

PLEASE NOTE...

1. Good Friday: Every year we join with the congregation of St Helen's Bishopsgate, EC3A 6AT, for their Good Friday service at 10:30am. (St Helen's is one of the churches that helped to launch Grace Church Greenwich). Please note that children need to be dropped off *before* the service for Sunday School (in St Andrew's Undershaft, nearby) or crèche (at St Helen's).

2. Easter Sunday: We will be meeting at our normal time and place (4pm, Old Royal Naval College) for an all-age service. Please invite friends and family to celebrate the resurrection with us.

3. Grace Groups DO NOT MEET this Wednesday: we are taking a two week break for Easter and resume on 24th April.

4. Christianity Explored starts 24th April: a DVD-based course that we run regularly for sceptics, enquirers or anyone wanting to go over the foundations of Christianity. There is plenty of opportunity to ask questions, or just to listen if you prefer. It usually runs for seven Wednesday evenings but why not just come once to see if it is for you. Let us know if you are interested: explore@gracechurchgreenwich.org.uk.

6. No Sunday Service: please note that there will be no service on Sunday 28th April because of the Church Weekend Away. If you have missed the deadline for the weekend, but would still like to come, email jessica.livesey@gracechurchgreenwich.org.uk and she will do her best to get you in.

7. Looking further ahead:

- Autumn Weekend Away
11th – 13th October 2019

8. Giving: Grace Church is funded by the donations of its members. To support our work and give tax efficiently please email treasurer@gracechurchgreenwich.org.uk (40-52-40 / 00027789).

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GraceChurchGreenwich



Sunday 7th April 2019

Welcome!

Stephen Sinclair is leading
Andrew Sach will be preaching

"The Spiritual Optician"

*"Jesus said, 'For judgement I came into this world,
that those who do not see may see,
and those who see may become blind.'"*
John 9:39

SONG: Jesus is Lord, the cry that echoes through
creation

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 leave for Sunday school & crèche)

CONGREGATIONAL READING: Psalm 119:18-19

SONG: Amazing grace

READING: Ephesians 1:15-23 (p.976)

SONG: Show us Christ

READING: 2 Kings 6:1-23 (p.312)

SERMON

PRAYERS

SONG: All hail the power of Jesus' name

LORD'S SUPPER

SONG: Be thou my vision

BLESSING



Next Sunday service 14th April
Psalm 22

“The Spiritual Optician”

2 Kings 6:1-23

And he saves the whole nation (vv8-19)

Even though the nation is apostate. This is salvation before judgment, a window of mercy before the judgment later falls.

And he saves their enemies (vv20-23)

Banqueting instead of bloodshed!

APPLICATION

God blinds in judgment

e.g. Isaiah 6:9-10; Mark 4:10-12

You can't win if you fight him;
you are fighting blind

God opens eyes to save

e.g. Isaiah 35:5; Mark 8:18, 22-26

Ask him for spiritual sight for yourself and others

Coffee question

How dependent are we on God to open our eyes to spiritual realities? How earnestly do we pray for God to open others' eyes?

STRAND 1: BLINDNESS & SIGHT

Elijah has superhero sight (vv8-13)

Elisha sees everything immediately (vv8-10)

But the king of Syria has limited sight (v11-14)

God can open eyes and blind eyes

‘Open his eyes that he may see’ (v17)

‘Strike this people
with blindness’ (v18)

‘Open the eyes of these men, that they may see’ (v20)

STRAND 2: SALVATION & JUDGMENT

We are expecting Elisha to judge

“And the one who escapes from the sword of Hazael shall Jehu put to death, and the one who escapes from the sword of Jehu shall Elisha put to death.” (1 Kings 19:17)

But he saves the faithful remnant (vv1-7)

“Yet I will leave seven thousand in Israel, all the knees that have not bowed to Baal, and every mouth that has not kissed him.” (1 Kings 19:18)

“the sons of the prophets” are the faithful ones who stick with Elijah and Elisha (v1, see also 2:3, 5, 7, 15; 4:1, 38)