

## **KEC ORDER OF SERVICE/SERMON OUTLINE 22<sup>nd</sup> November (KEC SERVICE ONLINE)**

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

KIDS VIDEO will be made available by 8am. It's easy to love your friends, but Jesus teaches that living God's way means loving even those who are hard to love! Find out more here!

Direct link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8mYqNdukJkM>

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

*8.30am – Livestream starts*

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

### **0. Starter discussion question:**

“What happens at the moment of death, do you think?”

### **1. CALL TO WORSHIP – Ecclesiastes 12:1-7**

### **2. WORSHIP in SONG (with Joshua Baru)**

SONG 1: Hallelujah, Jesus is alive

SONG 2: All the way my Saviour leads me

### **3. Theology is for Doxology: When a loved one who may not be a Christian dies**

### **4. Prayers of intercession**

- World
- Nation
- Church

### **5. Bible reading: 2 Corinthians 4:16-5:10**

<sup>16</sup>Therefore we do not lose heart. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day. <sup>17</sup>For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all. <sup>18</sup>So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen, since what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal.

<sup>5</sup>For we know that if the earthly tent we live in is destroyed, we have a building from God, an eternal house in heaven, not built by human hands. <sup>2</sup>Meanwhile we groan, longing to be clothed instead with our heavenly dwelling, <sup>3</sup>because when we are clothed, we will not be found naked. <sup>4</sup>For while we are in this tent, we groan and are burdened, because we do not wish to be unclothed but to be clothed instead with our heavenly dwelling, so that what is mortal may be swallowed up by life. <sup>5</sup>Now the one who has fashioned us for this very purpose is God, who has given us the Spirit as a deposit, guaranteeing what is to come.

<sup>6</sup>Therefore we are always confident and know that as long as we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord. <sup>7</sup>For we live by faith, not by sight. <sup>8</sup>We are confident, I say, and would prefer to be away from the body and at home with the Lord. <sup>9</sup>So we make it our goal

to please him, whether we are at home in the body or away from it. <sup>10</sup> For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each of us may receive what is due us for the things done while in the body, whether good or bad.

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### **SERMON OUTLINE: What happens when a Christian dies?**

Last week = Day of Judgement

This week = “intermediate state” = the state of the human person after physical death, but before the final resurrection

#### **Why do Christians still die?**

Why death exists (Rom. 6:23)

But if we’re Christians, we know death no longer has the last word! (eg. 2 Tim. 1:9-10)

But if so....

Heidelberg Catechism

Question 42: Since Christ has died for us, why do we still have to die?

Answer: Our death does not pay the debt of our sins. Rather, it puts an end to our sinning and is our entrance into life.

Also the perspective of 2 Cor 5:1-8

The Big Picture Answer: *when a Christian dies, they are transitioning to something better*

3 images:

i. Moving into a superior house

ii. Changing into proper clothes

iii. Going home

A totally different experience compared to one who doesn’t trust Christ

## Different stages of existence

Earthly tent =

House/building from God =

2 stages so far

- Our present embodied existence
- Our future embodied existence

But what happens if we die, and Jesus hasn't returned?

2 Corinthians 5:6-8

A 3<sup>rd</sup> stage =

“Away from the body”

Enjoying sweeter fellowship with Jesus

Overall, the Bible is quite restrained in what it tells us about the intermediate state

Some support from elsewhere in the Bible

OT

- Psalm 16:9-11, 49:13-15, 73:23-24
- Ecclesiastes 12:7 (leading to Isaiah 26:19, Daniel 12:2)

NT

- Luke 20:37-38
- Luke 23:43

- Revelation 6:9-11

Bottom line: *when a Christian dies, they go to be in Jesus' presence*

Not the be all and end all

Intermediate, not ultimate/final!

What about Purgatory?

Remember Hebrews 9:14

### **Implications**

- Relief and gladness

“Death used to be an executioner, but the gospel has made him just a gardener.”  
(George Herbert)

- Offer hope to others

- Don't lose heart

For me to die is gain, to live is Christ

**Response Song: This I Believe (Apostles' Creed)**

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## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- Connect cards
- Christianity Explored (keep praying!)
- Library open next Saturday (Nov 28, 2-4pm)
- Briefing for church membership applicants (Sun Dec 6, tentatively 2pm, Zoom)
- Giving
- Prayer Meeting

## **BENEDICTION**

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- 2 Corinthians 4:16-18