

Holy Communion

Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity

September 27th, 2026

*Our
Savior
humbled
himself*

Philippians 2:6

Grac⁺e
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.**

SONG Living waters

Words & Music: Kristyn Getty & Ed Cash

Are you thirsty? / Are you empty?
Come and drink these living waters
Tired and broken / Peace unspoken / Rest beside these living waters
Christ is calling / Find refreshing / At the cross of living waters
Lay your life down / All the old gone
Rise up in these living waters

Chorus There's a river that flows / With mercy and love
Bringing joy to the city of our God
There our hope is secure / Do not fear anymore
Praise the Lord of living waters

Spirit moving / Mercy washing / Healing in these living waters
Lead your children / To the shore line
Life is in these living waters *Chorus*

Are you thirsty? / Are you empty?
Come and drink these living waters
Love, forgiveness / Vast and boundless
Christ, He is our living water *Chorus*

There our hope is secure / Do not fear anymore
Praise the Lord of living waters

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

God so loved the world that he gave his only Son Jesus Christ to save us from our sins, to be our advocate in heaven, and to bring us to eternal life. Let us confess our sins in penitence and faith, firmly resolved to keep God's commandments and to live in love and peace with all.

**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.**

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 (17th aft Trinity): Almighty God, you have made us for yourself, and our hearts are restless till they find their rest in you: pour your love into our hearts and draw us to yourself, and so bring us at last to your heavenly city where we shall see you face to face; through 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: Philippians 2:1-13 (NIV) *Imitating Christ's humility*

2:¹ Therefore if you have any encouragement from being united with Christ, if any comfort from his love, if any common sharing in the Spirit, if any tenderness and compassion, ² then make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and of one mind. ³ Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, ⁴ not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others. ⁵ In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus: ⁶ Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage; ⁷ rather, he made himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human

likeness. ⁸ And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death – even death on a cross! ⁹ Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name, ¹⁰ that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, ¹¹ and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. ¹² Therefore, my dear friends, as you have always obeyed—not only in my presence, but now much more in my absence—continue to work out your salvation with fear and trembling, ¹³ for it is God who works in you to will and to act in order to fulfill his good purpose.
This is the Word of the Lord: **Thanks be to God.**

SONG Meekness and Majesty Words & Music: Graham Kendrick

Meekness and majesty, manhood and deity
In perfect harmony the Man who is God
Lord of eternity dwells in humanity
Kneels in humility and washes our feet

Chorus O what a mystery, meekness and majesty
Bow down and worship for this is your God
This is your God

Father's pure radiance perfect in innocence
Yet learns obedience to death on a cross
Suffering to give us life, conquering through sacrifice
And as they crucify prays Father forgive *Chorus*

Wisdom unsearchable God the invisible
Love indestructible in frailty appears
Lord of infinity stooping so tenderly
Lifts our humanity to the heights of His throne *Chorus*

Gospel: Matthew 21:23-32 (NIV) *Jesus' authority is questioned*

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

Glory to you, O Lord.

21:²³ Jesus entered the temple courts, and, while he was teaching, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him. "By what authority are you doing these things?" they asked. "And who gave you this authority?" ²⁴ Jesus replied, "I will also ask you one question. If you answer me, I will tell you

by what authority I am doing these things. ²⁵ John's baptism—where did it come from? Was it from heaven, or of human origin?" They discussed it among themselves and said, "If we say, 'From heaven,' he will ask, 'Then why didn't you believe him?'" ²⁶ But if we say, 'Of human origin'—we are afraid of the people, for they all hold that John was a prophet." ²⁷ So they answered Jesus, "We don't know." Then he said, "Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things. ²⁸ "What do you think? There was a man who had two sons. He went to the first and said, 'Son, go and work today in the vineyard.' ²⁹ "I will not,' he answered, but later he changed his mind and went. ³⁰ "Then the father went to the other son and said the same thing. He answered, 'I will, sir,' but he did not go. ³¹ "Which of the two did what his father wanted?" "The first," they answered. Jesus said to them, "Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are entering the kingdom of God ahead of you. ³² For John came to you to show you the way of righteousness, and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes did. And even after you saw this, you did not repent and believe him.

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

Sermon

HYMN May the mind of Christ, my Saviour Words: KB Wilkinson; Music: CB Gould

May the mind of Christ, my Savior, live in me from day to day,
by His love and pow'r controlling all I do and say.

May the word of God dwell richly in my heart from hour to hour,
so that all may see I triumph only through His pow'r.

May the peace of God my Father rule my life in everything,
that I may be calm to comfort sick and sorrowing.

May the love of Jesus fill me as the waters fill the sea;
Him exalting, self abasing: this is victory.

May I run the race before me, strong and brave to face the foe,
looking only unto Jesus as I onward go.

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

Christ is our peace. He has reconciled us to God in one body by
the cross. We meet in his name and share his peace.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.
and also with you.

Preparation of the Table

SONG I set my hope on Jesus Words & Music: Keith & Kristyn Getty

When this life of trials tests my faith / I set my hope on Jesus
When the questions come and doubts remain
I set my hope on Jesus
For the deepest wounds that time won't heal
There's a joy that runs still deeper
There's a truth that's more than all I feel
I set my hope on Jesus

CHORUS I set my hope on Jesus / My rock, my only trust
Who set His heart upon me first / I set my hope on Jesus

Though I falter in this war with sin / I set my hope on Jesus
When I fail the fight and sink within
I set my hope on Jesus
Though the shame would drown me in its sea
And I dread the waves of justice / I will cast my life on Calvary
I set my hope on Jesus *CHORUS*

Though the world call me to leave my Lord
I set my hope on Jesus
Though it offer all its vain rewards / I set my hope on Jesus
Though this heart of mine is prone to stray
Give me grace enough to finish
'Till I worship on that final day
I set my hope on Jesus *CHORUS*

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

SONG Goodness of God Words & Music: Jenn Johnson & co (Bethel Music)

I love You, Lord, Oh Your mercy never fails me
All my days, I've been held in Your hands
From the moment that I wake up / Until I lay my head
I will sing of the goodness of God

Chorus And all my life You have been faithful
And all my life You have been so, so good
With every breath that I am able
I will sing of the goodness of God
I will sing of the goodness of God

I love Your voice / You have led me through the fire
In the darkest night / You are close like no other
I've known You as a Father / I've known You as a Friend
And I have lived in the goodness of God *Chorus*

Bridge Your goodness is running after / It's running after me
Your goodness is running after / It's running after me
With my life laid down / I'm surrendered
Now I give You everything
Your goodness is running after / It's running after me

Chorus

Blessing

The peace of God, which passes all understanding,
keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God,
and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; 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>

Media privacy: please note that films or photos featuring others in worship and fellowship should not be taken or shared without the consent of those appearing in them.

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 4 October, 16:00: Grace Service of the Word/Evening Prayer, SKLO Bldg.
- Sunday 11 October, 10:30: Grace Holy Communion, Old Catholic Church.
- Sunday 25 October, 10:30: Grace Holy Communion, Old Catholic Church.
- Sunday 1 November, 16:00: Grace Service of the Word/Evening Prayer, Old Catholic Church
- Sunday 8 November, 10:30: Grace Service of Remembrance, Old Catholic Church.
- Sunday 22 November, 10:30: Grace Holy Communion, Old Catholic Church.
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Movie Nights (at 19:30 at SKLO Bldg, Kraneweg 33, Groningen): 9 October.

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