

## **KEC ORDER OF SERVICE/SERMON OUTLINE 1<sup>st</sup> August 2021 (KEC SERVICE Online)**

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

We will not be showing any new Kids' Church Videos for the moment. Please do join one of our Sunday School groups instead! Contact Abang Trang for more info.

You can access the livestream at [https://www.facebook.com/bemkec/live\\_videos/](https://www.facebook.com/bemkec/live_videos/)

Or on Youtube here: <https://youtube.com/bemkec/live>

*8.30am – Livestream starts*

*Livestream link should be available by 8.25am latest.*

### **1. CALL TO WORSHIP – Luke 15:3-10**

### **2. WORSHIP in SONG (with Silas Michael)**

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

SONG 2: O Lord my Rock and my Redeemer

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

Almighty and merciful God,  
we have erred and strayed from your ways like lost sheep.  
We have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts.  
We have offended against your holy laws.  
We have left undone those things which we ought to have done;  
and we have done those things which we ought not to have done.  
O Lord, have mercy upon us.  
Spare those who confess their faults.  
Restore those who are penitent,  
according to your promises declared to the world in Christ Jesus our Lord.  
And grant, O merciful God, for his sake,  
that we may live a holy, just, and humble life  
for the glory of your holy name.  
Amen.

For the Son of Man came to seek and save the lost.

– Luke 19:10

### **4. Apostles' Creed**

I believe in God, the Father Almighty,  
Creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit

and born of the virgin Mary.  
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again from the dead.  
He ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.  
From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy universal church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.

## 5. Prayers

- World
- Nation
- Church

## 6. Bible reading: Genesis 16:1-16

**16** Now Sarai, Abram's wife, had borne him no children. But she had an Egyptian slave named Hagar; <sup>2</sup> so she said to Abram, 'The LORD has kept me from having children. Go, sleep with my slave; perhaps I can build a family through her.'

Abram agreed to what Sarai said. <sup>3</sup> So after Abram had been living in Canaan ten years, Sarai his wife took her Egyptian slave Hagar and gave her to her husband to be his wife. <sup>4</sup> He slept with Hagar, and she conceived.

When she knew she was pregnant, she began to despise her mistress. <sup>5</sup> Then Sarai said to Abram, 'You are responsible for the wrong I am suffering. I put my slave in your arms, and now that she knows she is pregnant, she despises me. May the LORD judge between you and me.'

<sup>6</sup> 'Your slave is in your hands,' Abram said. 'Do with her whatever you think best.' Then Sarai ill-treated Hagar; so she fled from her.

<sup>7</sup> The angel of the LORD found Hagar near a spring in the desert; it was the spring that is beside the road to Shur. <sup>8</sup> And he said, 'Hagar, slave of Sarai, where have you come from, and where are you going?'

'I'm running away from my mistress Sarai,' she answered.

<sup>9</sup> Then the angel of the LORD told her, 'Go back to your mistress and submit to her.' <sup>10</sup> The angel added, 'I will increase your descendants so much that they will be too numerous to count.'

<sup>11</sup> The angel of the LORD also said to her:

‘You are now pregnant  
and you will give birth to a son.  
You shall name him Ishmael,<sup>[a]</sup>  
for the LORD has heard of your misery.

<sup>12</sup> He will be a wild donkey of a man;  
his hand will be against everyone  
and everyone’s hand against him,  
and he will live in hostility  
towards<sup>[b]</sup> all his brothers.’

<sup>13</sup> She gave this name to the LORD who spoke to her: ‘You are the God who sees me,’ for she said, ‘I have now seen<sup>[c]</sup> the One who sees me.’ <sup>14</sup> That is why the well was called Beer Lahai Roi;<sup>[d]</sup> it is still there, between Kadesh and Bered.

<sup>15</sup> So Hagar bore Abram a son, and Abram gave the name Ishmael to the son she had borne. <sup>16</sup> Abram was eighty-six years old when Hagar bore him Ishmael.

#### Footnotes

- a. [Genesis 16:11](#) *Ishmael* means *God hears*.
- b. [Genesis 16:12](#) Or *live to the east / of*
- c. [Genesis 16:13](#) Or *seen the back of*
- d. [Genesis 16:14](#) *Beer Lahai Roi* means *well of the Living One who sees me*.

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### **SERMON OUTLINE: The futility of shortcuts (Gen 16)**

It’s hard to wait  
...when the other person is so slow!

How Sarai feels

Genesis 12-15: An active God!

10 years

In the waiting room, here’s what you need to remember

#### **Scene #1: The futility of shortcuts (v.1-6)**

Discouraged  
...so begins to scheme

Taking matters into your own hands

Shortcuts sound reasonable!

Sarai's heart

We do whatever we can to achieve our desires

Déjà vu

Works?

Solution led to unintended consequences, which made things worse

Everything's gone wrong!

Here lies the futility of shortcuts

## **Scene #2: Remember the eyes and ears of God (v.7-16)**

On the road to Shur

The angel of the LORD

God speaking to Hagar!

God seeks out the rejected/the sinner/those on the run

“Go back” (v.9)

The promise

The choice: will Hagar submit, trust, go back, and wait in faith?

Two important things Hagar saw about God:

*i) God is the God who hears*

*ii) God is the God who sees*

What God wants you to remember in the waiting room

We can see God in our affliction

Lost sight of God?

God waits for you to see him again

He is not slow in keeping his promise...but is patient...wanting us to come to repentance

**Response: Shout to the Lord**

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Connect cards**
- **Giving.** Missions pledge cards available online at <https://bemkec.my/missions-pledge-2021>
- **Next Sunday:** Paul Ling will be preaching on Genesis 17.

**Care parcels for those in need:** Our Social Concerns Ministry have prepared some food packages which can be distributed to anyone in need. If you know of any relative, friend, neighbour or acquaintance who are in need, please feel free to contact our church administrator (Julie Kong) or assistant administrator (Lee Siang) at our church office (082-550251). You may then arrange to pick up these packages and deliver to those you know in need.

- **\*AGM** (Sun, August 1<sup>st</sup>, 10.30am-12.15pm). This is for members only. The Zoom link should have been sent to you by your HFG leaders. It will also be shown on screen. Please note too that our Zoom room has a maximum capacity of 100 people.

**The Gospel & Prosperity** (8 sessions on the history and theology of the prosperity gospel), organized by Explain International.

- 9am-12pm, for 4 Saturdays (Aug 14, 21, 28, Sept 4). Speakers: Rev. Tim Nicholls, Samuel Nesan, Ps. Mark Tan.
- Normal rate (after 31 July) is at RM60. Sign up now!
- Registration link: <https://www.eventbrite.sg/e/the-gospel-prosperity-registration-163353006239?fbclid=IwAR3vHmT5pS0-dNEpQx3CA2wPllcANXhTvnI-iwaNjIQWzCf2YpwLWdZmQTc>

- **Webinar** (Fri evening, August 27<sup>th</sup>, 8-9.30pm): **“Godly Perseverance in Sickness and health”** with Ps. Wong Fong Yang. Registrations open next Sunday.
- **Equip classes: Doctrine 1** with Ps Brian, starting Saturday, 4<sup>th</sup> Sept for 10 weeks (10.30am-12.30pm). Course Fee: RM160 (Normal), RM110 (concession). Please register at: <https://bit.ly/2021T3Doc1BEMKuching>
- **Prayer Meeting** this Wednesday – on Zoom till further notice

## BENEDICTION

<sup>24</sup> ““The LORD bless you  
and keep you;

<sup>25</sup> the LORD make his face shine on you  
and be gracious to you;

<sup>26</sup> the LORD turn his face towards you  
and give you peace.”

- Numbers 6:24-26