

## SERVICE OUTLINE

### WELCOME & INTRODUCTION

Rob Bridgewater

**SONGS** May the Peoples Praise You  
Only a Holy God

### CHILDREN'S ITEM

Lucy Cross

**SONG** There's Nothing Nothing

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. Some weeks we also have a Pathfinder group for 11-15s.

### BIBLE READING

Sarah Wright

Acts 15:1-35 p.1110  
(Chinese Bibles p.890)

### SERMON

Ed Pennington

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

**SONG** Only By Grace

### PRAYERS

John Yianni

### CONFESSION

**Most merciful Father, our Creator and Judge, we acknowledge and confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word and deed. We have not loved you with all our heart; and we have not loved our neighbour as ourselves. We earnestly repent, and are truly sorry for all our sins. For your Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake forgive us, and strengthen us to serve and obey you in lives wholly renewed by your Spirit; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

In Christ we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace that he lavished on us. (Eph 1:7-8)

### HOLY COMMUNION

See separate sheet

**SONG** O Come to the Altar

### CLOSING PRAYER

Please join us for refreshments in the church hall. There is a meal for kids and any others staying on for our student group or Equip Programme.

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.

## GROWTH GROUPS & FAMILY TABLETALK

Some growth groups meet during the week over the summer. Part of what we do is to help each other think through more deeply what we learn on Sundays—and then be ready to change as a result.

1. What struck, challenged or encouraged you in the teaching from God's word on Sunday?
2. What issue sparks the dispute in v1-5? Why is it so serious?
3. A Council of church leaders is convened. Summarise the three contributions:
  - Peter
  - Paul & Barnabas
  - James

Having established that Gentiles are not be required to fulfil the law in order to be saved, a letter is then

## ACTS 15:1-35

Introduction: When disputes happen

Let nothing add to the work of Christ

Let nothing hinder the way to Christ

Conclusion: two principles:

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written—asking them to observe a few laws...

4. How do v19 and v21 explain the principle behind this request.

Application

5. In what ways do we need to stand firm to ensure that we don't lose the gospel that we are saved by the grace of Christ?
6. In what ways might we make it difficult for people to hear and respond to the gospel?

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

“When you add to the gospel, you take away from it” - what does this statement mean?