ORDER OF SERVICE

WELCOME

SONG: Here I Am To Worship

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, $\ensuremath{\mathbb{C}}$ The Archbishops' Council of the Church of England, 2000-2006

NOTICES (Children go to Sunday School and crèche)

RESPONSIVE READING: Proverbs 3:5-8

SONG: The Fear Of The Lord

SONG: Show Us Christ

READING: James 3:1-18 (pg. 1012)

SERMON

PRAYERS

Q&A: Text questions to 07520 632 065 **SONG:** The Perfect Wisdom Of Our God

BLESSING

NOTICES

Autumn Weekend Away: 14th-16th October

Save the dates for the next weekend away at Ashburnham Place! Rupert Evans will be coming to speak for us.

Grace Groups

Our midweek Bible study groups meet on Wednesdays at 7.45pm in the King William Building, Greenwich. This week we will be looking at Exodus 24:1-18

Christianity Explored

This is a seven-part course for anyone who wants to go over the foundations of the Christian faith, starting this Wednesday, 18th May. Email explore@greenwich.church if you or someone you know is interested.

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

Don't want to miss anything? Why not subscribe to our Google calendar: www.greenwich.church/calendar

Next Sunday 22nd May: James 4:1-10

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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 Southwark Safeguarding Team (020 7939 9423). See www.greenwich.church/safeguarding.



Welcome!

Sunday 15th May 2022

"Behold, the fear of the Lord, that is wisdom, and to turn away from evil is understanding." Job 28:28 (ESV)

James 3:1-18 (ESV)



3 Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers, for you know that we who teach will be judged with greater strictness. ² For we all stumble in many ways. And if anyone does not stumble in what he says, he is a perfect man, able also to bridle his whole body. ³ If we put bits into the mouths of horses so that

they obey us, we guide their whole bodies as well. ⁴Look at the ships also: though they are so large and are driven by strong winds, they are guided by a very small rudder wherever the will of the pilot directs. ⁵So also the tongue is a small member, yet it boasts of great things.

How great a forest is set ablaze by such a small fire! ⁶ And the tongue is a fire, a world of unrighteousness. The tongue is set among our members, staining the whole body, setting on fire the entire course of life, and set on fire by hell. ⁷ For every kind of beast and bird, of reptile and sea creature, can be tamed and has been tamed by mankind, ⁸ but no human being can tame the tongue. It is a restless evil, full of deadly poison. ⁹ With it we bless our Lord and Father, and with it we curse people who are made in the likeness of God. ¹⁰ From the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brothers, these things ought not to be so. ¹¹ Does a spring pour forth from the same opening both fresh and salt water? ¹² Can a fig tree, my brothers, bear olives, or a grapevine produce figs? Neither can a salt pond yield fresh water.

¹³ Who is wise and understanding among you? By his good conduct let him show his works in the meekness of wisdom. ¹⁴ But if you have bitter jealousy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not boast and be false to the truth. ¹⁵ This is not the wisdom that comes down from above, but is earthly, unspiritual, demonic. ¹⁶ For where jealousy and selfish ambition exist, there will be disorder and every vile practice. ¹⁷ But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, open to reason, full of mercy and good fruits, impartial and sincere. ¹⁸ And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace by those who make peace.

The background issue is doublemindedness (James 1:8; 4:8)

1. My tongue shows I am doubleminded

- o if we could control the small, we could control the big (v3-6)
- o but we can't control our small tongues (v7-12)
- ... so not many should become teachers (v1-2)

2. Show the wisdom from above

- o not worldly wisdom (v14-16)
- o but the godliness that comes from above (v17-18)

ask God for it (1:5)

... that's who should be our teacher (v1)

COFFEE QUESTIONS:

Try this line to start a conversation: 'I think I'm doubleminded ... don't you?' Why is it so hard to control our tongues?

Try this line: 'shall we pray for God's wisdom for each other right now?'