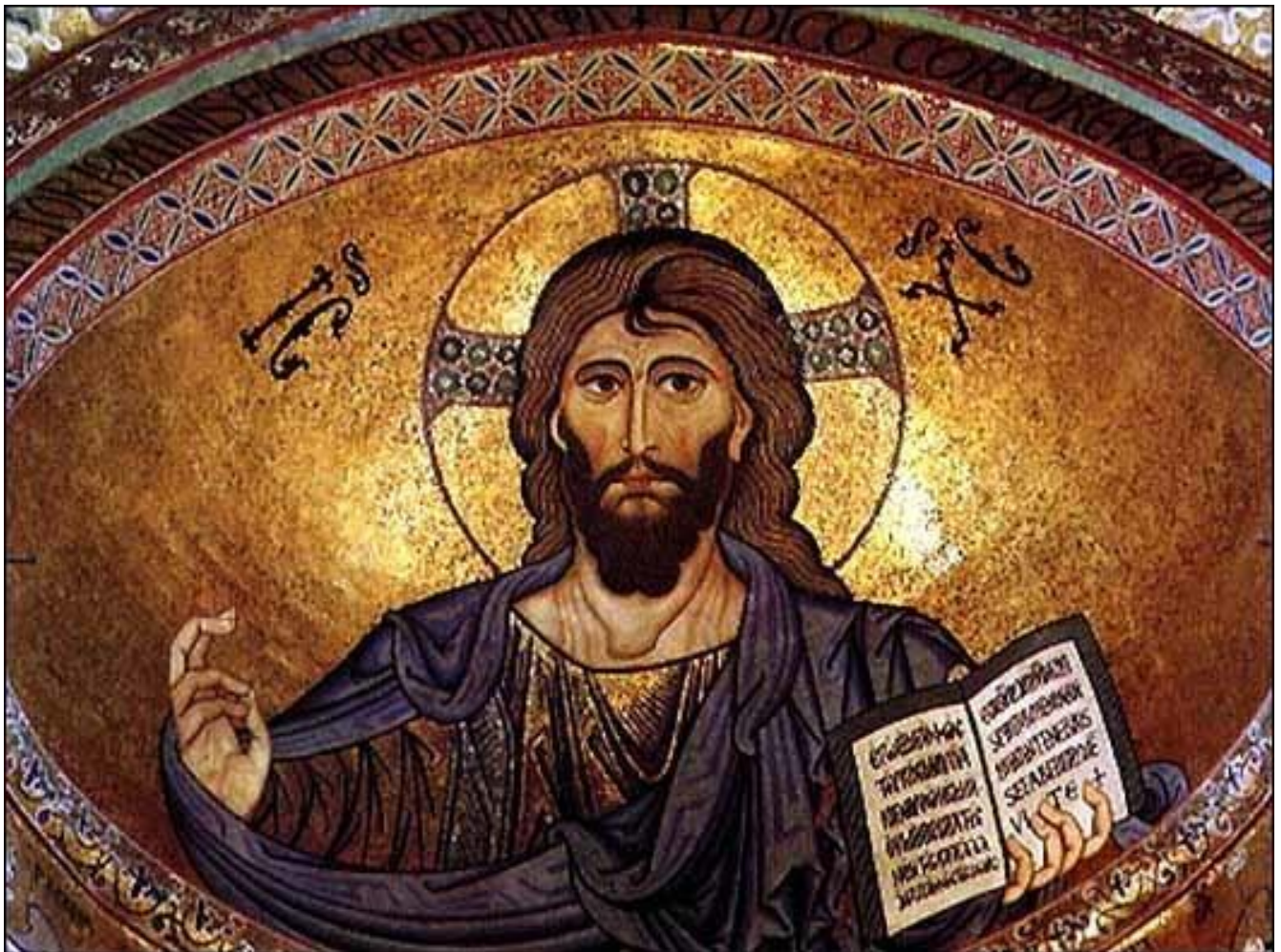


Morning Prayer

5th Sunday of Easter

May 10th, 2020



I am the Way, the Truth and the Life

Grac⁺e
GRONINGEN ANGLICAN CHURCH

PREPARATION

O Lord, open our lips

All: **and our mouth shall proclaim your praise.**

In your resurrection, O Christ,

All: **let heaven and earth rejoice! Alleluia!**

SONG All I Once Held Dear

Words & Music: Graham Kendrick

All I once held dear, built my life upon

All this world reveres and wars to own

All I once thought gain I have counted loss

Spent and worthless now compared to this

Chorus Knowing You, Jesus, knowing You

There is no greater thing

You're my all, You're the best

You're my joy, my righteousness

And I love You Lord

Now my heart's desire is to know You more

To be found in You and known as Yours

To possess by faith what I could not earn

All surpassing gift of righteousness

Chorus

Oh to know the power of Your risen life

And to know You in Your sufferings

To become like You in Your death, my Lord

So with You to live and never die

Chorus

Words of Welcome

We have come together in the name of Christ to offer our praise and thanksgiving, to hear and receive God's holy word, to pray for the needs of the world, and to seek the forgiveness of our sins, that by the power of the Holy Spirit we may give ourselves to the service of God.

CONFESSION

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.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Blessed are you, Lord God of our salvation, to you be praise and glory for ever. As once you ransomed your people from Egypt and led them to freedom in the promised land, so now you have delivered us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of your risen Son. May we, the first fruits of your new creation, rejoice in this new day you have made, and praise you for your mighty acts.

Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

All: **Blessed be God for ever.**

The night has passed, and the day lies open before us;
let us pray with one heart and mind.

Silence is kept.

As we rejoice in the gift of this new day, so may the light of your presence, O God, set our hearts on fire with love for you; now and for ever.

All: **Amen.**

PSALM OF THE DAY

Psalms 31:1-5, 15-16

read responsively

1 In you, O Lord, have I taken refuge;
let me never be put to shame;* deliver me in your righteousness.

2 Incline your ear to me;* make haste to deliver me.

3 Be my strong rock, a fortress to save me,
for you are my rock and my stronghold;* guide me, and lead me
for your name's sake.

**4 Take me out of the net that they have laid secretly for me,*
for you are my strength.**

5 Into your hands I commend my spirit,*
for you have redeemed me, O Lord God of truth.

**15 'My times are in your hand;* deliver me from the hand
of my enemies, and from those who persecute me.**

16 'Make your face to shine upon your servant,*
and save me for your mercy's sake.'

**All: Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning is now and shall be for ever. Amen.**

FIRST READING

Acts 7:55-60 (NIV)

Stephen is martyred

7:⁵⁵ But Stephen, full of the Holy Spirit, looked up to heaven and
saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God.

⁵⁶ "Look," he said, "I see heaven open and the Son of Man standing
at the right hand of God." ⁵⁷ At this they covered their ears and,
yelling at the top of their voices, they all rushed at him, ⁵⁸ dragged
him out of the city and began to stone him. Meanwhile, the
witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul.

⁵⁹ While they were stoning him, Stephen prayed, "Lord Jesus, receive
my spirit." ⁶⁰ Then he fell on his knees and cried out, "Lord, do not
hold this sin against them." When he had said this, he fell asleep.
This is the Word of the Lord: **Thanks be to God.**

CANTICLE

A Song of the New Creation

All: **I will make a way in the wilderness, and rivers in the desert**

1 'I am the Lord, your Holy One, ♦
the Creator of Israel, your King.'

2 Thus says the Lord, who makes a way in the sea, ♦
a path in the mighty waters,

3 'Remember not the former things, ♦
nor consider the things of old.

4 'Behold, I am doing a new thing; ♦
now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?

5 'I will make a way in the wilderness
and rivers in the desert, ♦ to give drink to my chosen people,

6 'The people whom I formed for myself, ♦
that they might declare my praise.' *Isaiah 43.15,16,18,19,20c,21*

All: **Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning is now and shall be for ever. Amen.**

All: **I will make a way in the wilderness, and rivers in the desert**

SECOND READING

John 14:1-14 (NIV)

Jesus the Way...

14:¹ Jesus said to the disciples, "Do not let your hearts be troubled. You believe in God; believe also in me. ² My Father's house has many rooms; if that were not so, would I have told you that I am going there to prepare a place for you? ³ And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am. ⁴ You know the way to the place where I am going." ⁵ Thomas said to him, "Lord, we don't know where you are going, so how can we know the way?" ⁶ Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. ⁷ If you really know me, you will know my Father as well. From now on, you do know him and have seen him." ⁸ Philip said, "Lord, show us the Father and that will be enough for us." ⁹ Jesus answered: "Don't you know me, Philip, even after I have been among you such a long time? Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, 'Show us the Father'? ¹⁰ Don't you believe that I am in the Father, and that the Father is in me? The words I say to you I do not speak on my own authority. Rather, it is the Father, living in me, who is doing his work. ¹¹ Believe me

when I say that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; or at least believe on the evidence of the works themselves. ¹² Very truly I tell you, whoever believes in me will do the works I have been doing, and they will do even greater things than these, because I am going to the Father. ¹³ And I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. ¹⁴ You may ask me for anything in my name, and I will do it.

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

CANTICLE

The Benedictus

All: **Refrain: The Lord is risen from the tomb, who for our sakes hung upon the tree. Alleluia.**

- 1 Blessed be the Lord the God of Israel, 
who has come to his people and set them free.
- 2 He has raised up for us a mighty Saviour, 
born of the house of his servant David.
- 3 Through his holy prophets God promised of old 
to save us from our enemies,
from the hands of all that hate us,
- 4 To show mercy to our ancestors, 
and to remember his holy covenant.
- 5 This was the oath God swore to our father Abraham: 
to set us free from the hands of our enemies,
- 6 Free to worship him without fear, 
holy and righteous in his sight all the days of our life.
- 7 And you, child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High, 
for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way,
- 8 To give his people knowledge of salvation 
by the forgiveness of all their sins.
- 9 In the tender compassion of our God 
the dawn from on high shall break upon us,
- 10 To shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death,  and to guide our feet into the way of peace. Luke 1.68-79

All: **Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning is now and shall be for ever. Amen.**

All: **Refrain: The Lord is risen from the tomb, who for our sakes hung upon the tree. Alleluia.**

SERMON

SONG Once Again

Words & Music: Matt Redman

Jesus Christ, I think upon Your sacrifice
You became nothing poured out to death
Many times I've wondered at Your gift of life
And I'm in that place once again
I'm in that place once again

Chorus Once again I look upon the cross where You died
 I'm humbled by Your mercy and I'm broken inside /
 Once again I thank You,
 once again I pour out my life

Now You are exalted to the highest place
King of the heavens where one day I'll bow
But for now I marvel at this saving grace
And I'm full of praise once again
I'm full of praise once again

Chorus

Bridge Thank You for the cross, thank You for the cross
 Thank You for the cross my Friend

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 COLLECT OF THE DAY (5th SUNDAY OF EASTER)

Risen Christ, your wounds declare your love for the world and the wonder of your risen life: give us compassion and courage to risk ourselves for those we serve, to the glory of God the Father; 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.**

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

HYMN Love Divine, All Loves Excelling Words: Charles Wesley; Music: William Rowlands

Love Divine, all loves excelling,
Joy of heaven to earth come down,
Fix in us thy humble dwelling,
All thy faithful mercies crown.
Jesu, thou art all compassion,
Pure unbounded love thou art;
Visit us with thy salvation,
Enter every trembling heart.



Come, almighty to deliver,
Let us all thy grace receive;
Suddenly return, and never,
Never more thy temple leave.
Thee we would be always blessing,
Serve thee as thy hosts above;
Pray and praise thee, without ceasing,
Glory in thy perfect love.

Finish then thy new creation:
Pure and spotless let us be;
Let us see thy great salvation,
Perfectly restored in thee;
Changed from glory into glory,
Till in heaven we take our place,
Till we cast our crowns before thee,
Lost in wonder, love, and praise.

THE GRACE

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**

DISMISSAL

May the risen Christ grant us the joys of eternal life. **Amen.**
Let us bless the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

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