

ORDER OF SERVICE

WELCOME

SONG: How Firm a Foundation

CHILDREN'S TALK: Matthew 25:31-46

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)

SONG: The God of Abraham Praise

SONG: Refiner's Fire

READING: James 2:14-26 (pg. 1012)

SERMON: Genesis 22:1-19 (pg. 16)

PRAYERS

Q&A: Text 07520 632 065

SONG: Every Promise

BLESSING

NOTICES

Connect with us

If you're new at Grace Church,
or wanting to be more involved,
we'd love to hear from you.
Scan the QR code or email
arlene.ellis@greenwich.church



Vision Evening – Weds 1st March, 8pm

A great chance to thank God and to look forward to what's coming up for Grace Church. There will also be our Annual General Meeting.

Bitesize Theology – 1st, 8th, 22nd Feb, 7.15pm

A 30-minute introduction to key Christian doctrines before Grace Groups. We'll be thinking about when it is right for Christians to remain united or to separate over differences of belief.

Prayer Gathering

Grace Groups start again this week as we meet to pray on Tuesday or Wednesday 7:45pm in the King William Building, Greenwich. Please feel welcome to come along; there will be no pressure to pray out loud.

Enquirers' Course

For anyone wanting to look into the faith or go over the basics, please email explore@greenwich.church

Giving

Grace Church is funded wholly by the donations of its members – you can give by bank transfer (40-52-40/00027789) or visit www.greenwich.church/give To give tax efficiently contact treasurer@greenwich.church



Welcome!

Sunday 29th January 2023

“An hour is coming when all who are in the tombs will hear his voice and come out, those who have done good to the resurrection of life, and those who have done evil to the resurrection of judgment.”

John 5:28-29 (ESV)

Next Sunday, 5th February, Galatians 1:1-9

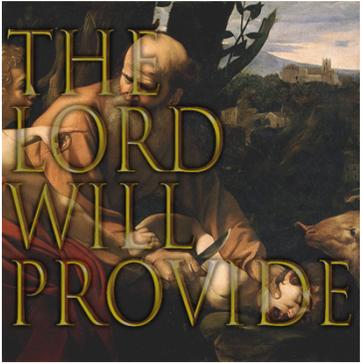
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Grace Church takes the safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults seriously. If you have any concerns, please email our safeguarding officer, Sarah Wilde, at safeguarding@greenwich.church, or contact the Diocese of Southwark Safeguarding Team (020 7939 9423). See www.greenwich.church/safeguarding.

Genesis 22:1-19 (ESV)



¹After these things God tested Abraham and said to him, “Abraham!” And he said, “Here I am.” ²He said, “Take your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains of which I shall tell you.” ³So Abraham rose early in the morning, saddled his donkey, and took two of his young men with him, and his son Isaac. And he cut the wood for the burnt offering and arose and went to the place of which God had told him. ⁴On the third day Abraham lifted up his eyes and saw the place from afar. ⁵Then Abraham said to his young men, “Stay here with the donkey; I and the boy will go over

there and worship and come again to you.” ⁶And Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering and laid it on Isaac his son. And he took in his hand the fire and the knife. So they went both of them together. ⁷And Isaac said to his father Abraham, “My father!” And he said, “Here I am, my son.” He said, “Behold, the fire and the wood, but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?” ⁸Abraham said, “God will provide for himself the lamb for a burnt offering, my son.” So they went both of them together.

⁹When they came to the place of which God had told him, Abraham built the altar there and laid the wood in order and bound Isaac his son and laid him on the altar, on top of the wood. ¹⁰Then Abraham reached out his hand and took the knife to slaughter his son. ¹¹But the angel of the Lord called to him from heaven and said, “Abraham, Abraham!” And he said, “Here I am.” ¹²He said, “Do not lay your hand on the boy or do anything to him, for now I know that you fear God, seeing you have not withheld your son, your only son, from me.” ¹³And Abraham lifted up his eyes and looked, and behold, behind him was a ram, caught in a thicket by his horns. And Abraham went and took the ram and offered it up as a burnt offering instead of his son. ¹⁴So Abraham called the name of that place, “The Lord will provide”; as it is said to this day, “On the mount of the Lord it shall be provided.”

¹⁵And the angel of the Lord called to Abraham a second time from heaven ¹⁶and said, “By myself I have sworn, declares the Lord, because you have done this and have not withheld your son, your only son, ¹⁷I will surely bless you, and I will surely multiply your offspring as the stars of heaven and as the sand that is on the seashore. And your offspring shall possess the gate of his enemies, ¹⁸and in your offspring shall all the nations of the earth be blessed, because you have obeyed my voice.” ¹⁹So Abraham returned to his young men, and they arose and went together to Beersheba. And Abraham lived at Beersheba.

What is the relationship between faith and works in the Christian life?

If we’re justified by faith, does our behaviour matter?

1. Our obedience is crucial

(it’s the inevitable fruit of a living faith, James 2:20-23 ESV)

Do you want to be shown, you foolish person, that “faith” apart from works is useless? Was not Abraham our father justified by works when he offered up his son Isaac on the altar? You see that faith was active along with his works, and faith was completed by his works; and the Scripture was fulfilled that says, “Abraham believed God, and it was counted to him as righteousness”—and he was called a friend of God.

So let’s demonstrate our faith

2. Our faith must come first

(it’s the engine which enables true obedience, Hebrews 11:17-19 ESV)

By faith Abraham, when he was tested, offered up Isaac, and he who had received the promises was in the act of offering up his only son, of whom it was said, “Through Isaac shall your offspring be named.” He considered that God was able even to raise him from the dead, from which, figuratively speaking, he did receive him back.

So let’s prioritise our faith

COFFEE QUESTIONS

How does the life of Abraham help to clarify the relationship between faith and works in the Christian life?

In what ways can you take seriously the call to demonstrate your faith?

How is this different from trying to be justified by works?