

**YOU ARE WELCOME TO OUR SERVICE**

and we hope you enjoy the company of God, and your family in Christ here

**Monday**  
**Tuesday**

**7.00pm**

**Reading Offering Prayer Encouragement Group2** in Ahmadi. More details from Andy [stpaulskuwait@yahoo.com](mailto:stpaulskuwait@yahoo.com)

**Thursday**

**8.30am**

**Reading Offering Prayer Encouragement Group1** Talk to Bill Schuilenberg for more details [hisbie4me@yahoo.ca](mailto:hisbie4me@yahoo.ca)

**Next Friday**

**10.30am**

**Service in Salwa** followed by fellowship

**Next Sunday**

**6.30pm**

**Service in Ahmadi** followed by fellowship

**COLLECT**

**1<sup>ST</sup> BIBLE READING**

*A reading from the book of* Song of Solomon 2:8-13

Listen! My lover! Look! Here he comes, leaping across the mountains, bounding over the hills. My lover is like a gazelle or a young stag. Look! There he stands behind our wall, gazing through the windows, peering through the lattice. My lover spoke and said to me, "Arise, my darling, my beautiful one, and come with me. See! The winter is past; the rains are over and gone. Flowers appear on the earth; the season of singing has come, the cooing of doves is heard in our land. The fig tree forms its early fruit; the blossoming vines spread their fragrance. Arise, come, my darling; my beautiful one, come with me."

*This is the word of the Lord - Thanks be to God*

**2<sup>nd</sup> BiBLE READING**

*A reading from the book of* James 1:17-27

Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows. He chose to give us birth through the word of truth, that we might be a kind of firstfruits of all he created. Listening and Doing My dear brothers, take note of this: Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry, for man's anger does not bring about the righteous life that God desires. Therefore, get rid of all moral filth and the evil that is so prevalent and humbly accept the word planted in you, which can save you. Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says. Anyone who listens to the word but does not do what it says is like a man who looks at his face in a mirror and, after looking at himself, goes away and immediately forgets what he looks like. But the man who looks intently into the perfect law that gives freedom, and continues to do this, not forgetting what he has heard, but doing it—he will be blessed in what he does. If anyone considers

himself religious and yet does not keep a tight rein on his tongue, he deceives himself and his religion is worthless. Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world.

*This is the word of the Lord - Thanks be to God*

**PSALM . 45.1-2, 7-10**

**Response: Grace flows from your lips,**

R . My heart is stirring with a noble song; let me recite what I have fashioned for the king; my tongue shall be the pen of a skilled writer. You are the fairest of men; grace flows from your lips, because God has blessed you for ever. R Your throne, O God, endures for ever and ever, a sceptre of righteousness is the sceptre of your kingdom; you love righteousness and hate iniquity; Therefore God, your God, has anointed you with the oil of gladness above your fellows. R All your garments are fragrant with myrrh, aloes and cassia, and the music of strings from ivory palaces makes you glad. Kings' daughters stand among the ladies of the court; on your right is the queen, adorned with the gold of Ophir. R

**GOSPEL READING**

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to **Mark 7:1-8; 7:14-15; 7:21-23**  
**Glory to you, O Lord**

Mark Clean and Unclean The Pharisees and some of the teachers of the law who had come from Jerusalem gathered around Jesus and saw some of his disciples eating food with hands that were "unclean," that is, unwashed. (The Pharisees and all the Jews do not eat unless they give their hands a ceremonial washing, holding to the tradition of the elders. When they come from the marketplace they do not eat unless they wash. And they observe many other traditions, such as the washing of cups, pitchers and kettles.) So the Pharisees and teachers of the law asked Jesus, "Why don't your disciples live according to the tradition of the elders instead of eating their food with 'unclean' hands?" He replied, "Isaiah was right when he prophesied about you hypocrites; as it is written: " 'These people honor me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me. They worship me in vain; their teachings are but rules taught by men.' You have let go of the commands of God and are holding on to the traditions of men." Again Jesus called the crowd to him and said, "Listen to me, everyone, and understand this. Nothing outside a man can make him 'unclean' by going into him. Rather, it is what comes out of a man that makes him 'unclean.' "For from within, out of men's hearts, come evil thoughts, sexual immorality, theft, murder, adultery, greed, malice, deceit, lewdness, envy, slander, arrogance and folly. All these evils come from inside and make a man 'unclean.' "

**This is the Gospel of the Lord Praise to you, O Christ**