th April 2021

4pm, Arborfield Green Community Centre



Welcome to Church@TheGreen. We are a new church for the new community of Arborfield Green established by the existing Churches of Arborfield and Barkham. At the heart of our church family life is a trust in the living God who has revealed himself in Jesus Christ and who still speaks to us through his Word, the Bible. 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) or Phil (Ministry Trainee).

Today we have a one-off sermon on money, after which we will sing our final two songs outdoors. Please do stick around after the service as under current guidance we are allowed to talk in small groups of no more than 6.

Welcome – Carolyn Bickersteth

Song

O lift your eyes to heaven, see
The Holy One eternal
Behold the Lord of majesty
Exalted in His temple
As symphonies of angels praise
Now strain to sound His glory
Come worship, fall before His grace
The King in all His beauty

*How worthy, how worthy, how worthy
The King in all His beauty*

Now see the King who wears a crown
One made of shame and splinters
The sacrifice for ruined man
The substitute for sinners
As earth is stained with royal blood
And quakes with love and fury
He breathes His last and bows His head
The King in all His beauty

How worthy, how worthy, how worthy...

Now see the Saviour lifted up
The Lamb who reigns in splendour
The hope of every tribe and tongue
His kingdom is forever!
Bring praise and honour to His courts
Bring wisdom, power, blessing
For endless ages we'll adore
The King in all His beauty

How worthy, how worthy, how worthy...

Confession

Jesus Christ, risen Master and triumphant Lord,
we come to you in sorrow for our sins,
and confess to you our weakness and unbelief.

We have lived by our own strength,
and not by the power of your resurrection.
In your mercy, forgive us.
Lord, hear us and help us.

We have lived by the light of our own eyes,
as faithless and not believing.
In your mercy, forgive us.
Lord, hear us and help us.

We have lived for this world alone,
and doubted our home in heaven.
In your mercy, forgive us.
Lord, hear us and help us.

Reading – *Luke 12:13-21*

¹³Someone in the crowd said to him, ‘Teacher, tell my brother to divide the inheritance with me.’

¹⁴Jesus replied, ‘Man, who appointed me a judge or an arbiter between you?’ ¹⁵Then he said to them, ‘Watch out! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; life does not consist in an abundance of possessions.’

¹⁶And he told them this parable: ‘The ground of a certain rich man yielded an abundant harvest. ¹⁷He thought to himself, “What shall I do? I have no place to store my crops.”

¹⁸‘Then he said, “This is what I’ll do. I will tear down my barns and build bigger ones, and there I will store my surplus grain. ¹⁹And I’ll say to myself, ‘You have plenty of grain laid up for many years. Take life easy; eat, drink and be merry.’”

²⁰‘But God said to him, “You fool! This very night your life will be demanded from you. Then who will get what you have prepared for yourself?”

²¹‘This is how it will be with whoever stores up things for themselves but is not rich towards God.’

Sermon – *Piers Bickersteth*

1 Timothy 6:6-19

⁶ But godliness with contentment is great gain. ⁷ For we brought nothing into the world, and we can take nothing out of it. ⁸ But if we have food and clothing, we will be content with that. ⁹ Those who want to get rich fall into temptation and a trap and into many foolish and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. ¹⁰ For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil. Some people, eager for money, have wandered from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs.

¹¹ But you, man of God, flee from all this, and pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance and gentleness. ¹² Fight the good fight of the faith. Take hold of the eternal life to which you were called when you made your good confession in the presence of many witnesses. ¹³ In the sight of God, who gives life to everything, and of Christ Jesus, who while testifying before Pontius Pilate made the good confession, I charge you ¹⁴ to keep this command without spot or blame until the appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ, ¹⁵ which God will bring about in his own time – God, the blessed and only Ruler, the King of kings and Lord of lords, ¹⁶ who alone is immortal and who lives in unapproachable light, whom no one has seen or can see. To him be honour and might for ever. Amen.

¹⁷ Command those who are rich in this present world not to be arrogant nor to put their hope in wealth, which is so uncertain, but to put their hope in God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment. ¹⁸ Command them to do good, to be rich in good deeds, and to be generous and willing to share. ¹⁹ In this way they will lay up treasure for themselves as a firm foundation for the coming age, so that they may take hold of the life that is truly life.

The Lord's Prayer

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and for ever.
Amen**

Prayers

Song

Jesus said that if I thirst
I should come to Him
No one else can satisfy
I should come to Him

Jesus said, if I am weak
I should come to Him
No one else can be my strength
I should come to Him

*For the Lord is good and faithful
He will keep us day and night
We can always run to Jesus
Jesus, strong and kind*

Jesus said that if I fear
I should come to Him
No one else can be my shield
I should come to Him

For the Lord is good and faithful...

Jesus said, if I am lost
He will come to me
And He showed me on that cross
He will come to me

For the Lord is good and faithful...

Song

To God be the glory! Great things He has done!
So loved He the world that He gave us His Son,
Who yielded His life an atonement for sin,
And opened the life gate that all may go in.

*Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!
Let the earth hear His voice!
Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!
Let the people rejoice!
Come to the Father through Jesus the Son;
Give Him the glory; great things He has done!*

O perfect redemption, the purchase of blood!
To every believer the promise of God:
The vilest offender who truly believes,
That moment from Jesus a pardon receives.

Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!...

Great things He has taught us, great things
He has done,
And great our rejoicing through Jesus the
Son:
But purer and higher and greater will be
Our wonder, our worship, when Jesus we
see!

Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!...

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Praise be to you, LORD,

**the God of our father Israel,
from everlasting to everlasting.**

**¹¹Yours, LORD, is the greatness and the power
and the glory and the majesty and the splendour,
for everything in heaven and earth is yours.**

**Yours, LORD, is the kingdom;
you are exalted as head over all.**

**¹²Wealth and honour come from you;
you are the ruler of all things.**

**In your hands are strength and power
to exalt and give strength to all.**

**¹³Now, our God, we give you thanks,
and praise your glorious name.**

(from 1 Chronicles 29:10-13)