

KEC ORDER OF SERVICE/SERMON OUTLINE 8th May 2022 (KEC Hybrid Service)

The livestream can be accessed at

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 – Psalm 116

2. Worship in SONG (with Emmy Baru):

SONG 1: I stand amazed

SONG 2: Yet not I but through Christ in me

SONG 3: O Church Arise

SONG 4: We are one

3. Prayers

4. Bible reading: 1 Corinthians 16

16 Now about the collection for the Lord's people: Do what I told the Galatian churches to do. ²On the first day of every week, each one of you should set aside a sum of money in keeping with your income, saving it up, so that when I come no collections will have to be made. ³Then, when I arrive, I will give letters of introduction to the men you approve and send them with your gift to Jerusalem. ⁴If it seems advisable for me to go also, they will accompany me.

⁵After I go through Macedonia, I will come to you—for I will be going through Macedonia. ⁶Perhaps I will stay with you for a while, or even spend the winter, so that you can help me on my journey, wherever I go. ⁷For I do not want to see you now and make only a passing visit; I hope to spend some time with you, if the Lord permits. ⁸But I will stay on at Ephesus until Pentecost, ⁹because a great door for effective work has opened to me, and there are many who oppose me.

¹⁰When Timothy comes, see to it that he has nothing to fear while he is with you, for he is carrying on the work of the Lord, just as I am. ¹¹No one, then, should treat him with contempt. Send him on his way in peace so that he may return to me. I am expecting him along with the brothers.

¹²Now about our brother Apollos: I strongly urged him to go to you with the brothers. He was quite unwilling to go now, but he will go when he has the opportunity.

¹³Be on your guard; stand firm in the faith; be courageous; be strong. ¹⁴Do everything in love.

¹⁵ You know that the household of Stephanas were the first converts in Achaia, and they have devoted themselves to the service of the Lord's people. I urge you, brothers and sisters, ¹⁶ to submit to such people and to everyone who joins in the work and labors at it. ¹⁷ I was glad when Stephanas, Fortunatus and Achaicus arrived, because they have supplied what was lacking from you. ¹⁸ For they refreshed my spirit and yours also. Such men deserve recognition.

¹⁹ The churches in the province of Asia send you greetings. Aquila and Priscilla^[a] greet you warmly in the Lord, and so does the church that meets at their house. ²⁰ All the brothers and sisters here send you greetings. Greet one another with a holy kiss.

²¹ I, Paul, write this greeting in my own hand.

²² If anyone does not love the Lord, let that person be cursed! Come, Lord^[b]!

²³ The grace of the Lord Jesus be with you.

²⁴ My love to all of you in Christ Jesus. Amen.

Resurrection implications: Do everything in love (1 Cor 16)

After the highs of 1 Corinthians 15...

We still need to live in the world of 1 Corinthians 16

One last time, the main point again: v.14b

How is a church to live in the meantime while waiting for our future resurrection?

One overarching feature: love seeks to move towards relationship

Paul is not a loner

Plugged into a whole web of relationships

Wants to spend time with the Corinthians! (v.6-7)

We move towards other people, not away from them

“God often suspends comfort to us to drive us to make use of our Christian friends, by whom he purposes to do us good.” – Richard Sibbes

Even difficult people (v.24)

How? v.23

Specific ways to love

i) Love by giving

The collection

Motives

Gospel solidarity

Principles of Christian giving (v.2-4)

- Regular
- Planned
- Proportionate
- For every Christian
- Handled with integrity

ii) Love by giving ourselves to the Lord’s work, and honouring those who do

Timothy

Apollos

The household of Stephanas

“devoted themselves to the service of the Lord’s people”

Lessons for today

iii) Love by standing firm in Jesus, and urging others to do so

The rapid-fire list of exhortations: v.13

Why does he call on us to stand firm?

One danger: v.9

The greater danger: v.22

No middle ground

What about us?

Let’s do everything in love

RESPONSE: This life I live

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Connect cards**
- **Giving**
- **Missions fund update.** As of 30th April 2022, we have received a total of RM149,349, which is 83% of the total amount pledged (RM179, 149).
- **Elder nominations** are still open as of today, May 8th. Nomination Forms are to be passed to the Church Secretary, Edward Suka.
 - Candidates, proposers and seconders must be full members of BEM KEC. The list of full members is on the Main Announcements Notice board, next to the entrance to the church office wing.
 - Candidates must be biblically qualified (See especially 1 Timothy 3:1-7, Titus 1:5-9).

The election of elders will take place on May 15th.

- **Preaching programme for the rest of May.**
May 15th, “The Great Commission” (Acts 1:6-11), with Ps Wong Kuong Sii
May 22nd, “God and his chosen Shepherd” (1 Samuel 16), with Paul Ling
May 29th, “The shepherd(s) and his sheep” (1 Peter 5:1-7), with Ps Brian
- **Baptism classes** continue this Sunday and next, 10.30am, after service for about an hour, in the church office wing.
- **HFG Leaders Briefing:** There will be a HFG Leaders Briefing on Saturday, May 14th, from 10.30am-11.30am, on Zoom.
- **Leave:** Pastor Brian will be on leave from Monday, May 16th to Friday, May 20th. Please refer any urgent pastoral matters to one of the other elders.
- Our **church library** is open today, after service.
- Our **Prayer Meeting** is on this week, on **Wednesday, May 11th, 8-9ish pm**. We are currently aiming to have some form of in-person Prayer Meeting from July.

Home Fellowship Groups 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 https://bemkec.my/home-fellowship-groups/	English Youth Ministry 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 https://bemkec.my/english-youth-ministry/	Sunday School Our Sunday School is currently still online (either live on Zoom/lessons Whatsapp'd to parents – depending on age group), but will be looking to resume in person in July. Please contact our deacon Abang Trang if you wish to know more.
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The latest SOPs

There will **NO longer be any online pre-registration required.**

Masks are still required when indoors, or in crowded outdoor spaces. For the moment, we will also maintain the current spacing for our seating arrangements, and revise further down the line.

MySejahtera check-ins are no longer required. However, please note that when required, the ushers may still need to check your risk status on the app. Those with “High Risk” status or under a Home Surveillance Order can follow the service via livestreaming instead.

As before, the creche is open to be used. We are also hopeful that Sunday School will resume in-person teaching by July, and are working towards that.

BENEDICTION

¹³ Be on your guard; stand firm in the faith; be courageous; be strong. ¹⁴ Do everything in love.

- 1 Corinthians 16:13-14