

**Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> February 2021**  
*4pm, Arborfield Green Community Centre*



**Welcome to Church@TheGreen**, 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 continue our series in Ezra with chapter 3. We will still have the musicians providing us music which we can use as a time of reflection and quiet worship. In line with guidance, we are still unable to provide children's groups.

**Welcome – Ed Clark**

## **Confession**

**Lord God,  
we have sinned against you;  
we have done evil in your sight.  
We are sorry and repent.  
Have mercy on us according to your love.  
Wash away our wrongdoing and cleanse us from our sin.  
Renew a right spirit within us  
and restore to us the joy of your salvation,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen.**

## Psalm 136

<sup>1</sup> Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good.

**His love endures for ever.**

<sup>2</sup> Give thanks to the God of gods.

**His love endures for ever.**

<sup>3</sup> Give thanks to the Lord of lords:

**His love endures for ever.**

<sup>23</sup> He remembered us in our low estate

**His love endures for ever.**

<sup>24</sup> and freed us from our enemies.

**His love endures for ever.**

<sup>25</sup> He gives food to every creature.

**His love endures for ever.**

<sup>26</sup> Give thanks to the God of heaven.

**His love endures for ever.**

### Song

What gift of grace is Jesus my redeemer  
There is no more for heaven now to give  
He is my joy, my righteousness, and freedom  
My steadfast love, my deep and boundless  
peace

To this I hold, my hope is only Jesus  
For my life is wholly bound to his  
Oh how strange and divine,  
I can sing: all is mine!  
Yet not I, but through Christ in me

The night is dark but I am not forsaken  
For by my side, the Saviour He will stay  
I labour on in weakness and rejoicing  
For in my need, His power is displayed  
To this I hold, my Shepherd will defend me  
Through the deepest valley He will lead  
Oh the night has been won,  
and I shall overcome!  
Yet not I, but through Christ in me

No fate I dread, I know I am forgiven  
The future sure, the price it has been  
paid  
For Jesus bled and suffered for my  
pardon  
And He was raised to overthrow the  
grave  
To this I hold, my sin has been defeated  
Jesus now and ever is my plea  
Oh the chains are released,  
I can sing: I am free!  
Yet not I, but through Christ in me

With every breath I long to follow Jesus  
For He has said that He will bring me  
home  
And day by day I know He will renew me  
Until I stand with joy before the throne  
To this I hold, my hope is only Jesus  
All the glory evermore to Him  
When the race is complete,  
still my lips shall repeat:  
Yet not I, but through Christ in me!

### Reading – *Ezra 3*

### Sermon – *Phil Rowlandson*

## Song

You made the starry hosts  
You traced the mountain peaks  
You paint the evening sky with wonders  
The earth, it is Your throne  
From desert to the sea  
All nature testifies Your splendor

*Praise the Lord*  
*Praise the Lord*  
*Sing His greatness*  
*All creation*  
*Praise the Lord*  
*Raise your voice*  
*You heights and all you depths*  
*From furthest east to west*  
*Let everything that has breath*  
*Praise the Lord*

You reached into the dust  
In love, Your Spirit breathed  
You formed us in Your very likeness  
To know Your wondrous works  
To tell Your mighty deeds  
To join the everlasting chorus

*Praise the Lord...*

Let symphonies resound  
Let drums and choirs ring out  
All heaven hear the sound of worship  
Let every nation bring  
Its honors to the King  
A roar of harmonies eternal

*Praise the Lord*  
*Praise the Lord*  
*Sing His greatness*  
*All creation*  
*Praise the Lord*  
*Raise your voice*  
*You heights and all you depths*  
*From furthest east to west*  
*You distant burning stars*  
*All creatures near and far*  
*From sky to sea to shore*  
*Sing out forevermore*  
*Let everything that has breath*  
*Praise the Lord*

Matt Boswell & Matt Papa  
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## Prayers

## Family Focus

### Psalm 136:1-3

- <sup>1</sup> Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good.  
His love endures for ever.**
- <sup>2</sup> Give thanks to the God of gods.  
His love endures for ever.**
- <sup>3</sup> Give thanks to the Lord of lords:  
His love endures for ever.**

## Reading – Ezra 3

**3** When the seventh month came and the Israelites had settled in their towns, the people assembled together as one in Jerusalem. **2** Then Joshua son of Jozadak and his fellow priests and Zerubbabel son of Shealtiel and his associates began to build the altar of the God of Israel to sacrifice burnt offerings on it, in accordance with what is written in the Law of Moses the man of God. **3** Despite their fear of the peoples around them, they built the altar on its foundation and sacrificed burnt offerings on it to the LORD, both the morning and evening sacrifices. **4** Then in accordance with what is written, they celebrated the Festival of Tabernacles with the required number of burnt offerings prescribed for each day. **5** After that, they presented the regular burnt offerings, the New Moon sacrifices and the sacrifices for all the appointed sacred festivals of the LORD, as well as those brought as freewill offerings to the LORD. **6** On the first day of the seventh month they began to offer burnt offerings to the LORD, though the foundation of the LORD's temple had not yet been laid.

**7** Then they gave money to the masons and carpenters, and gave food and drink and olive oil to the people of Sidon and Tyre, so that they would bring cedar logs by sea from Lebanon to Joppa, as authorised by Cyrus king of Persia.

**8** In the second month of the second year after their arrival at the house of God in Jerusalem, Zerubbabel son of Shealtiel, Joshua son of Jozadak and the rest of the people (the priests and the Levites and all who had returned from the captivity to Jerusalem) began the work. They appointed Levites twenty years old and older to supervise the building of the house of the LORD. **9** Joshua and his sons and brothers and Kadmiel and his sons (descendants of Hodaviah) and the sons of Henadad and their sons and brothers – all Levites – joined together in supervising those working on the house of God.

**10** When the builders laid the foundation of the temple of the LORD, the priests in their vestments and with trumpets, and the Levites (the sons of Asaph) with cymbals, took their places to praise the LORD, as prescribed by David king of Israel. **11** With praise and thanksgiving they sang to the LORD:

'He is good;  
his love towards Israel endures for ever.'

And all the people gave a great shout of praise to the LORD, because the foundation of the house of the LORD was laid. **12** But many of the older priests and Levites and family heads, who had seen the former temple, wept aloud when they saw the foundation of this temple being laid, while many others shouted for joy. **13** No one could distinguish the sound of the shouts of joy from the sound of weeping, because the people made so much noise. And the sound was heard far away.