

SERVICE OUTLINE

Song lyrics appear on the screen. Paper copies are available.

WELCOME & INTRODUCTION

Rob Bridgewater

SONGS There is an everlasting kindness
Holy Spirit, living breath of God

CHILDREN'S SLOT

Ben Moon

SONG Step by step

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.

PRAYERS

BIBLE READING

Jamie Shepherd

1 Thessalonians 1:1-7 p.1186 (*Chinese Bibles p.958*)

SERMON

Ed Pennington

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

CREED

Jesus Christ is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. For in him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things have been created through him and for him. He is before all things, and in him all things hold together. And he is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning and the firstborn from among the dead, so that in everything he might have the supremacy. For God was pleased to have all his fullness dwell in him, and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making peace through his blood, shed on the cross.

SONG My hope rests firm on Jesus Christ

COMMUNION

See separate sheet

SONG Jesus I my cross have taken

CLOSING PRAYER

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

1 THESSALONIANS OVERVIEW

Growth Groups are meeting centrally for our prayer meeting this week, so we don't have discussion questions on the sermon. However, you might like to work through reading 1 Thessalonians this week (and this would be great for "Family Tabletalks" too). Here's a suggested reading pattern.

Day 1: Read 1:1-7, 3:11-13 and 5:23-28. These are the three prayers Paul prays for the Thessalonians. How do these prayers help us to see Paul's purpose in writing to them?

Day 2: Read 1:8-10 and 2:13-16. What do we learn about Christian conversion, and Christian experience?

Day 3: Read 2:1-12. What are the marks of Christian leadership and ministry that we can learn from Paul?

1 THESSALONIANS 1:1-7

SERMON NOTES

What does authentic Christianity look like?

You live the gospel (v2-3)

You love the gospel (v4-7)

Members of the prayer team will be available at the front right of church, and would be happy to talk and pray with you about anything.

Day 4: Read 2:17-3:10. Why was Paul worried, and why was he overjoyed?

Day 5: Read 4:1-18. In what ways should Christians keep going and keep growing in godliness?

Day 6: 5:1-18. Same question as yesterday: in what (other!) ways should Christians keep going and keep growing in godliness?

Day 7: Read through the whole letter!

Family Tabletalk:

What do we mean by "faith", "love" and "hope" as Christians?

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