

## SERVICE OUTLINE

Song lyrics appear on the screen. Paper copies are available from the table in the entrance lobby.

### WELCOME & INTRODUCTION

Pete Sowards

**SONG** Come people of the risen King  
Before the throne of God above

### CONFESSION

**Most merciful God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, we confess that we have sinned in thought, word and deed. We have not loved you with our whole heart. We have not loved our neighbours as ourselves. In your mercy forgive what we have been, help us to amend what we are, and direct what we shall be; that we may do justly, love mercy and walk humbly with you our God. Amen.**

### CHILDREN'S ITEM

Ben Moon

**SONG** Jesus, my friend and King

5-11s leave for children's church in the scout hut (they will be brought back to the hall after the service). There are also separate crèches / groups for 0-4s in the hall.

### MATTHEW & KATHRYN GOODBYE PLANS

#### BIBLE READING

Iona Shepherd

Matthew 23:1-39 p.992  
(Chinese Bibles p.801)

#### SERMON

Ed Pennington

Extended sermon notes in simple English are available on the welcome desk for anyone who would find them helpful.

**SONGS** Purify my heart

Jesus Christ, I think upon your sacrifice

#### PRAYERS

Alice Wright

**SONG** O great God of highest heaven

#### CLOSING PRAYER

Please join us for refreshments in the church hall, including a meal for the kids.

## MATTHEW 23:1-39

### SERMON NOTES

When religion goes wrong

Five warning lights:

Self-promotion

Self-righteousness

Self-justification

Superficiality

Self-delusion

A better way

## THINKING DEEPER

Here are some questions for growth groups to discuss (if you are meeting over the summer), or for personal reflection.

1. What struck, challenged or encouraged you in the teaching from God's word on Sunday?
2. There were things that made Jesus angry. What can we learn from this raw emotion in our Lord?
3. Think through each of the "warning lights" in turn—can you see how they match up to Jesus' opening words, and then the seven "woe" pronouncements?
4. Do you notice any of the warning lights in your own life? Where? How will returning to Jesus and holding fast to the gospel help you to change?
5. How does Jesus' compassion for people shine through in the final verses of the chapter?

And here is a question for parents and children to discuss over a meal time one day...

Is it OK for someone to think to themselves:  
"I'm a really good Christian"