

Service of the Word

4th Sunday of Easter

May 11th, 2025



Grac⁺ε
GRONINGEN ANGLICAN CHURCH

GATHERING

Let us worship God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

The Lord be with you **and also with you.**

This is the day which the Lord has made.

Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

SONG Beautiful One

Words & Music: Tim Hughes

Wonderful so wonderful is Your unfailing love
Your cross is spoken mercy over me
No eye has seen, no ear has heard, no heart can fully know
How glorious, how beautiful You are

Chorus Beautiful one I love / Beautiful one I adore
Beautiful one my soul must sing

Powerful so powerful Your glory fills the skies
Your mighty works displayed for all to see
The beauty of Your majesty awakes my heart to sing
How marvelous, how wonderful You are

Chorus (x2) Beautiful one I love / Beautiful one I adore
Beautiful one my soul must sing

You opened my eyes to Your wonders of anew
You captured my heart with this love
'Cause nothing on earth is as beautiful as You (x 2)

Chorus

My soul, My soul must sing (x3) / Beautiful one (x2) / *Chorus*

Opening Prayer

**Faithful one, whose word is life: come with saving power to
free our praise, inspire our prayer and shape our lives
for the kingdom of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Silence is kept and then the Collect (Prayer for the Day), is prayed.

Collect Prayer (Fourth Sunday of Easter)

Almighty God, whose Son Jesus Christ is the resurrection and the life: raise us, who trust in him, from the death of sin to the life of righteousness, that we may seek those things which are above, where he reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

¶ Saying Sorry to God

Christ our passover lamb has been sacrificed for us. Let us therefore rejoice by putting away all malice and evil and confessing our sins with a sincere and true heart.

1 Corinthians 5.7,8

**Most merciful God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
we confess that we have sinned in thought, word and deed.
We have not loved you with our whole heart.
We have not loved our neighbours as ourselves.
In your mercy forgive what we have been, help us to amend
what we are, and direct what we shall be; that we may do
justly, love mercy, and walk humbly with you, our God. Amen.**

May the God of love and power forgive you and free you from your sins, heal and strengthen you by his Spirit, and raise you to new life in Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

SONG **Hear our praises**

Words & Music: Reuben Morgan

May our homes be filled with dancing
May our streets be filled with joy
May injustice bow to Jesus / As the people turn to pray

Chorus From the mountains to the valleys
Hear our praises rise to You
From the heavens to the nations
Hear our singing fill the air

May Your light shine in the darkness
As we walk before the cross
May Your glory fill the whole earth
As the water o'er seas *Chorus*

Bridge Hallelujah, hallelujah
Hallelujah, hallelujah (x 4) *Chorus*

Acts 9:36-43 (NIV) *Tabitha (Dorcas) raised to new life*

³⁶ In Joppa there was a disciple named Tabitha (in Greek her name is Dorcas); she was always doing good and helping the poor.

³⁷ About that time she became ill and died, and her body was washed and placed in an upstairs room. ³⁸ Lydda was near Joppa; so when the disciples heard that Peter was in Lydda, they sent two men to him and urged him, 'Please come at once!' ³⁹ Peter went with them, and when he arrived he was taken upstairs to the room. All the widows stood round him, crying and showing him

the robes and other clothing that Dorcas had made while she was still with them. ⁴⁰ Peter sent them all out of the room; then he got down on his knees and prayed. Turning towards the dead woman, he said, 'Tabitha, get up.' She opened her eyes, and seeing Peter she sat up. ⁴¹ He took her by the hand and helped her to her feet. Then he called for the believers, especially the widows, and presented her to them alive. ⁴² This became known all over Joppa, and many people believed in the Lord. ⁴³ Peter stayed in Joppa for some time with a tanner named Simon.

This is the Word of the Lord: **Thanks be to God.**

HYMN The Lord's my Shepherd (Psalm 23)

Words: Scottish Psalter, Music: David Grant

The Lord's my Shepherd, I'll not want,
he makes me down to lie
in pastures green; he leadeth me
the quiet waters by.

My soul he doth restore again,
and me to walk doth make
within the paths of righteousness,
e'en for his own name's sake.

Yea, though I walk through death's dark vale,
yet will I fear no ill;
for thou art with me, and thy rod
and staff me comfort still.

My table thou hast furnishèd
in presence of my foes;
my head thou dost with oil anoint,
and my cup overflows.

Goodness and mercy all my life
shall surely follow me;
and in God's house for evermore
my dwelling-place shall be.

Gospel Reading John 10:22-30 (NIV) *Controversy about Jesus' identity*

10:²² Then came the Festival of Dedication at Jerusalem. It was winter,
²³ and Jesus was in the temple courts walking in Solomon's Colonnade.
²⁴ The Jews who were there gathered around him, saying, "How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Messiah, tell us plainly."

²⁵ Jesus answered, "I did tell you, but you do not believe. The works I do in my Father's name testify about me, ²⁶ but you do not believe because you are not my sheep. ²⁷ My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me. ²⁸ I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; no one will snatch them out of my hand. ²⁹ My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all; no one can snatch them out of my Father's hand. ³⁰ I and the Father are one."

This is the Word of the Lord: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

SONG In Christ alone

Words & Music: Keith Getty & Stuart Townend

In Christ alone my hope is found
He is my light, my strength, my song
This Cornerstone, this solid ground
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm
What heights of love, what depths of peace
When fears are stilled, when strivings cease
My Comforter, my All in All / Here in the love of Christ I stand

In Christ alone, who took on flesh
Fullness of God in helpless Babe
This gift of love and righteousness
Scorned by the ones He came to save
Till on that cross as Jesus died / The wrath of God was satisfied
For every sin on Him was laid / Here in the death of Christ I live

There in the ground His body lay
Light of the world by darkness slain
Then bursting forth in glorious Day
Up from the grave He rose again
And as He stands in victory / Sin's curse has lost its grip on me
For I am His and He is mine / Bought with the precious blood of Christ

No guilt in life, no fear in death
This is the power of Christ in me
From a life's first cry to final breath
Jesus commands my destiny
No power of hell, no scheme of man
Could ever pluck me from His hand
Till He returns or calls me home
Here in the power of Christ I stand

THE APOSTLES' CREED

All: ***I believe*** in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. **Amen.**

INTERCESSIONS

Prayers are offered, and this response may be used:

Lord, in your mercy: **Hear our prayer**

The prayers may end with:

Merciful Father, **accept these prayers for the sake of your
Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.**

Rejoicing in God's new creation, as our Saviour has taught us, so we pray:

**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.**

NOTICES

SONG 10,000 Reasons (Bless the Lord) Words & Music: Matt Redman

Chorus Bless the Lord, O my soul / O my soul
 Worship His Holy name
 Sing like never before / O my soul
 I'll worship Your Holy name

The sun comes up it's a new day dawning
It's time to sing Your song again
Whatever may pass and whatever lies before me
Let me be singing when the evening comes

Chorus

You're rich in love and You're slow to anger
Your name is great and Your heart is kind
For all Your goodness I will keep on singing
Ten thousand reasons for my heart to find

Chorus x 2

And on that day when my strength is failing
The end draws near and my time has come
Still my soul will sing Your praise unending
Ten thousand years and then forevermore

Chorus x 2

SHARING THE GRACE and GOING OUT TO SERVE

***All:* The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God,
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all
evermore. Amen**

Let us bless the Lord: **thanks be to God.**
 **Blessing, honour and glory be yours, here and
 everywhere, now and for ever. Amen.**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
In the name of Christ. Amen.



Morning worship: 2nd Sundays, Morning Prayer/Service of the Word at 10:30 am;
4th Sundays (Holy Communion) at 10:30 am, all at **St Maarten-langs-de-weg**
(Oud Katholieke Kerk), Witte de Withstraat, 2, Groningen.

Evening services: with the Martiniwijkgemeente: 1st Sundays at 17:00 in the **Martinikerk**.

Web-site: <http://gracechurchgroningen.com/>; **Facebook** (Grace Church Groningen).

Chaplain: the Ven Sam Van Leer, Mon-Wed-Fri, chaplaingracechurchgn@gmail.com or 050 785 0703.

Safeguarding Officer: Debbie Kramer; gracesafeguarding@gmail.com

Safeguarding in Grace Church: <https://gracechurchgroningen.com/caring/safeguarding/>

Diocese: <https://www.europe.anglican.org/resources/safeguarding-diocese-europe>

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Our worship services and ministry in Groningen are made possible by people voluntarily offering their time, talents and financial support. As God has blessed us, so we thank Him by giving accordingly. To help support Grace Church, there is an opportunity to put an offering in the collection basket during the service or near the exit afterwards.

It is also possible to donate by electronic transfer to
Grace Church (Groningen Anglican Church),
account: NL 67 RABO 03012946 23. Or with this QR code:



Grace Church Forthcoming Services and Events:

- Sunday 25 May, 10:30: **Grace Holy Communion**, Old Catholic Church.
- Sunday 1 June, 17:00: **Grace & Martini International Service**, Martinikerk.
- Sunday 8 June, 10:30: **Grace Pentecost Sunday Service of the Word + Baptism**, Old Catholic Church.
- Sunday 22 June, 10:30: **Grace Holy Communion**, Old Catholic Church.
- Sunday 13 July, 10:30: **Grace Service of the Word**, Old Catholic Church.
- Sunday 24 August, 10:30: **Grace Holy Communion**, Old Catholic Church.

Movie Nights: June 6th , SKLO Bldg (Kraneweg 33, 9718 JE Groningen)

For info on Home Groups, Bible Study gatherings & other events, please do ask us!