

KEC ORDER OF SERVICE/SERMON OUTLINE 6th December (KEC SERVICE - Hybrid)

Please take note that this Sunday's service begins at **8.30am**, not 9am.

KIDS VIDEO will be made available by 8am. Have you ever said you were going to do something and then not do it? Today, we see that Jesus is serious about his followers doing what they say they are going to do. Living God's way means telling the truth all the time and keeping our word.

Direct link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5M3zsPNyvug>

You can access the livestream at https://www.facebook.com/bemkec/live_videos/

8.30am – Livestream starts

Livestream link should be available by 8.25am latest.

1. CALL TO WORSHIP – Isaiah 65:17-25

2. WORSHIP in SONG (with Alison Nicholas):

SONG 1: Bless the Lord, O my soul (10,000 Reasons)

SONG 2: Great is the Lord

3. Time of Reflection and Confession

Have mercy on us, O God,
According to your steadfast love.
Wash us thoroughly from our iniquity,
And cleanse us from our sin.
For we know our transgressions,
And our sin is ever before us.
Against you, you only, have we sinned,
And done what is evil in your sight.
Create in us a clean heart, O God,
And renew a right spirit within us.
Cast us not away from your presence
But restore to us the joy of your salvation,
That we may offer our lives as a sacrifice of praise to you. Amen.

³Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in the heavenly realms with every spiritual blessing in Christ... ⁷In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace
– Ephesians 1:3, 7

4. The Lord's Supper

²³For I received from the Lord what I also passed on to you: The Lord Jesus, on the night he was betrayed, took bread, ²⁴and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, "This is my body, which is for you; do this in remembrance of me." ²⁵In the same way, after supper he

took the cup, saying, “This cup is the new covenant in my blood; do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me.”²⁶ For whenever you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord’s death until he comes.

5. Prayers

- World
- Nation
- Church

6. Bible reading: Revelation 21:1-22:5

21 Then I saw “a new heaven and a new earth,”¹ for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and there was no longer any sea. **2** I saw the Holy City, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride beautifully dressed for her husband. **3** And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, “Look! God’s dwelling place is now among the people, and he will dwell with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God. **4** ‘He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death’² or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away.”

5 He who was seated on the throne said, “I am making everything new!” Then he said, “Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true.”

6 He said to me: “It is done. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. To the thirsty I will give water without cost from the spring of the water of life. **7** Those who are victorious will inherit all this, and I will be their God and they will be my children. **8** But the cowardly, the unbelieving, the vile, the murderers, the sexually immoral, those who practice magic arts, the idolaters and all liars—they will be consigned to the fiery lake of burning sulfur. This is the second death.”

9 One of the seven angels who had the seven bowls full of the seven last plagues came and said to me, “Come, I will show you the bride, the wife of the Lamb.” **10** And he carried me away in the Spirit to a mountain great and high, and showed me the Holy City, Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God. **11** It shone with the glory of God, and its brilliance was like that of a very precious jewel, like a jasper, clear as crystal. **12** It had a great, high wall with twelve gates, and with twelve angels at the gates. On the gates were written the names of the twelve tribes of Israel. **13** There were three gates on the east, three on the north, three on the south and three on the west. **14** The wall of the city had twelve foundations, and on them were the names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb.

15 The angel who talked with me had a measuring rod of gold to measure the city, its gates and its walls. **16** The city was laid out like a square, as long as it was wide. He measured the city with the rod and found it to be 12,000 stadia³ in length, and as wide and high as it is long. **17** The angel measured the wall using human measurement, and it was 144 cubits⁴ thick.⁵ **18** The wall was made of jasper, and the city of pure gold, as pure as glass. **19** The foundations of the city walls were decorated with every kind of precious

stone. The first foundation was jasper, the second sapphire, the third agate, the fourth emerald,²⁰ the fifth onyx, the sixth ruby, the seventh chrysolite, the eighth beryl, the ninth topaz, the tenth turquoise, the eleventh jacinth, and the twelfth amethyst.²¹ The twelve gates were twelve pearls, each gate made of a single pearl. The great street of the city was of gold, as pure as transparent glass.

²² I did not see a temple in the city, because the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are its temple. ²³ The city does not need the sun or the moon to shine on it, for the glory of God gives it light, and the Lamb is its lamp. ²⁴ The nations will walk by its light, and the kings of the earth will bring their splendor into it. ²⁵ On no day will its gates ever be shut, for there will be no night there. ²⁶ The glory and honor of the nations will be brought into it. ²⁷ Nothing impure will ever enter it, nor will anyone who does what is shameful or deceitful, but only those whose names are written in the Lamb's book of life.

22 Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, as clear as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb ² down the middle of the great street of the city. On each side of the river stood the tree of life, bearing twelve crops of fruit, yielding its fruit every month. And the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations. ³ No longer will there be any curse. The throne of God and of the Lamb will be in the city, and his servants will serve him. ⁴ They will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads. ⁵ There will be no more night. They will not need the light of a lamp or the light of the sun, for the Lord God will give them light. And they will reign for ever and ever.

SERMON OUTLINE: What will our eternal home be like? (Rev. 21:1-22:5)

Flights to nowhere

Going somewhere

The journey so far birth → death → intermediate state → raised bodily → Judgement Day → new creation

What is our destination?

The glossy brochure

1. Our eternal home is not a relocation, but a transformation

Heaven?

3 ways it's used in Scripture:

- i. The sky
- ii. "Outer space"
- iii. where God is

“the heavens and the earth”

A brand new universe!

In what sense are the new heavens and the new earth *new*?

Burn it all up and start from scratch? (2 Peter 3:10)

A parallel with Noah (2 Peter 3:6-7)

God is not making all new things, he is making all things new (cf. Romans 8:18-25)

Regeneration and transformation

Heaven on earth

2. Our eternal home will be marked by an absence of adversaries and affliction

No more sea (21:1)

No more tears (21:4)

Total safety (21:12)

No shut gates / no more night (21:25)

3. Our eternal home will be populated by a purified and perfected people

Diverse community

The original home

Defiled

22:1-4

The bride and the city – two pictures of the same reality

Gospel foundations (21:14)

4. Our eternal home is about relationship and worship

The perfect cube (21:15-17)

Charged with the presence of God

Service/worship

We will enjoy God forever (22:4)

Luther: "I would rather be in hell with Christ, than in heaven without him."

- Drink
- Don't forget
- Get the picture right

Response song: Hallelujah to the Lamb

ANOUNCEMENTS

- Subscribe to our Youtube channel - <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCgp2CitHppmTzHHcYjBwvQ> !
- Connect cards
- Christmas Together@Home – submit your Christmas greeting videos to livestream.bemkec@gmail.com
- Life Explored with Paul Ling, starts in January
- “The Weirdest Nativity” – Christmas book for pre-order
- HFG leaders Zoom meeting, after service
- Membership briefing this afternoon, 2pm at church hall
- Pastor Brian on leave from Dec 7-12
- Giving
- Prayer Meeting

BENEDICTION

¹² May the Lord make your love increase and overflow for each other and for everyone else, just as ours does for you. ¹³ May he strengthen your hearts so that you will be blameless and holy in the presence of our God and Father when our Lord Jesus comes with all his holy ones.

- 1 Thessalonians 3:12-13