

ORDER OF SERVICE

WELCOME

SONG: When I Was Lost

CHILDREN'S TALK: Galatians 6:7-8

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)

READING: Galatians 5 (p. 975)

SONG: He Will Hold Me Fast

READING: Galatians 6 (p. 975)

SERMON

PRAYERS

SONG: We Have A Lamb

COMMUNION

SONG: We Are His People

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



**Next Sunday: No services in Greenwich,
Canada Water and Eltham!**

Summer Weekend Away: 7-9 July

We will meet for our Summer Weekend Away in
Ashburnham Place, Sussex. You can still sign up
to join us for the day on Saturday. See:
www.greenwich.church/weekendaway

Grace Groups

We'll meet gather for our last prayer meeting
before the summer break at 7:45pm in the King
William Building, Greenwich (Tuesday and
Wednesday) and at the Chantry, Mottingham,
(Wednesday).

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, 9th July, Weekend Away!



Welcome!

Sunday 2nd July 2023

*“Far be it from me to boast
except in the cross
of our Lord Jesus Christ”*

Galatians 6:14 (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, or contact the Diocese of Southwark Safeguarding Team (020 7939 9423). See www.greenwich.church/safeguarding.

Galatians 5:1 – 6:18 (ESV)

¹ For freedom Christ has set us free; stand firm therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery.

² Look: I, Paul, say to you that if you accept circumcision, Christ will be of no advantage to you. ³ I testify again to every man who accepts circumcision that he is obligated to keep the whole law. ⁴ You are severed from Christ, you who would be justified by the law; you have fallen away from grace. ⁵ For through the Spirit, by faith, we ourselves eagerly wait for the hope of righteousness. ⁶ For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision counts for anything, but only faith working through love.

⁷ You were running well. Who hindered you from obeying the truth? ⁸ This persuasion is not from him who calls you. ⁹ A little leaven leavens the whole lump. ¹⁰ I have confidence in the Lord that you will take no other view, and the one who is troubling you will bear the penalty, whoever he is. ¹¹ But if I, brothers, still preach circumcision, why am I still being persecuted? In that case the offense of the cross has been removed. ¹² I wish those who unsettle you would emasculate themselves!

¹³ For you were called to freedom, brothers. Only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another. ¹⁴ For the whole law is fulfilled in one word: “You shall love your neighbour as yourself.”¹⁵ But if you bite and devour one another, watch out that you are not consumed by one another.

¹⁶ But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. ¹⁷ For the desires of the flesh are against the Spirit, and the desires of the Spirit are against the flesh, for these are opposed to each other, to keep you from doing the things you want to do. ¹⁸ But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law. ¹⁹ Now the works of the flesh are evident: sexual immorality, impurity, sensuality, ²⁰ idolatry, sorcery, enmity, strife, jealousy, fits of anger, rivalries, dissensions, divisions, ²¹ envy, drunkenness, orgies, and things like these. I warn you, as I warned you before, that those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God. ²² But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, ²³ gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law. ²⁴ And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires.

²⁵ If we live by the Spirit, let us also keep in step with the Spirit. ²⁶ Let us not become conceited, provoking one another, envying one another.

6 ¹ Brothers, if anyone is caught in any transgression, you who are spiritual should restore him in a spirit of gentleness. Keep watch on yourself, lest you too be tempted. ² Bear one another’s burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ. ³ For if anyone thinks he is something, when he is nothing, he deceives himself. ⁴ But let each one test his own work, and then his reason to boast will be in himself alone and not in his neighbour. ⁵ For each will have to bear his own load.

⁶ Let the one who is taught the word share all good things with the one who teaches. ⁷ Do not be deceived: God is not mocked, for whatever one sows, that will he also reap. ⁸ For the one who sows to his own flesh will from the flesh reap corruption, but the one who sows to the Spirit will from the Spirit reap eternal life. ⁹ And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up. ¹⁰ So then, as we have opportunity, let us do good to everyone, and especially to those who are of the household of faith.

¹¹ See with what large letters I am writing to you with my own hand. ¹² It is those who want to make a good showing in the flesh who would force you to be circumcised, and only in order that they may not be persecuted for the cross of Christ. ¹³ For even those who are circumcised do not themselves keep the law, but they desire to have you circumcised that they may boast in your flesh. ¹⁴ But far be it from me to boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. ¹⁵ For neither circumcision counts for anything, nor uncircumcision, but a new creation. ¹⁶ And as for all who walk by this rule, peace and mercy be upon them, and upon the Israel of God.

¹⁷ From now on let no one cause me trouble, for I bear on my body the marks of Jesus.

¹⁸ The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit, brothers. Amen.

A choice of religions:

A: the DIY way – keep the whole law

B: the CROSS way – trust Jesus

Which one of these is going to be more popular?

Answer: A

People prefer DIY religion because they don’t get persecuted for it (5:11; 6:12)

People hate the cross because it stops them boasting (6:13)

Which of these is going to result in life-changing obedience?

Answer: B

People who follow DIY religion don’t actually keep God’s law (6:13)

Those who trust Jesus have crucified their sinful past (5:24; 6:14) and now belong to a new world (6:15)

Those who trust Jesus are free to fulfil the law of love (5:13-14; 6:1-2)

OK, so the CROSS way is better than the DIY way! But does that mean there’s nothing at all for me to do?

Walk by the Spirit and not by the flesh (5:16-25)

Sow to the Spirit and to the flesh (6:7-10)

But not in a DIY way! Rather through the Spirit, by faith, as a result of the work of Jesus on the cross!

COFFEE QUESTIONS

Which kind of religion are you following at the moment? Why is the CROSS way going to be a) harder b) better?