

ORDER OF SERVICE

WELCOME

SONG: O Praise The Name

CHILDREN'S TALK

CONFESSION

Almighty God, our heavenly Father,
We have sinned against you
And against our fellow men,
In thought and word and deed,
In the evil we have done
And in the good we have not done,
Through ignorance, through weakness,
Through our own deliberate fault.
We are truly sorry and repent of all our sins.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
Who died for us,
Forgive us all that is past;
And grant that we may serve you
In newness of life
To the glory of your name. Amen.

Common Worship, ©
The Archbishops' Council of the Church of England, 2000-2006

NOTICES (children leave for Sunday School
& Crèche)

RESPONSIVE READING: Psalm 1

SONG: This I Believe

READING: Job 18

SERMON

PRAYERS

SONG: Yet Not I

COMMUNION

SONG: O Great God

BLESSING

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 @GCGreenwich

 GraceChurchGreenwich

Grace Church takes seriously the safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults. If you have any concerns, please contact our Safeguarding Officer, Kate Squire (safeguarding@greenwich.church) or the Diocese of Southwark Safeguarding team (020 7939 9423). See www.greenwich.church/safeguarding

NOTICES

Grace Groups

Grace Groups returns on Wednesday 15th September at 7:45pm for 8pm start at the Naval College. If you are not in a group and would like to be, let us know by responding to this email. This term we will all be looking at the book of Ephesians:

"Ephesians is a treasure trove of God's grace. [It] displays God's unique grace to and through the church."

People Not Pronouns

This is a joint-churches event on Monday 23rd September, 7:45 for 8pm at St John's, Blackheath, where Andrew Bunt, from Living Out, will be speaking on how as Christians we can respond to issues around transgenderism.

Weekend Away Deadline (19th Sep)

We do hope you will be able to join us at Ashburnham for our Autumn Weekend Away (15th – 17th October). We are delighted that Christopher Ash will be speaking on the Psalms. As he writes in his book on the subject, "[Psalms] can shape the dynamics of our Christian lives in ways that neither a dry and arid intellectualism nor a rootless emotionalism can do. The Psalms can make us Christians with deep feelings, deep emotions, deep thoughts, and deep desires."

Next Sunday: 12th September - Job 19

 THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND



GRACE CHURCH GREENWICH

Welcome!

Sunday 5th September 2021

*"Do not be deceived: God is not mocked,
for whatever one sows, that will he also reap.
For the one who sows to his own flesh
will from the flesh reap corruption,
but the one who sows to the Spirit
will from the Spirit reap eternal life.*

Galatians 6:7-8 (ESV)

Job 18

- ¹ **Then** Then Bildad the Shuhite answered and said:
² “How long will you hunt for words?
Consider, and then we will speak.
³ Why are we counted as cattle?
Why are we stupid in your sight?
⁴ You who tear yourself in your anger,
shall the earth be forsaken for you,
or the rock be removed out of its place?
⁵ “Indeed, the light of the wicked is put out,
and the flame of his fire does not shine.
⁶ The light is dark in his tent,
and his lamp above him is put out.
⁷ His strong steps are shortened,
and his own schemes throw him down.
⁸ For he is cast into a net by his own feet,
and he walks on its mesh.
⁹ A trap seizes him by the heel;
a snare lays hold of him.
¹⁰ A rope is hidden for him in the ground,
a trap for him in the path.
¹¹ Terrors frighten him on every side,
and chase him at his heels.
¹² His strength is famished,
and calamity is ready for his stumbling.
¹³ It consumes the parts of his skin;
the firstborn of death consumes his limbs.
¹⁴ He is torn from the tent in which he trusted
and is brought to the king of terrors.
¹⁵ In his tent dwells that which is none of his;
sulfur is scattered over his habitation.
¹⁶ His roots dry up beneath,
and his branches wither above.
¹⁷ His memory perishes from the earth,
and he has no name in the street.
¹⁸ He is thrust from light into darkness,
and driven out of the world.
¹⁹ He has no posterity or progeny among his people,
and no survivor where he used to live.
²⁰ They of the west are appalled at his day,
and horror seizes them of the east.
²¹ Surely such are the dwellings of the unrighteous,
such is the place of him who knows not God.”

COFFEE QUESTION

When something goes wrong, are you too quick to jump to the conclusion that God is upset with you? Or too slow to reach the conclusion that God might be upset with you?

Eliphaz - Job
Bildad - Job
Zophar - Job
Eliphaz - Job
Bildad - Job
Zophar - Job
Eliphaz - Job
Bildad - Job



- 1) Job's friends are right that *bad* things happen to *bad* people...
- Job 4:7-9
- Job 8:11-22 cf. Psalm 1
- Job 5:13 cited by 1 Corinthians 3:19
- Acts 12:23
- Galatians 6:7-8

APPLICATION: we live in a moral universe governed by a just God

- 2) But they are wrong to think that it *always* works like that in the here and now
- Job knows he is innocent (16:15-17)
- And we know that God thinks Job is innocent (1:8; 2:3)
- So his suffering is not punishment
- See e.g. Luke 13:2-3; John 9:1-3
- But “Job’s comforters” don’t get this

APPLICATION: Christians don’t believe in karma (beware the blame game); the prosperity gospel is dangerously wrong

- 3) And yet it always works out like that in the end
- the wicked are brought down (e.g. chapter 18)
- the righteous are finally vindicated (42:7-17)
- See e.g. Psalm 73; Matthew 25

APPLICATION: Look to the final day of judgment