

## ORDER OF SERVICE

### WELCOME

**SONG:** Be Thou My Vision

### CHILDREN'S TALK

### CONFESSION

Almighty God, our heavenly Father,  
We have sinned against you  
And against our neighbour,  
In thought and word and deed  
In the evil we have done  
And in the good we have not done,  
Through negligence, 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:** Galatians 6:7-9

**SONG:** Speak O Lord

**READING:** Genesis 29:1-14 (pg. 23)

**SERMON:** Genesis 29:15-30 (pg. 23)

### 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:** How Deep the Father's Love

### COMMUNION

**SONG:** Lovingkindness

### BLESSING

## 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](mailto:info@greenwich.church)



### Grace Groups

Our mid-week groups return this week for a prayer gathering. Join us at 7:45pm on Tuesday in the Chantry, Mottingham, or Canada Water Library. We also meet on Wednesdays at 7:45pm in the King William Building in Greenwich.

### Giving

Grace Church is funded wholly by the donations of its members. See [www.greenwich.church/give](http://www.greenwich.church/give) or set up a bank transfer (40-52-40/00027789) or to give tax efficiently contact [treasurer@greenwich.church](mailto:treasurer@greenwich.church).

*Next Sunday: Genesis 29:31-30:24*




# Welcome!


## Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2025

*“My son, do not despise the LORD’s discipline  
or be weary of his reproof,  
for the LORD reproofs him whom he loves,  
as a father the son in whom he delights.”  
Proverbs 3:11-12 (ESV)*

Grace Church takes the safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults seriously. If you have any concerns, please e-mail Sarah Wilde at [safeguarding@greenwich.church](mailto:safeguarding@greenwich.church), or contact the Diocese of Southwark Safeguarding Team (020 7939 9423). [www.greenwich.church/safeguarding](http://www.greenwich.church/safeguarding).

[www.greenwich.church](http://www.greenwich.church)

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 THE CHURCH  
OF ENGLAND

## Genesis 29:1-30



<sup>1</sup> Then Jacob went on his journey and came to the land of the people of the east. <sup>2</sup> As he looked, he saw a well in the field, and behold, three flocks of sheep lying beside it, for out of that well the flocks were watered. The stone on the well's mouth was large, <sup>3</sup> and when all the flocks were gathered there, the shepherds would roll the stone from the mouth of the well and water the sheep, and put the stone

back in its place over the mouth of the well.

<sup>4</sup> Jacob said to them, "My brothers, where do you come from?" They said, "We are from Haran." <sup>5</sup> He said to them, "Do you know Laban the son of Nahor?" They said, "We know him." <sup>6</sup> He said to them, "Is it well with him?" They said, "It is well; and see, Rachel his daughter is coming with the sheep!" <sup>7</sup> He said, "Behold, it is still high day; it is not time for the livestock to be gathered together. Water the sheep and go, pasture them." <sup>8</sup> But they said, "We cannot until all the flocks are gathered together and the stone is rolled from the mouth of the well; then we water the sheep."

<sup>9</sup> While he was still speaking with them, Rachel came with her father's sheep, for she was a shepherdess. <sup>10</sup> Now as soon as Jacob saw Rachel the daughter of Laban his mother's brother, and the sheep of Laban his mother's brother, Jacob came near and rolled the stone from the well's mouth and watered the flock of Laban his mother's brother. <sup>11</sup> Then Jacob kissed Rachel and wept aloud. <sup>12</sup> And Jacob told Rachel that he was her father's kinsman, and that he was Rebekah's son, and she ran and told her father.

<sup>13</sup> As soon as Laban heard the news about Jacob, his sister's son, he ran to meet him and embraced him and kissed him and brought him to his house. Jacob told Laban all these things, <sup>14</sup> and Laban said to him, "Surely you are my bone and my flesh!" And he stayed with him for a month.

<sup>15</sup> Then Laban said to Jacob, "Because you are my kinsman, should you therefore serve me for nothing? Tell me, what shall your wages be?" <sup>16</sup> Now Laban had two daughters. The name of the older was Leah, and the name of the younger was Rachel. <sup>17</sup> Leah's eyes were weak, but Rachel was beautiful in form and appearance. <sup>18</sup> Jacob loved Rachel. And he said, "I will serve you seven years for your younger daughter Rachel." <sup>19</sup> Laban said, "It is better that I give her to you than that I should give her to any other man; stay with me." <sup>20</sup> So Jacob served seven years for Rachel, and they seemed to him but a few days because of the love he had for her.

<sup>21</sup> Then Jacob said to Laban, "Give me my wife that I may go in to her, for my time is completed." <sup>22</sup> So Laban gathered together all the people of the place and made a feast. <sup>23</sup> But in the evening he took his daughter Leah and brought her to Jacob, and he went in to her. <sup>24</sup> (Laban gave his female servant Zilpah to his daughter Leah to be her servant.) <sup>25</sup> And in the morning, behold, it was Leah! And Jacob said to Laban, "What is this you have done to me? Did I not serve with you for Rachel? Why then have you deceived me?" <sup>26</sup> Laban said, "It is not so done in our country, to give the younger before the firstborn. <sup>27</sup> Complete the week of this one, and we will give you the other also in return for serving me another seven years." <sup>28</sup> Jacob did so, and completed her week. Then Laban gave him his daughter Rachel to be his wife. <sup>29</sup> (Laban gave his female servant Bilhah to his daughter Rachel to be her servant.) <sup>30</sup> So Jacob went in to Rachel also, and he loved Rachel more than Leah, and served Laban for another seven years.

### What difference does it make to have the Lord with us?

#### 1. The Lord does guide our path...but it may be into hardship

#### 2. We still may reap what we sow...but it's the Lord's fatherly discipline

#### Discussion Starters:

In which situations in your life are you tempted to doubt God's fatherly care? What would it look like to trust that God's fatherly discipline is always for our good?