### **ORDER OF SERVICE**

#### WELCOME

SONG: How Great Thou Art

#### 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)

#### INTERVIEW WITH JAMES DANCER

**RESPONSIVE READING:** Psalm 145:1-3

SONG: Grace Alone

SONG: Who You Say I Am

READING: Ephesians 1:3-14 (pg. 976)

SERMON

#### PRAYERS

SONG: 10,000 Reasons

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 info@greenwich.church



#### Summer schedule

No Sunday service in Eltham during August.

#### Summer Fellowship

Join us from 7.45pm on Wednesdays in August to learn about the lives of several missionary pioneers:

#### 16th August – Amy Carmichael

23<sup>rd</sup> August – John G. Paton 30<sup>th</sup> August – Elisabeth Elliot

#### Autumn Weekend Away

Save the dates for our Autumn Weekend Away: October  $13^{th} - 15^{th}$ .

#### Giving

Grace Church is funded wholly by the donations of its members. See www.greenwich.church/give or set up a bank transfer (40-52-40/00027789) or to give tax efficiently contact treasurer@ greenwich.church



## Welcome!

Sunday 13th August 2023

# "In love he predestined us for adoption as sons through Jesus Christ"

Ephesians 1:5 (ESV)

## www.greenwich.church @GCGreenwich



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.

## Ephesians 1:3-14 (ESV)

<sup>3</sup>Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, <sup>4</sup> even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him. In love <sup>5</sup> he predestined us for adoption to himself as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will, <sup>6</sup> to the praise of his glorious grace, with which he has blessed us in the Beloved.

<sup>7</sup> In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace, <sup>8</sup> which he lavished upon us, in all wisdom and insight <sup>9</sup> making known to us the mystery of his will, according to his purpose, which he set forth in Christ <sup>10</sup> as a plan for the fullness of time, to unite all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth.

<sup>11</sup>In him we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to the purpose of him who works all things according to the counsel of his will, <sup>12</sup> so that we who were the first to hope in Christ might be to the praise of his glory. <sup>13</sup>In him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit, <sup>14</sup> who is the guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of his glory.

### 1. Christians really are BLESSED...

'Every'

'Heavenly'

2. ...because we really are LOVED...

Lovingly chosen... for a destiny

Loved before time

3. ...so bless God back

**Theological aside:** Is God a megalomaniac?

#blessed  $\rightarrow \#$ bless

### **COFFEE QUESTIONS**

- 1. When are you mostly likely to feel like God is being stingy with his blessings? How does v3 help?
- 2. How does the doctrine of election (God's choosing) make you want to 'bless' God?