

ORDER OF SERVICE

WELCOME

SONG: O Praise The Name

CHILDREN'S TALK

BAPTISM OF ELOY TAMAYO

(Morning service)

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:

Hebrews 11:13-16

SONG: Living Hope

SONG: Christ Our Hope in Life and Death

READING: Genesis 23 (pg. 16)

SERMON

PRAYERS

SONG: By Faith

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



Grace Groups

Join us for our small groups, 7:45pm – 9:15pm
in the King William Building, Greenwich
(Tuesday or Wednesday) or the Chantry,
Mottingham (Wednesday). Speak to Michaela,
michaela.may@greenwich.church

This week we'll be looking at Mark 11:1-25.

Sunday Morning Venue

The third floor of the King William building
will be closed for refurbishment for several
months, beginning 16th April. Please pray for
God's provision of an alternative venue and
stay tuned for updates.

Jesus: a Sceptic's Guide: 14-21 May

Please think and pray about events that you
could organise for sceptical friends and
neighbours during our annual mission week.

Summer Weekend Away: 7-9 July

Bookings now open for a weekend of fun,
football, fire (i.e. a campfire) and fabulous
teaching in the Sussex countryside. Speaker:
Nick Tucker, author of *12 Things God Can't Do*.
See www.greenwich.church/weekend-away

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

Next Sunday, 26th March, Genesis 24



Welcome!

Sunday 19th March 2023

***“[Abraham] was looking forward to the
city that has foundations, whose
designer and builder is God.”***

Hebrews 11:10 (ESV)

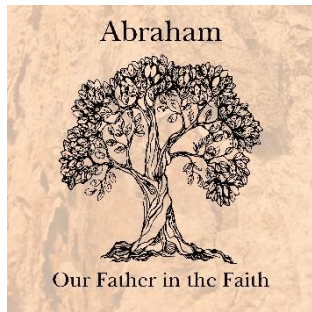
www.greenwich.church

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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 23 (ESV)



¹ Sarah lived 127 years; these were the years of the life of Sarah. ² And Sarah died at Kiriath-arba (that is, Hebron) in the land of Canaan, and Abraham went in to mourn for Sarah and to weep for her. ³ And Abraham rose up from before his dead and said to the Hittites, ⁴ “I am a sojourner and foreigner among you; give me property among you for a burying place, that I may bury my dead out of my sight.” ⁵ The Hittites answered Abraham, ⁶ “Hear

us, my lord; you are a prince of God among us. Bury your dead in the choicest of our tombs. None of us will withhold from you his tomb to hinder you from burying your dead.” ⁷ Abraham rose and bowed to the Hittites, the people of the land. ⁸ And he said to them, “If you are willing that I should bury my dead out of my sight, hear me and entreat for me Ephron the son of Zohar, ⁹ that he may give me the cave of Machpelah, which he owns; it is at the end of his field. For the full price let him give it to me in your presence as property for a burying place.”

¹⁰ Now Ephron was sitting among the Hittites, and Ephron the Hittite answered Abraham in the hearing of the Hittites, of all who went in at the gate of his city, ¹¹ “No, my lord, hear me: I give you the field, and I give you the cave that is in it. In the sight of the sons of my people I give it to you. Bury your dead.” ¹² Then Abraham bowed down before the people of the land. ¹³ And he said to Ephron in the hearing of the people of the land, “But if you will, hear me: I give the price of the field. Accept it from me, that I may bury my dead there.” ¹⁴ Ephron answered Abraham, ¹⁵ “My lord, listen to me: a piece of land worth four hundred shekels of silver, what is that between you and me? Bury your dead.” ¹⁶ Abraham listened to Ephron, and Abraham weighed out for Ephron the silver that he had named in the hearing of the Hittites, four hundred shekels of silver, according to the weights current among the merchants.

¹⁷ So the field of Ephron in Machpelah, which was to the east of Mamre, the field with the cave that was in it and all the trees that were in the field, throughout its whole area, was made over ¹⁸ to Abraham as a possession in the presence of the Hittites, before all who went in at the gate of his city. ¹⁹ After this, Abraham buried Sarah his wife in the cave of the field of Machpelah east of Mamre (that is, Hebron) in the land of Canaan. ²⁰ The field and the cave that is in it were made over to Abraham as property for a burying place by the Hittites.

Death brings clarity...

The big message:

We're to proclaim that our true home is not here, but beyond this life.

The details:

Abraham's Insistence on buying (to remain separate)

Abraham's Insistence on witnesses (to be a lasting memorial)

COFFEE QUESTIONS:

Is there anything in my life, in my choices, in my use of money and time and energy, which is incomprehensible to those around me, and only makes sense in the light of our hope?

What might it look like if we really did share Abraham's hope?