

ORDER OF SERVICE

WELCOME

SONG: How Firm a Foundation

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

SONG: Come Thou Fount

SONG: Speak O Lord

READING: 1 Samuel 4:1-11 (pg. 228)

READING: 1 Samuel 7:3-15 (pg. 230)

SERMON

PRAYERS

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power
and the glory are yours
now and for ever. Amen

SONG: Lovingkindness

NOTICES

Connect with us

If you're new at Grace Church, we'd love to connect. Sign up to our Newsletter or WhatsApp Group by scanning the QR code or emailing info@greenwich.church



Electoral Roll

If you are over 16, have been baptised and have attended Grace Church for over 6 months, please sign up for our electoral roll by scanning the QR code or filling in the sign-up sheets.



Summer Schedule

In August, you can join for **Summer Fellowship** on Tuesday nights at 8pm in Canada Water, or on Wednesday nights at 8pm in Greenwich.

There will be **no Sunday services at Eltham** during the month of August.

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

Next Sunday: Genesis 28:10-22

www.greenwich.church

 [@greenwich.church](https://www.instagram.com/greenwich.church)

 [GraceChurchGreenwich](https://www.facebook.com/GraceChurchGreenwich)



Welcome!

Sunday 14th July 2024

“Then Samuel took a stone and... called its name Ebenezer; for he said, “Till now the LORD has helped us.””

1 Samuel 7:12 (ESV)

1 Samuel 7:3-15



³ And Samuel said to all the house of Israel, “If you are returning to the LORD with all your heart, then put away the foreign gods and the Ashtaroth from among you and direct your heart to the Lord and serve him only, and he will deliver you out of the hand of the Philistines.” ⁴ So the people of Israel put away the Baals and the Ashtaroth, and they served the LORD only.

⁵ Then Samuel said, “Gather all Israel at Mizpah, and I will pray to the LORD for you.” ⁶ So they gathered at Mizpah and drew water and poured it out before the LORD and fasted on that day and said there, “We have sinned against the LORD.” And Samuel judged the people of Israel at Mizpah. ⁷ Now when the Philistines heard that the people of Israel had gathered at Mizpah, the lords of the Philistines went up against Israel. And when the people of Israel heard of it, they were afraid of the Philistines. ⁸ And the people of Israel said to Samuel, “Do not cease to cry out to the LORD our God for us, that he may save us from the hand of the Philistines.” ⁹ So Samuel took a sucking lamb and offered it as a whole burnt offering to the LORD. And Samuel cried out to the LORD for Israel, and the LORD answered him. ¹⁰ As Samuel was offering up the burnt offering, the Philistines drew near to attack Israel. But the LORD thundered with a mighty sound that day against the Philistines and threw them into confusion, and they were defeated before Israel. ¹¹ And the men of Israel went out from Mizpah and pursued the Philistines and struck them, as far as below Beth-car.

¹² Then Samuel took a stone and set it up between Mizpah and Shen and called its name Ebenezer; for he said, “Till now the LORD has helped us.” ¹³ So the Philistines were subdued and did not again enter the territory of Israel. And the hand of the LORD was against the Philistines all the days of Samuel. ¹⁴ The cities that the Philistines had taken from Israel were restored to Israel, from Ekron to Gath, and Israel delivered their territory from the hand of the Philistines. There was peace also between Israel and the Amorites.

¹⁵ Samuel judged Israel all the days of his life.

A worthier way to wage war

Spot the difference

A battle at Ebenezer (4:1)	A stone called Ebenezer (7:12)
Philistines afraid of Israel (4:7)	Israel afraid of Philistines (7:7)
Israel “struck down” by Philistines (4:2, 10)	Philistines “struck down” by Israel (7:10)
A naming of a child: “the glory has departed from Israel” (4:22)	The naming of a stone: “the Lord has helped us” (7:12)

It goes better when you:

1) Listen to God’s words (v3)

The unbearable wait for “and Samuel said”

2) Repent (v4)

“Forsaking all others, be faithful to him”

3) Confess your sins (v6)

4) Have an advocate pray for you (vv8-9) ...

cf. 1 John 2:1 “we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous”

5) ... on the basis of a sacrifice (v10)

cf. 1 John 2:2 “he is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world”

Don’t forget!

Coffee Question: We all know which is better *in theory*, but are you living your Christian life more like chapter 4 or chapter 7?