

**Sunday 2nd May 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).

We will sing our final 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.

**Please stay seated after the service until told. This will help us maintain spacing as we leave the building. Please head to the car park promptly to avoid blocking any walkways**

**Please take your service sheet home with you**

**Thank you!**

**Song**

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| Hear the call of the kingdom Lift your eyes to the King Let His song rise within you As a fragrant offering Of how God rich in mercy Came in Christ to redeem All who trust in His unfailing grace  Hear the call of the Kingdom To be children of light With the mercy of heaven The humility of Christ Walking justly before Him Loving all that is right That the life of Christ may shine through us | King of Heaven we will answer the call We will follow bringing hope to the world Filled with passion filled with power to proclaim Salvation in Jesus' name  Hear the call of the Kingdom To reach out to the lost With the Father's compassion In the wonder of the cross Bringing peace and forgiveness And a hope yet to come Let the nations put their trust in Him  *Keith Getty,Kristyn Getty,Stuart Townend   © 2006 Thankyou Music* |

**Welcome –** *Theresa Swan*

**Shoots leave for their group** *(Ages 5-10)*

**Reading –** *Acts 17:1-10a*

**1**When Paul and his companions had passed through Amphipolis and Apollonia, they came to Thessalonica, where there was a Jewish synagogue. **2**As was his custom, Paul went into the synagogue, and on three Sabbath days he reasoned with them from the Scriptures, **3**explaining and proving that the Messiah had to suffer and rise from the dead. ‘This Jesus I am proclaiming to you is the Messiah,’ he said. **4**Some of the Jews were persuaded and joined Paul and Silas, as did a large number of God-fearing Greeks and quite a few prominent women.

**5**But other Jews were jealous; so they rounded up some bad characters from the market-place, formed a mob and started a riot in the city. They rushed to Jason’s house in search of Paul and Silas in order to bring them out to the crowd. **6**But when they did not find them, they dragged Jason and some other believers before the city officials, shouting: ‘These men who have caused trouble all over the world have now come here, **7**and Jason has welcomed them into his house. They are all defying Caesar’s decrees, saying that there is another king, one called Jesus.’ **8**When they heard this, the crowd and the city officials were thrown into turmoil. **9**Then they put Jason and the others on bail and let them go.

**10**As soon as it was night, the believers sent Paul and Silas away to Berea.

**Sermon –** *Piers Bickersteth*

For failing you by what we do,  
    and think and say;  
    **Father, forgive us:  
 save us and help us**.     

For letting ourselves be drawn away from you  
    by temptations in the world about us;  
    **Father, forgive us:  
 save us and help us**.

For living as if we were ashamed  
    to belong to your Son;  
**Father, forgive us:  
 save us and help us.**

**Confession**

God our Father,       
    we come to you in sorrow for our sins.

    For turning away from you,  
    and ignoring your will for our lives;  
    **Father, forgive us:  
 save us and help us**.  

For behaving just as we wish,  
    without thinking of you;  
    **Father, forgive us:  
 save us and help us**.

For failing you by what we do,  
    and think and say;  
    **Father, forgive us:  
 save us and help us.**

**Song**

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| Holy Spirit, living breath of God, Breathe new life into my willing soul. Bring the presence of the risen Lord To renew my heart and make me whole. Cause Your word to come alive in me, Give me faith for what I cannot see; Give me passion for Your purity; Holy Spirit, breathe new life in me.  Holy Spirit, come abide within, May Your joy be seen in all I do. Love enough to cover every sin In each thought and deed and attitude: Kindness to the greatest and the least, Gentleness that sows the path of peace. Turn my strivings into works of grace; Breath of God, show Christ in all I do. | Holy Spirit, from creation’s birth, Giving life to all that God has made, Show Your power once again on earth, Cause Your church to hunger for Your ways. May the fragrance of our prayers arise; Lead us on the road of sacrifice, That in unity the face of Christ May be clear for all the world to see.  *Keith Getty & Stuart Townend  © 2006 Thankyou Music (Admin. by Integrity Music)* |

**Saplings leave for their group** *(School years 5 and up)*

**Prayers**

**1 Thessalonians 1:1-7**

**1** Paul, Silas and Timothy,

To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ:

Grace and peace to you.

**2**We always thank God for all of you and continually mention you in our prayers. **3**We remember before our God and Father your work produced by faith, your labour prompted by love, and your endurance inspired by hope in our Lord Jesus Christ.

**4**For we know, brothers and sisters loved by God, that he has chosen you, **5**because our gospel came to you not simply with words but also with power, with the Holy Spirit and deep conviction. You know how we lived among you for your sake. **6**You became imitators of us and of the Lord, for you welcomed the message in the midst of severe suffering with the joy given by the Holy Spirit. **7**And so you became a model to all the believers in Macedonia and Achaia.

*SERMON NOTES* **Lessons in planting**

1. A passion for people
2. A priority in preaching Christ
3. A confidence in God and his means
4. An expectation of opposition

*For Saplings*

*Why do you think preaching Christ should be a priority?*

*What difference did the Jesus make in the lives of the Thessalonians? What about us?*

**Song**

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| Your glorious cause, O God, Engages our hearts, May Jesus Christ be known Wherever we are. We ask not for ourselves, But for Your renown, The cross has saved us so we pray, 'Your kingdom come'.  *Let Your kingdom come, Let Your will be done, So that everyone might know Your Name. Let Your song be heard, Everywhere on earth, Till Your sovereign work on earth is done. Let Your kingdom come.* | Give us Your strength, O God, And courage to speak, Perform Your wondrous deeds Through those who are weak. Lord use us as You want, Whatever the test, By grace we'll preach Your gospel till Our dying breath.    *Let Your kingdom come...*  *Bob Kauflin  © 2006 Sovereign Grace Praise (Admin. by Integrity Music*) |