

## **KEC ORDER OF SERVICE/SERMON OUTLINE 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2022 (KEC Hybrid Service)**

The livestream can be accessed at

[https://www.facebook.com/bemkec/live\\_videos/](https://www.facebook.com/bemkec/live_videos/) or <https://youtube.com/bemkec/live>

Welcome to church! Here at BEM KEC, these are our core convictions:

- To be centred on the gospel
  - To be driven by God's Word
  - To be focused on growing disciples
  - To be a community of truth and love
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### **1. CALL TO WORSHIP – Romans 12:1-2, 9-13**

#### **2. Worship in SONG (with Jeremy Ng):**

SONG 1: We Declare

SONG 2: We are One

SONG 3: Christ is Mine Forevermore

SONG 4: Through it all

#### **3. Time of Reflection and Confession**

God of grace, you love us,  
but we have not loved you.  
You call,  
but we have not listened.  
We walk away from neighbours in need,  
wrapped up in our own concerns.  
By our actions and our attitudes  
we praise what you condemn.  
Help us to admit our sin, so that  
as you come to us in mercy we may repent,  
turn to you, and receive forgiveness;  
through Jesus Christ our Redeemer.  
Amen.

<sup>13</sup> But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far away have been brought near by the blood of Christ. <sup>14</sup> For he himself is our peace, who has made the two groups one and has destroyed the barrier, the dividing wall of hostility

- Ephesians 2:13-14

#### **4. Reflection Song: Rock of Ages**

## 5. The Lord's Supper *(children ages 3-12 to leave for Sunday School after Communion)*

<sup>23</sup> For I received from the Lord what I also passed on to you: The Lord Jesus, on the night he was betrayed, took bread, <sup>24</sup> and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, "This is my body, which is for you; do this in remembrance of me." <sup>25</sup> In 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." <sup>26</sup> For whenever you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

- 1 Corinthians 11:23-26

## 6. Prayers

### 7. Bible reading: Ecclesiastes 4:1-16

4 Again I looked and saw all the oppression that was taking place under the sun:

I saw the tears of the oppressed—

and they have no comforter;

power was on the side of their oppressors—

and they have no comforter.

<sup>2</sup> And I declared that the dead,

who had already died,

are happier than the living,

who are still alive.

<sup>3</sup> But better than both

is the one who has never been born,

who has not seen the evil

that is done under the sun.

<sup>4</sup> And I saw that all toil and all achievement spring from one person's envy of another. This too is meaningless, a chasing after the wind.

<sup>5</sup> Fools fold their hands

and ruin themselves.

<sup>6</sup> Better one handful with tranquillity

than two handfuls with toil

and chasing after the wind.

<sup>7</sup> Again I saw something meaningless under the sun:

<sup>8</sup> There was a man all alone;

he had neither son nor brother.

There was no end to his toil,

yet his eyes were not content with his wealth.

"For whom am I toiling," he asked,

"and why am I depriving myself of enjoyment?"

This too is meaningless—

a miserable business!

<sup>9</sup> Two are better than one,

because they have a good return for their labor:

<sup>10</sup> If either of them falls down,  
one can help the other up.

But pity anyone who falls  
and has no one to help them up.

<sup>11</sup> Also, if two lie down together, they will keep warm.

But how can one keep warm alone?

<sup>12</sup> Though one may be overpowered,  
two can defend themselves.

A cord of three strands is not quickly broken.

<sup>13</sup> Better a poor but wise youth than an old but foolish king who no longer knows how to heed a warning. <sup>14</sup> The youth may have come from prison to the kingship, or he may have been born in poverty within his kingdom. <sup>15</sup> I saw that all who lived and walked under the sun followed the youth, the king's successor. <sup>16</sup> There was no end to all the people who were before them. But those who came later were not pleased with the successor. This too is meaningless, a chasing after the wind.

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### **SERMON OUTLINE: Better Together (Ecclesiastes 4)**

It's all about me...

But the Teacher begs to differ

#### **1. What happens when we make life all about me, not we (v.1-8, 13-16)**

*Picture #1: O \_\_\_\_\_ (v.1-3)*

When everyone wants to be number one...

What's especially devastating

*Picture #2: E \_\_\_\_\_ & R \_\_\_\_\_ (v.4-6)*

What is it that drives people to work so hard?

A desire simply to get ahead of others, or to be noticed by others

Life becomes a competition

So what can we do?

One answer: “lying flat”?

Teacher says: Not a solution! (v.5, cf. Prov. 6:10-11)

Some wisdom (v.6)

*Picture #3: I \_\_\_\_\_ (v.7-8)*

- Mr. Workaholic

*Picture #4 (a twist on Picture #3): I \_\_\_\_\_ of the \_\_\_\_\_ (v.13-16)*

## **2. God actually wants life to be about we, not just me (v.9-12)**

Autonomy                      vs                      Connection

What we were made for

Why connection is better

Do we have this gift?

The possibility of proximity without community; communication without intimacy

### **Concluding big picture reflections:**

- Ecclesiastes 4 teaches us that any attempt to make this world about me, rather than we is a totally futile effort
- If God intends for this world to be “we, not me”, as Ecclesiastes 4 shows, then the Christian community is where we should see the clearest expression of that reality (cf. Romans 12:9-14)
- Ecclesiastes 4 drives us to plead with God for a deeper grasp of the gospel

## Response Song: We are One

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Connect cards**
- **Giving**
- The **Missions budget** and **pledge cards** will be presented next Sunday.
- The following **deacons** have been elected for the 2022-2025 term:

- Church Secretary: Dr. Catherine Chen
  - Assistant Church Secretary: Alex Kueh
  - Treasurer: James Ling
  - Assistant Treasurer: Leonard Sia
  - Building and Facilities Deacon: John Wong
  - Children's Ministry Deacon: Christina Chong
  - Music Ministry Deacon: Daniel Langat
  - Women's Ministry Deacon: Sharon Ling
  - Social Concerns Deacon: Irene Chieng
  - Urban Evangelism Deacon: Greg Gomang
  - Mandarin Ministry Deacons: Dr. Nilus Phang, Dr. Lee Sie Wei, Yong Khee Shin
- Should any registered member of BEM KEC wish to raise a valid reason and object to any individual who has been elected, they do so in writing to the Church Secretary, within 14 days from the date of election.

- **Ministry Reports** by the deacons for the immediate previous term should be submitted to our church administrator, Julie Kong, by **today**.
- The **Klang Valley Bible Conference 2022** is back! It will run from **Monday to Wednesday, August 1-3, 8.15pm nightly** and will also be livestreamed. This year, Dr. Peter Jensen (former principal of Moore College and retired Archbishop of Sydney) will be giving 3 talks on the theme of '*Dying Well*'. For more information, go to: <https://kvbctrust.org/events/kvbc-bible-conference/> Register at: <https://bit.ly/KVBC2022>
- **KVBC NextGen** is also taking place online from **August 31-September 3!** This training conference, aimed at 18-35 year olds, equips the next generation of Christian leaders to handle and teach the Word well. Find out more and register at <https://nextgen.kvbctrust.org>. You may also speak to our very own Pastor Brian, national chair of KVBC NextGen, to find out more!

<b>Home Fellowship Groups</b> Most groups have started meeting! (Usually Thursday/Friday evenings). If you would like to register your interest in joining a Home Fellowship Group, please do so at <a href="https://bemkec.my/home-fellowship-groups/">https://bemkec.my/home-fellowship-groups/</a>	<b>English Youth Ministry</b> Our youth group meets every Saturday evening at church (Conference Room 1), 8-9.30pm. If you're interested to come, do let us know at <a href="https://bemkec.my/english-youth-ministry/">https://bemkec.my/english-youth-ministry/</a>	<b>Sunday School</b> Please see below
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- Are you looking for **an opportunity to serve**? Why not check out <https://bemkec.my/serving> to discover some ways you can do so!
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### **Sunday School S.O.Ps**

- 1.1 Face Masks** will be mandatory for teachers, helpers and children. Exemptions will be given to children with special needs/respiratory problems (with supporting medical report).
- 1.2 Physical Distancing** will still be encouraged.
- 1.3 Singing:** Initially, the Sunday School will not have their own singing session. Children are required to stay with their parents in the main hall during the singing, before going to their respective classes. This will be reviewed as the need arises.
- 1.4 Positive, symptomatic and close contact cases.** Any teacher, helper and child who falls under any of the above should not attend Sunday school. Teachers and helpers who are unable to attend are required to inform their respective Class Coordinator as soon as possible so that replacements can be arranged.
- 1.5 Food and drinks** will not allowed in the classrooms.
- 1.6 Hand, Foot and Mouth Disease (HFMD)** - Parents are to ensure that your child is not HFMD symptomatic or positive before sending them to Sunday school.

### **1. SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSROOMs**

Sunday school lessons will be held in the classrooms located in the Apartment Block as follows:

- 1.1 Group 1 (Children ages 3-4): Conference Room 1, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor.
- 1.2 Group 2 (Children ages 5-6): Room K1, Ground Floor.
- 1.3 Group 3 (Children ages 7-9 i.e. Primary 1 to 3): Room 2B, Ground Floor.
- 1.4 Group 4 (Children ages 10-12 i.e. Primary 4 to 6): Conference Room 2, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor.

If your child is below 3 years old, please do not send them to Sunday School but utilise the creche instead.

### **BENEDICTION**

<sup>12</sup> May the Lord make your love increase and overflow for each other and for everyone else, just as ours does for you. <sup>13</sup> 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

### **COFFEE QUESTIONS**

- “To make life all about me, never about we” is completely destructive.” Do you see this truth at work in our world today? How so?
- Do you see envy and rivalry, even if subconsciously, at work in your life? How could you seek instead to “outdo each other in giving honour”? (Rom. 12:10b)
- Moving forward, how can you play a part to love one another in church, and to help our church community be more about “we, not just me”?