

SERVICE OUTLINE

WELCOME & INTRODUCTION

Ed Pennington

SONGS The love of the Father
O the deep, deep love of Jesus

APOSTLE'S CREED

CHILDREN'S ITEM

SONG As for me and my house

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.

CONFESSION & PRAYERS

Marianne Daniell

Our heavenly Father, thank you that you love us and care for us all the time. We know that this week we have not always lived the way you tell us. We have done wrong things and not done all the good things we should have done. Only you can save us, so please forgive us and help us to live as your friends. We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.

Psalm 130:3-5 If you, O LORD, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand? But with you there is forgiveness; therefore you are feared. I wait for the LORD, my soul waits, and in his word I put my hope.

BIBLE READING

Linda Benn

Malachi 4:1–6 p.962
(*Chinese Bibles p.771*)

SERMON

Rob Bridgewater

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

SONG See him coming

COMMUNION (*see separate sheet*)

SONG Your grace is enough

CLOSING PRAYER

MALACHI 4:1–6

SERMON NOTES

Do we live as if we are ready?

One day, two outcomes (1-3)

Two prophets, one concern (4-6)

GROWTH GROUPS & FAMILY TABLETALK

Growth groups meet during the week. 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. Here are some questions.

1. What struck, challenged or encouraged you in the teaching from God's word on Sunday?
2. Our Bibles tell us to expect Jesus to return, but in practice, where do our lives show that we don't believe that (in our lifetimes at least)?
3. Is there anything that scares us about the day when the Lord acts—what and why? (v1-3)
4. How should the same heat that “burns like a furnace” comfort us?
5. Why does Malachi tell the people of God to remember the law and decrees of Moses (v4) and

how does that help us?

6. Why is Elijah mentioned here, alongside Moses (v5-6)? (See also 3:1) and how is this expectation fulfilled in the New Testament? What does that mean for us?
7. How would we explain to a non-believer what we are looking forward to when Jesus returns?

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

What are we looking forward to when Jesus returns?