GRACE CHURCH GREENWICH

Sunday 16th August 2020

# Online Service at 4pm

## (Sunday School at 3.30pm)

www.greenwich.church/live

**WELCOME** (Andrew S)

*"Now he commands all people everywhere to repent, because he has fixed a day on which he will judge the world in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed; and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead."*
*Acts 17:30-31 (ESV)*

**SONG: Jesus is Lord** (Sam and All)

**CHILDREN'S TALK** (Niamh)

**CONFESSION** (All)

**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.**

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**NOTICES** (Andrew S)

**OPTIONAL CHAT IN BREAKOUT GROUPS**

**CONGREGATIONAL READING** (All)

Leader: Now therefore, O kings, be wise;
**All: Be warned, O rulers of the earth.**
Leader: Serve the Lord with fear,
**All: And rejoice with trembling.**
Leader: Kiss the Son,
**All: Lest he be angry, and you perish in the way,**
Leader: For his wrath is quickly kindled.
**All: Blessed are all who take refuge in him.**

**Psalm 2:10-12**

**READING: Revelation 19:11-16** (Johannah)

**SERMON: Zephaniah 1:1-2:3** (Jon)

**PRAYERS** (Jono)

**SONG: Sing unto the Lord a new song** (Sam and All)

**BLESSING** (Andrew S)

**OPTIONAL CHAT IN BREAKOUT GROUPS**

**OPTIONAL Q&A**

*Next Sunday 23rd August:*
*Zephaniah 2:4-15 – When God the king goes out…*

Email: info@greenwich.church
Pastors: andrew.latimer@greenwich.church
andrew.sach@greenwich.church

**www.greenwich.church**

@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 Assistant Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser, Marie Daly (020 7939 9441).
See www.greenwich.church/safeguarding

THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND

# When God the judge calls time…

**Zephaniah 1:1-2:3**

**1** The word of the Lord that
came to Zephaniah the son of
Cushi, son of Gedaliah, son of
Amariah, son of Hezekiah, in
the days of Josiah the son of
Amon, king of Judah.

2 "I will utterly sweep away
everything from the face of
the earth," declares
the Lord.3 "I will sweep
away man and beast; I will
sweep away the birds of the
heavens and the fish of the
sea, and the rubble with the
wicked. I will cut off mankind
from the face of the earth,"
declares the Lord.4 "I will
stretch out my hand against
Judah and against all the
inhabitants of Jerusalem; and I
will cut off from this place the
remnant of Baal and the name
of the idolatrous priests along
with the priests,5 those who
bow down on the roofs to the
host of the heavens, those
who bow down and swear to
the Lord and yet swear
by Milcom,6 those who have
turned back from following
the Lord, who do not seek
the Lord or enquire of him."

7 Be silent before the
Lord God! For the day of
the Lord is near; the Lord has
prepared a sacrifice
and consecrated his
guests.8 And on the day of
the Lord's sacrifice—"I will
punish the officials and the
king's sons and all who array
themselves in foreign
attire.9 On that day I will
punish everyone who leaps
over the threshold, and those
who fill their master's house
with violence and fraud.

10 "On that day," declares
the Lord, "a cry will be heard
from the Fish Gate, a wail
from the Second Quarter, a
loud crash from the
hills.11 Wail, O inhabitants of
the Mortar! For all the
traders are no more; all who
weigh out silver are cut
off.12 At that time I will search
Jerusalem with lamps, and I
will punish the men who are
complacent, those who say in
their hearts, 'The Lord will not
do good, nor will he do ill.'
13 Their goods shall
be plundered, and their houses
laid waste. Though they build
houses, they shall not inhabit
them; though they plant
vineyards, they shall not drink
wine from them."

14 The great day of
the Lord is near, near and
hastening fast; the sound of
the day of the Lord is bitter;
the mighty man cries aloud
there. 15 A day of wrath is that
day, a day of distress and
anguish, a day of ruin and
devastation, a day of darkness
and gloom, a day of clouds
and thick darkness, 16 a day of
trumpet blast and battle cry
against the fortified cities and
against the lofty battlements.

17 I will bring distress on
mankind, so that they shall
walk like the blind, because
they have sinned against
the Lord; their blood shall be
poured out like dust, and their
flesh like dung.18 Neither their
silver nor their gold shall be
able to deliver them on the
day of the wrath of the Lord.
In the fire of his jealousy, all
the earth shall be consumed;
for a full and sudden end he
will make of all the inhabitants
of the earth.

**2** Gather together, yes,
gather, O shameless nation,
2 before the decree takes
effect—before the day passes
away like chaff—before there
comes upon you the burning
anger of the Lord, before
there comes upon you the day
of the anger of the Lord.3 Seek
the Lord, all you humble of
the land, who do his just
commands; seek
righteousness; seek humility;
perhaps you may be hidden on
the day of the anger of
the Lord.

*Sound the alarm*

**1:1 - Zephaniah** -> Cushi -> Gedaliah -> Amariah -> **Hezekiah**
(---------- 60 years ----------)
*(Reign of Josiah)*

**1) 1:2-6 - Judgement proclaimed!**

**2) 1:8-18 - Judgment described…**

**3) 2:1-3 - Judgment avoided?**

## COFFEE QUESTIONS

-What big lessons do we learn about God in Zephaniah 1:1-2:3?

-In what ways is the church (and society) today similar to the people whom Zephaniah was addressing?

-How should 'The Day of the Lord' shape our thinking in regards to repentance, humility, holiness and evangelism?