

ORDER OF SERVICE

WELCOME

SONG: Mighty To Save

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 go to Sunday School and Crèche)

RESPONSIVE READING: Luke 24:44-47

SONG: May The Peoples Praise You

READINGS: Ezekiel 37:15-28 (pg. 725),
Acts 8:1-25 (pg. 916)

SERMON

PRAYERS

SONG: Before The Throne Of God Above

COMMUNION

SONG: Saviour Of The World

BLESSING

NOTICES

Easter Services

Good Friday – 15th April, 10:30am, St Helen's
Bishopsgate, EC3A 6AT

Easter Sunday – 17th April, **10:30am only**, King
William Building, Greenwich (TBC).

Summer Camps 2022

If you'd like to serve on a summer camp this
year, here are details of some camps that Grace
Church members will be serving on:

22nd Jul-1st Aug: LDN Senior B,

Northamptonshire, contact Andrew Latimer.

30th Jul-6th Aug & 7th Aug- 15th Aug: InterAction
France, Pays de la Loire, contact Michaela May.

31st Jul-7th Aug: Maidwell 1 @ Oswestry,
Shropshire, contact Ben Woodbridge.

6th-13th Aug: Orwell 3, Suffolk, contact Jono Pick.

No Grace Groups

Midweek Bible studies will not be meeting over
the Easter holidays. We will resume on
Wednesday 27th April at 8pm with a study on
Exodus 19:1-20:21. Groups are encouraged to
meet for a social over the Easter break!

Giving

Grace Church is funded wholly by the
donations of its members. To support our work
and give tax efficiently please email
treasurer@greenwich.church (40-52-40 /
00027789) or give through our website at
www.greenwich.church/give

Spring Weekend Away: 6th-8th May

Only one week until bookings close! To book
your place, scan the QR code or go to
www.greenwich.church/weekend-away.



Next Sunday, 10th April: John 19:28-37



Welcome!

Sunday 3rd April 2022

*“You will receive power when the Holy Spirit
has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses
in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria,
and to the end of the earth.”*

Acts 1:8 (ESV)

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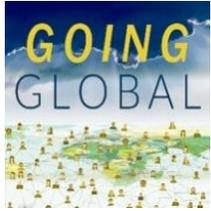
 GraceChurchGreenwich



Grace Church takes the safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults seriously.

If you have any concerns, please email our safeguarding officer, Sarah Wilde, at safeguarding@greenwich.church,
or contact the Southwark Safeguarding Team (020 7939 9423). See www.greenwich.church/safeguarding.

Acts 8:1-25



8 And Saul approved of [Stephen's] execution.

And there arose on that day a great persecution against the church in Jerusalem, and they were all scattered throughout the regions of Judea and Samaria, except the apostles. ² Devout men buried Stephen and made great lamentation over him. ³ But Saul was ravaging the church, and entering house after house, he dragged off men and women and committed them to prison.

⁴ Now those who were scattered went about preaching the word. ⁵ Philip went down to the city of Samaria and proclaimed to **them** the Christ. ⁶ And the crowds with one accord paid attention to what was being said by Philip, when they heard him and saw the signs that he did. ⁷ For unclean spirits, crying out with a loud voice, came out of many who had them, and many who were paralyzed or lame were healed. ⁸ So there was much joy in that city.

⁹ But there was a man named Simon, who had previously practiced magic in the city and amazed the people of Samaria, saying that he himself was somebody great. ¹⁰ They all paid attention to him, from the least to the greatest, saying, "This man is the power of God that is called Great." ¹¹ And they paid attention to him because for a long time he had amazed them with his magic. ¹² But when they believed Philip as he preached good news about the kingdom of God and the name of Jesus Christ, they were baptized, both men and women. ¹³ Even Simon himself believed, and after being baptized he continued with Philip. And seeing signs and great miracles performed, he was amazed.

¹⁴ Now when the apostles at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had received the word of God, they sent to them Peter and John, ¹⁵ who came down and prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit, ¹⁶ for he had not yet fallen on any of them, but they had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. ¹⁷ Then they laid their hands on them and they received the Holy Spirit. ¹⁸ Now when Simon saw that the Spirit was given through the laying on of the apostles' hands, he offered them money, ¹⁹ saying, "Give me this power also, so that anyone on whom I lay my hands may receive the Holy Spirit." ²⁰ But Peter said to him, "May your silver perish with you, because you thought you could obtain the gift of God with money! ²¹ You have neither part nor lot in this matter, for your heart is not right before God. ²² Repent, therefore, of this wickedness of yours, and pray to the Lord that, if possible, the intent of your heart may be forgiven you. ²³ For I see that you are in the gall of bitterness and in the bond of iniquity." ²⁴ And Simon answered, "Pray for me to the Lord, that nothing of what you have said may come upon me."

²⁵ Now when they had testified and spoken the word of the Lord, they returned to Jerusalem, preaching the gospel to many villages of the Samaritans.

INTRODUCTION: Is our church a clique?

1) The gospel is for "outsiders" too

ASIDE: THE SHORTEST HISTORY OF SAMARIA

- Jeroboam son of Nebat made up his own religion... (1 Kings 12)
- Samaria was therefore sent into exile (2 Kings 17)
- Ezekiel prophesied a joined stick (Ezekiel 37:15-28)
- The *Good Samaritan* came as a surprise (Luke 10:29-37)

2) Outsiders (we) are fully welcomed into the apostolic church - and the Holy Spirit agrees!

3) Outsiders (we) need to leave behind their old ways - "repentance"

ASIDE: MAGIC IN THE BIBLE

- God confounded the Egyptian sorcerers (Exodus 7-8)
- Sorcery is forbidden among God's people (e.g. Deuteronomy 18:10; Malachi 3:5; Revelation 21:8)
- The gospel put the Ephesian occult industry out of business (Acts 19)

COFFEE QUESTIONS:

How can we avoid cliques at Grace Church Greenwich?

How can ensure that ALL are welcome, but ALL recognise the need for repentance?