

Holy Communion

Twelfth Sunday after Trinity

August 23rd, 2026



Grac**ε**
GRONINGEN ANGLICAN CHURCH

The Greeting

Grace, mercy and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you **and also with you.**

HYMN Lord of all hopefulness Words: Jan Struther, Music: Irish trad., harmonized by E Routley

Lord of all hopefulness, Lord of all joy,
Whose trust ever childlike, no cares could destroy:
Be there at our waking, and give us we pray,
Your bliss in our hearts, Lord, at the break of the day.

Lord of all eagerness, Lord of all faith,
Whose strong hands were skilled at the plane and the lathe:
Be there at our labours, and give us we pray,
Your strength in our hearts, Lord, at the noon of the day.

Lord of all kindliness, Lord of all grace,
Your hands swift to welcome, your arms to embrace:
Be there at our homing, and give us we pray,
Your love in our hearts, Lord, at the eve of the day.

Lord of all gentleness, Lord of all calm,
Whose voice is contentment, whose presence is balm:
Be there at our sleeping, and give us we pray,
Your peace in our hearts, Lord, at the end of the day.

Prayer of Preparation

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hidden: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Prayers of Penitence

The grace of God has dawned upon the world through our Saviour Jesus Christ, who sacrificed himself for us to purify a people as his own. *cf Titus 2.11-14*

Let us confess our sins.

Lord Jesus, you wept over the sins of your city. On our city:
Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus, you heal the wounds of sin and division, jealousy and bitterness. On us: Christ, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus, you bring pardon and peace to the sinner. Grant us peace:
Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

Absolution.

Gloria

Words and Music: Donna Adkins & Colin Mawby

Father, we love You / We worship and adore You

Glorify Your name in all the earth /

Glorify Your name / Glorify Your name

Glorify Your name in all the earth

Jesus, we love You ...

Spirit, we love You ...

Collect Prayer (Twelfth Sunday after Trinity)

Almighty and everlasting God, you are always more ready to hear than we to pray and to give more than either we desire or deserve: pour down upon us the abundance of your mercy, forgiving us those things of which our conscience is afraid and giving us those good things which we are not worthy to ask but through the merits and mediation of Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Liturgy of the Word

Epistle Reading: Romans 12:1-8 (NIV) *Offering a Living Sacrifice*

12:¹ Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God – this is your true and proper worship. ² Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is – his good, pleasing and perfect will. ³ For by the grace given me I say to every one of you: do not think of yourself more highly than you ought, but rather think of yourself with sober judgment, in accordance with the faith God has distributed to each of you. ⁴ For just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, ⁵ so in Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others. ⁶ We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us. If your gift is prophesying, then prophesy in accordance with your faith; ⁷ if it is serving, then serve; if it is teaching, then teach; ⁸ if it is to encourage, then give encouragement; if it is giving, then give generously; if it is to lead, do it diligently; if it is to show mercy, do it cheerfully.

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

SONG Rising Sun Words & Music: Sons & Daughters

Praise Him all you sinners / Sing oh sing you weary
Oh praise Him all you children of God

We lift high His glory / Shown throughout our stories
We praise Him as the children of God

Chorus Our great Redeemer glorious Savior
Your Name is higher than the rising sun
Light of the morning You shine forever
Your Name is higher than the rising sun
Your Name is higher than the rising sun

Praise His Name forever / Speak it loud and clear now
Oh praise Him all you children of God *Chorus*

Bridge Oh oh oh oh / Oh oh oh oh
Hallelujah name above all
Simply to speak Your Name is praise
Hallelujah now and always
Forever we lift Your Name in praise
Hallelujah our God You reign
Simply to speak Your Name is praise oh *Chorus*

Hallelujah name above all (x 2)/ Hallelujah / Hallelujah

Gospel Reading: Matthew 16:13-20 (NIV) *Peter's Confession of the Messiah*

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew:

Glory to you, O Lord.

16:¹³ When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, 'Who do people say the Son of Man is?' ¹⁴ They replied, 'Some say John the Baptist; others say Elijah; and still others, Jeremiah or one of the prophets.' ¹⁵ 'But what about you?' he asked. 'Who do you say I am?' ¹⁶ Simon Peter answered, 'You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.' ¹⁷ Jesus replied, 'Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah, for this was not revealed to you by flesh and blood, but by my Father in heaven. ¹⁸ And I tell you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it. ¹⁹ I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven; whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.' ²⁰ Then he ordered his disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

This is the Gospel of the Lord: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon

SONG From the inside out Words & Music: Hillsong

A thousand times I've failed / Still Your mercy remains
And should I stumble again / Still I'm caught in Your grace
Everlasting / Your light will shine when all else fades
Never-ending / Your glory goes beyond all fame

Your will above all else / My purpose remains
The art of losing myself / In bringing You praise
Everlasting / Your light will shine when all else fades
Never-ending / Your glory goes beyond all fame

Refrain 1 In my heart in my soul / Lord I give You control
Consume me from the inside out Lord
Let justice and praise / Become my embrace
To love You from the inside out

Refrain 2 Everlasting / Your light will shine when all else fades
Never-ending / Your glory goes beyond all fame
And the cry of my heart / Is to bring You praise
From the inside out / Lord my soul cries out (Lord)

Creed

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God
from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God, begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,
was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
and was made man.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again in accordance with the
Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the
right hand of the Father.**

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Prayers of Intercession

This response may be used

Lord, in your mercy: **hear our prayer.**

And at the end

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

The Peace

We are the body of Christ. In the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body. Let us then pursue all that makes for peace and builds up our common life.

cf 1 Cor 12:13; Romans 14:19

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

and also with you.

Preparation of the Table

HYMN I heard the voice of Jesus say Words: H Bonar; Music: R Vaughan Williams

I heard the voice of Jesus say: / "Come unto Me and rest.
Lay down thou weary one, lay down / thy head upon My breast."
I came to Jesus as I was, / weary and worn and sad.
I found in Him a resting place, / and He has made me glad.

I heard the voice of Jesus say: / "Behold I freely give
the living water, thirsty one, / stoop down and drink and live."
I came to Jesus and I drank / Of that life giving stream.
My thirst was quenched, my soul revived / And now I live in Him.

I heard the voice of Jesus say: / "I am this dark world's light.
Look unto Me, the morn shall rise / And all thy day be bright."
I looked to Jesus and I found / In Him my Star, my Sun.
And in that light of life I'll walk / Till travelling days are gone.

Taking of the Bread and Wine

(Prayer H)

The Lord is here

His Spirit is with us.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give thanks and praise.

It is right to praise you, Father, Lord of all creation; in your love you made us for yourself. When we turned away you did not reject us, but came to meet us in your Son.

You embraced us as your children

and welcomed us to sit and eat with you.

In Christ you shared our life that we might live in him and he in us.

He opened his arms of love upon the cross

and made for all the perfect sacrifice for sin.

On the night he was betrayed, at supper with his friends he took bread, and gave you thanks; he broke it and gave it to them, saying: Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me.

Father, we do this in remembrance of him:

his body is the bread of life.

At the end of supper, taking the cup of wine, he gave you thanks, and said: Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins; do this in remembrance of me.

Father, we do this in remembrance of him:

his blood is shed for all.

As we proclaim his death and celebrate his rising in glory, send your Holy Spirit that this bread and this wine may be to us the body and blood of your dear Son.

As we eat and drink these holy gifts

make us one in Christ, our risen Lord.

With your whole Church throughout the world we offer you this sacrifice of praise and lift our voice to join the eternal song of heaven:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,

Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

As our Saviour 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.**

Breaking of the Bread

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ

**Though we are many, we are one body, because we all
share in one bread.**

Communion is shared, and music may be played.

After the post communion prayer:

**Almighty God, we thank you for feeding us with the body
and blood of your Son Jesus Christ. Through him we offer
you our souls and bodies to be a living sacrifice. Send us
out in the power of your Spirit to live and work to your
praise and glory. Amen.**

NOTICES

HYMN The Church's one Foundation

Words: SJ Stone; Music: SS Wesley

The church's one foundation / Is Jesus Christ her Lord;
She is his new creation / By water and the word:
From heaven he came and sought her / To be his holy bride,
With his own blood he bought her / And for her life he died.

Elect from every nation, / Yet one o'er all the earth,
Her charter of salvation / One Lord, one faith, one birth;
One holy name she blesses, / Partakes one holy food,
And to one hope she presses / With every grace endued.

'Mid toil and tribulation, / And tumults of her war,
She waits the consummation / Of peace for evermore;
Till with the vision glorious / Her longing eyes are blest,
And the great church victorious / Shall be the church at rest. →

Yet she on earth hath union / With God the Three in One,
And mystic sweet communion / With those whose rest is won:
O happy ones and holy! / Lord, give us grace that we,
Like them, the meek and lowly, / On high may dwell with thee.

Blessing

May the God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing,
through the power of the Holy Spirit;
and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the
Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

In the name of Christ. Amen.

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Morning worship: 2nd Sundays, (Holy Communion) 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.
From October 2026, there will also be Services of the Word/Evening Prayers at 16:00 on 1st Sundays.

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 & Activities:

- Sunday 13 September, 10:30: Grace Holy Communion, Old Catholic Church.
- Sunday 27 September, 10:30: Grace Holy Communion, Old Catholic Church.
- Sunday 4 October, 16:00: Grace Service of the Word/Evening Prayer, Old Catholic Church.
- Sunday 11 October, 10:30: Grace Holy Communion, Old Catholic Church.
- Sunday 25 October, 10:30: Grace Holy Communion, Old Catholic Church.

Movie Nights (at 19:30 at SKLO Bldg, Kraneweg 33, Groningen): dates t.b.a.

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