

## ORDER OF SERVICE

### WELCOME

**SONG:** Behold the Power of His Word

### 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)

**SONG:** By Faith

**SONG:** Show Us Christ

**READING:** James 1:22-25 (pg. 1011)

**READING:** Luke 8:1-21 (pg. 865)

### SERMON

### PRAYERS

**SONG:** Who You Say I Am

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



**Grace Groups** – all are welcome as we meet  
midweek for bible study, prayer and fellowship:

**Tuesdays, 7.45pm:** Canada Water Library  
and The Chantry, Mottingham

**Wednesdays, 7.45pm:** King William  
Building, Greenwich

Other times also available. Contact Michaela:  
[michaela.may@greenwich.church](mailto:michaela.may@greenwich.church)

### Women's Christmas Pudding Event

Join us at 7pm on November 24<sup>th</sup> as we  
prepare Christmas puddings and reflect  
together on the topic of "rest". All ingredients  
and equipment provided. £12.50 per person.  
Email [womentsevents@greenwich.church](mailto:womentsevents@greenwich.church) to  
sign up.

### Link-up lunches

Connect with others over a  
meal. Sign up with the QR Code.



### 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 26th November, Luke 8:22-25*



# Welcome!

## Sunday 19th November 2023

***"My mother and my brothers are those  
who hear the word of God and do it."***

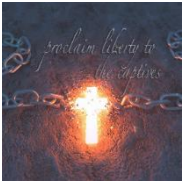
*Luke 8:21 (ESV)*

**www.greenwich.church**

@GCGreenwich GraceChurchGreenwich



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](mailto:safeguarding@greenwich.church), or contact the Diocese of Southwark Safeguarding Team (020 7939 9423). See [www.greenwich.church/safeguarding](http://www.greenwich.church/safeguarding).



## Luke 8:1-21 (ESV)

**8** Soon afterward he went on through cities and villages, proclaiming and bringing the good news of the kingdom of God. And the twelve were with him, <sup>2</sup>and also some women who had been healed of evil spirits and infirmities: Mary, called Magdalene, from whom seven demons had gone out, <sup>3</sup>and Joanna, the wife of Chuza, Herod's household manager, and Susanna, and many others, who provided for them out of their means.

<sup>4</sup> And when a great crowd was gathering and people from town after town came to him, he said in a parable, <sup>5</sup>“A sower went out to sow his seed. And as he sowed, some fell along the path and was trampled underfoot, and the birds of the air devoured it.<sup>6</sup> And some fell on the rock, and as it grew up, it withered away, because it had no moisture. <sup>7</sup> And some fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up with it and choked it.<sup>8</sup> And some fell into good soil and grew and yielded a hundredfold.” As he said these things, he called out, “He who has ears to hear, let him hear.”

<sup>9</sup> And when his disciples asked him what this parable meant, <sup>10</sup>he said, “To you it has been given to know the secrets of the kingdom of God, but for others they are in parables, so that ‘seeing they may not see, and hearing they may not understand.’<sup>11</sup> Now the parable is this: The seed is the word of God. <sup>12</sup>The ones along the path are those who have heard; then the devil comes and takes away the word from their hearts, so that they may not believe and be saved. <sup>13</sup> And the ones on the rock are those who, when they hear the word, receive it with joy. But these have no root; they believe for a while, and in time of testing fall away. <sup>14</sup> And as for what fell among the thorns, they are those who hear, but as they go on their way they are choked by the cares and riches and pleasures of life, and their fruit does not mature. <sup>15</sup> As for that in the good soil, they are those who, hearing the word, hold it fast in an honest and good heart, and bear fruit with patience.

<sup>16</sup> “No one after lighting a lamp covers it with a jar or puts it under a bed, but puts it on a stand, so that those who enter may see the light. <sup>17</sup> For nothing is hidden that will not be made manifest, nor is anything secret that will not be known and come to light.<sup>18</sup> Take care then how you hear, for to the one who has, more will be given, and from the one who has not, even what he thinks that he has will be taken away.”

<sup>19</sup> Then his mother and his brothers came to him, but they could not reach him because of the crowd. <sup>20</sup> And he was told, “Your mother and your brothers are standing outside, desiring to see you.” <sup>21</sup> But he answered them, “My mother and my brothers are those who hear the word of God and do it.”

**Rags to riches:** from a murky past to a mind-boggling privilege...

And all because of how we listen!

### 1. Jesus' word divides the world

so don't be thrown

### 2. Jesus' word will shine out across the world

so listen like everything depends on it

Listen devotedly

Listen doggedly

Listen single-mindedly

Listen obediently

### COFFEE QUESTIONS:

What might it look like for us to take Jesus' advice to heart and “Take care how you hear?”

How do these verses underline why being a good listener is so crucial?