

ORDER OF SERVICE

WELCOME

SONG: Across the Lands

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)

SONG: We Give You But Your Own

SONG: In Christ Alone

READING: Numbers 18:8-14 (p. 126)

SERMON: 1 Corinthians 9:1-14 (pp. 956-7)

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: Nothing But the Blood of Jesus

BLESSING

NOTICES

Connect with us

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



Greenwich service time

From next Sunday, we will return to our usual service time of **11am** (or a bit earlier for a pre-church coffee).

Investing in Marriage Morning including parenting seminar

In partnership with St. Helen's Bishopsgate – for anyone who is married or considering marriage.

Saturday, 24th January, 9:30am – 1pm

Please sign up via the QR code.



Christianity Explored

We run a relaxed and informal 4-week course for anyone who would like to go over the foundations of Christianity.

First session: Wednesday 14th January, 7:45-9pm at the Hub, 14 Feathers Place, SE10 9NE. Sign up here bit.ly/GCGExplored.

Giving

Grace Church is fully funded 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: 1 Corinthians 9:15-27



Welcome!

Sunday 11th December 2025

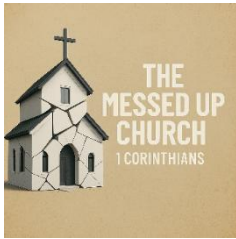
*“Every priest stands daily at his service,
offering repeatedly the same sacrifices,
which can never take away sins.*

*But when Christ had offered for all time
a single sacrifice for sins,
he sat down at the right hand of God...”*

Hebrews 10:11-12 (ESV)



1 Corinthians 9:1-14



¹ Am I not free? Am I not an apostle? Have I not seen Jesus our Lord? Are not you my workmanship in the Lord? ² If to others I am not an apostle, at least I am to you, for you are the seal of my apostleship in the Lord.

³ This is my defense to those who would examine me.

⁴ Do we not have the right to eat and drink? ⁵ Do we not have the right to take along a believing wife, as do the other apostles and the brothers of the Lord and Cephas? ⁶ Or is it only Barnabas and I who have no right to refrain from working for a living? ⁷ Who serves as a soldier at his own expense? Who plants a vineyard without eating any of its fruit? Or who tends a flock without getting some of the milk?

⁸ Do I say these things on human authority? Does not the Law say the same? ⁹ For it is written in the Law of Moses, "You shall not muzzle an ox when it treads out the grain." Is it for oxen that God is concerned? ¹⁰ Does he not certainly speak for our sake? It was written for our sake, because the plowman should plow in hope and the thresher thresh in hope of sharing in the crop. ¹¹ If we have sown spiritual things among you, is it too much if we reap material things from you? ¹² If others share this rightful claim on you, do not we even more? Nevertheless, we have not made use of this right, but we endure anything rather than put an obstacle in the way of the gospel of Christ.

¹³ Do you not know that those who are employed in the temple service get their food from the temple, and those who serve at the altar share in the sacrificial offerings? ¹⁴ In the same way, the Lord commanded that those who proclaim the gospel should get their living by the gospel.

The apostle Paul was being dishonoured by some in Corinth (4:2; 2 Corinthians 10:10) and he wants us to know...

1) Christian workers have a right to be paid

- a) common sense says so (v7)
- b) the Law of Moses says so (vv8-12)
cf. Deuteronomy 25:4
- c) the tithe for the Levites says so (v13)
cf. Numbers 18:21
- d) Jesus says so
cf. Luke 10:7

APPLICATION

We should honour Christian workers by supporting them generously.

Perhaps beginning with 10% of our income? (In the Old Testament the tithe was the mandatory starting point, with voluntary "freewill offerings" on top of that, see e.g. Exodus 35:5, 21–29)

2) Christian workers should be willing to waive their right to be paid, so as to present the gospel for free (v12b, v15, v18)

God's grace is free.

Jesus paid a great cost to save us, but for us there is no charge

Christian workers should imitate Paul as he imitated Christ (11:1)

APPLICATION

If you are here as someone investigating Christianity, we don't want your money!

If you are a Christian worker, don't pursue selfish gain.

DISCUSSION STARTER: Have you understood that the gospel is for free? Are you nonetheless motivated to give financially to gospel work?