



## WELCOME

We welcome all visitors this morning. We believe that you will be blessed as we worship God. Please feel free to ask any questions regarding our worship or about God's Word.

## LADIES' BIBLE STUDY

The Ladies' Bible study classes will start this Wednesday, 14 January, at 10H00. All ladies are encouraged to attend.

## SUNDAY BIBLE STUDY - 9 am.

We are at present studying the four Gospels. Johan is facilitating the class. Please join us during this time of learning God's Word.

**Song Leader:** Mike Baisley

**Opening Prayer:** Ray Calder

**Closing Prayer:** Carry Hagemann

**Servers:** Carry, Ray, Ordene & Chris

**Scripture Reading:** Chris du Preez

**Lord's Table:** Ordene Engelbrecht

**Attendance last Sunday:** 27

Website: <https://churchofchrist20keam.co.za/>

Facebook: Church of Christ Keam rd

Leadership: Braam Le Roux - 072 195 6104

Mike Baisley - 083 500 7271

## **SUNDAY TIMES:**

**BIBLE STUDIES:** 09H00

**WORSHIP:** 10H00 TO 11H00

**11 JANUARY 2026**

**Preacher:** Johan Smulders

**Sermon Topic:** "Fear not"

**Scripture reading:** Luke 2: 8 - 14

**Text:**

## PRAYER REQUESTS

Please pray for the members in our congregation who are in need of God's grace, healing and strength through difficult times. Please pray for Taida Marembo (Geraldine's mother), Petro and Kate, as they are going through a very difficult time.

Psalm 106: 1, "Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good." We should always acknowledge God's faithfulness in both good and challenging times, with simple words or devotional practices and prayers.

## BIRTHDAYS

Myra Lentz – 12 January

Happy birthday, Myra! May God bless you as you celebrate this joyous day!

## VERSES FOR THE WEEK

Zechariah 4: 6, "So he said to me, "This is the word of the Lord to Zerubbabel: 'Not by might, nor by power, but by my Spirit,' says the LORD Almighty."

This verse is significant for highlighting that difficult tasks are accomplished through God's power, not human effort. It teaches that God's work is carried out by His spirit, offering a message of relevance for those facing challenges.

Zechariah 1: 3, "Therefore, tell the people: This is what the Lord Almighty says: 'Return to me,' declares the Lord Almighty, 'and I will return to you,' says the LORD Almighty."

## The Prophet Zechariah, which means "Yahweh Remembers"

Prophet Zechariah, known for his visions and prophecies concerning the rebuilding of the Temple after exile, was a priest (grandson of Iddo), born in Babylon, who encouraged hope during a time of discouragement, famously prophesying, "Not by might nor by power, but by My Spirit" for the Temple's completion, and foretold messianic figures like "the Branch" (King & Priest). He is also noted for his detailed apocalyptic visions, including flying scrolls and a golden lampstand, and traditionally believed to have been martyred between the altar and the temple.

- Priest-Prophet:** Zechariah was unique as both a priest (from the priestly family of Iddo) and a prophet, giving him deep insight into Temple rituals and divine mysteries.
- Post-Exilic Context:** He prophesied to the returning exiles, encouraging them to finish the Second Temple when they had grown discouraged.
- "Not by Might":** In his vision of the golden lampstand, an angel revealed that the Temple would be finished not by human strength but by God's Spirit (Zech 4: 6).
- Messianic Figures:** He described the Messiah as "the Branch" (Zech 3: 8, 6: 12) and "My Shepherd" (Zech 13: 7), linking to Christ's priestly and kingly roles.
- Apocalyptic Visions:** His book features eight vivid visions, including a flying scroll to punish sin and a measuring of Jerusalem, symbolizing future restoration.
- Name Meaning:** His name means "The Lord remembers," reflecting his message of God remembering His people.
- Lineage:** He was the son of Berechiah and grandson of Iddo, who returned from Babylon with Zerubbabel.
- Martyrdom:** Jewish tradition holds that he was murdered in the Temple court, a tradition echoed in Matthew 23: 35.

## **Prayers are the Stairs to God**

Prayers are the stairs  
we must climb every day.  
If we would reach God,  
there is no other way.  
For we learn to know God  
when we meet Him in prayer  
and ask him to lighten  
our burden of care.  
So start in the morning  
and, though the way's steep,  
climb ever upward  
'til your eyes close in sleep.  
For prayers are the stairs  
that lead to the Lord.  
And to meet Him in prayer  
is the climber's reward.

*Helen Steiner Rice*