

**Sunday 21<sup>st</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 5. 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 – Theresa Swan

### Song

Hold the power of the universe in your hand  
Hold the words that shaped the sky and sea  
and land  
The King has given words to us, to tell us  
what he's like  
Open up your ears and let his Spirit strike

*It's a light and a hammer*

*It's a fire and a sword*

*It's the voice of our Father*

*The word of the Lord*

*The blade of the Spirit can cut to the soul*

*And God will use it to make us whole*

Hear the news of the promised king who  
came to save  
Hear the news of Jesus who rose from the  
grave  
Our King has come to live on earth and  
rescue us from sin  
Open up your mind and let his Spirit in

*It's a light and a hammer ...*

Know the name of Jesus Christ that makes us  
new

Know the Son of God, the Word whose word  
is true

Our King has spoken to us, so there is no  
place for pride

He gives hearts of flesh and changes us inside

*It's a light and a hammer...*

## Family Focus

### Reading – *Ezra 5:1-5, 11-13*

**5** Now Haggai the prophet and Zechariah the prophet, a descendant of Iddo, prophesied to the Jews in Judah and Jerusalem in the name of the God of Israel, who was over them. <sup>2</sup> Then Zerubbabel son of Shealtiel and Joshua son of Jozadak set to work to rebuild the house of God in Jerusalem. And the prophets of God were with them, supporting them.

<sup>3</sup> At that time Tattenai, governor of Trans-Euphrates, and Shethar-Bozenai and their associates went to them and asked, ‘Who authorised you to rebuild this temple and to finish it?’ <sup>4</sup> They also asked, ‘What are the names of those who are constructing this building?’ <sup>5</sup> But the eye of their God was watching over the elders of the Jews, and they were not stopped until a report could go to Darius and his written reply be received.

[...]

<sup>11</sup> This is the answer they gave us:

‘We are the servants of the God of heaven and earth, and we are rebuilding the temple that was built many years ago, one that a great king of Israel built and finished. <sup>12</sup> But because our ancestors angered the God of heaven, he gave them into the hands of Nebuchadnezzar the Chaldean, king of Babylon, who destroyed this temple and deported the people to Babylon.

<sup>13</sup> ‘However, in the first year of Cyrus king of Babylon, King Cyrus issued a decree to rebuild this house of God.

### Sermon – *Phil Rowlandson*

## Song

What is our hope in life and death?  
Christ alone, Christ alone  
What is our only confidence?  
That our souls to Him belong

Who holds our days within His hand?  
What comes, apart from His command?  
And what will keep us to the end?  
The love of Christ, in which we stand

*O sing hallelujah!  
Our hope springs eternal  
O sing hallelujah!  
Now and ever we confess  
Christ our hope in life and death*

What truth can calm the troubled soul?  
God is good, God is good  
Where is His grace and goodness known?  
In our great Redeemer's blood

Who holds our faith when fears arise?  
Who stands above the stormy trial?  
Who sends the waves that bring us nigh  
Unto the shore, the rock of Christ?

*O sing hallelujah!...*

Unto the grave, what shall we sing?  
"Christ, He lives; Christ, He lives!"  
And what reward will heaven bring?  
Everlasting life with Him.

There we will rise to meet the Lord,  
Then sin and death will be destroyed,  
And we will feast in endless joy,  
When Christ is ours forevermore

*O sing hallelujah!...*

Jordan Kauflin, Keith Getty, Matt Boswell, Matt Papa, Matthew Merker  
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## Prayers

### Creed

**We believe in God the Father,  
who loved us  
and by his grace gave us  
eternal encouragement and good hope.**

**We believe in God the Son,  
who strengthens us,  
and protects us from the evil one.**

**We believe in God the Holy Spirit,  
who leads us to God the Father's love  
and to the endurance  
which is the gift of Christ.**

**We believe in one God,  
Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.**

**SERMON NOTES**