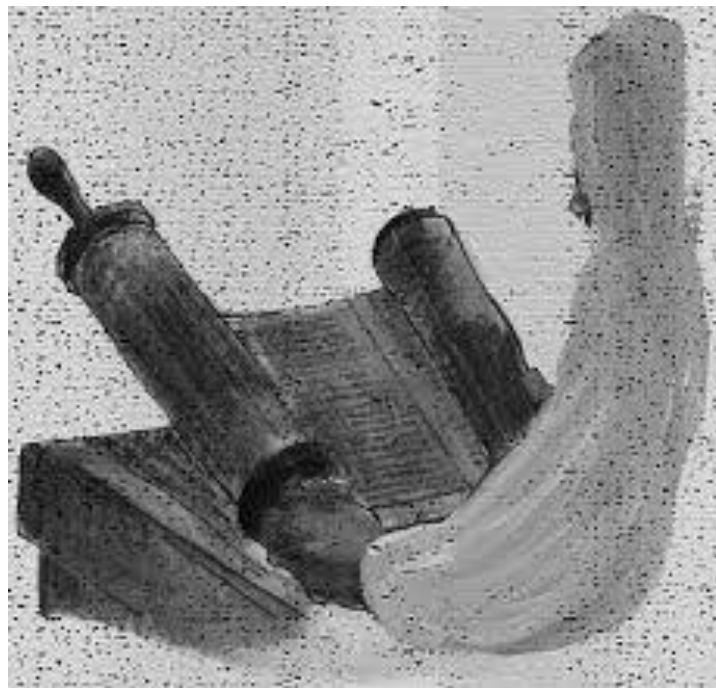


Holy Communion

Third Sunday after Epiphany

January 23rd, 2022



For the joy of the Lord is our strength

Nehemiah 8:10



The Greeting

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

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*

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, illuminate the darkness in our hearts:
Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**
Lord Jesus, open our eyes to your saving love:
Christ, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.**
Lord Jesus, unstop our ears to hear your living word:
Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

The 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 ...

The Collect Prayer (Third Sunday after Epiphany)

Almighty God, whose Son revealed in signs and miracles the wonder of your saving presence: renew your people with your heavenly grace, and in all our weakness sustain us by your mighty power; 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

Old Testament Reading: Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10 (NIV)

Ezra reads the Law to those returned from exile

8:¹ All the people came together as one in the square before the Water Gate. They told Ezra the teacher of the Law to bring out the Book of the Law of Moses, which the Lord had commanded for Israel. ² So on the first day of the seventh month Ezra the priest brought the Law before the assembly, which was made up of men and women and all who were able to understand. ³ He read it aloud from daybreak till noon as he faced the square before the Water Gate in the presence of the men, women and others who could understand. And all the people listened attentively to the Book of the Law. ⁵ Ezra opened the book. All the people could see him because he was standing above them; and as he opened it, the people all stood up. ⁶ Ezra praised the Lord, the great God; and all the people lifted

their hands and responded, 'Amen! Amen!' Then they bowed down and worshipped the Lord with their faces to the ground. ⁸ They read from the Book of the Law of God, making it clear and giving the meaning so that the people understood what was being read. ⁹ Then Nehemiah the governor, Ezra the priest and teacher of the Law, and the Levites who were instructing the people said to them all, 'This day is holy to the Lord your God. Do not mourn or weep.' For all the people had been weeping as they listened to the words of the Law. ¹⁰ Nehemiah said, 'Go and enjoy choice food and sweet drinks, and send some to those who have nothing prepared. This day is holy to our Lord. Do not grieve, for the joy of the Lord is your strength.'

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

SONG Salvation belongs to our God Words & Music: Crystal Lewis

Salvation belongs to our God / Who sits upon the throne
And unto the lamb / Be praise and glory, wisdom and thanks
Honor, and power, and strength
Be to our God forever and ever
Be to our God forever and ever
Be to our God forever and ever AMEN

We the redeemed shall be strong / In purpose and unity
Declaring aloud / Be praise and glory, wisdom and thanks
Honor, and power, and strength!
be to our God forever and ever
Be to our God forever and ever
Be to our God forever and ever AMEN

Gospel: Luke 4:14-21 (NIV) *Jesus rejected at Nazareth*

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

Glory to you, O Lord.

4:¹⁴ Jesus returned to Galilee in the power of the Spirit, and news about him spread through the whole countryside. ¹⁵ He was teaching in their synagogues, and everyone praised him. ¹⁶ He went to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, and on the Sabbath day he went into the synagogue, as was his custom. He stood up to read, ¹⁷ and the scroll of the prophet

Isaiah was handed to him. Unrolling it, he found the place where it is written: ¹⁸ 'The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to set the oppressed free, ¹⁹ to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour.' ²⁰ Then he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant and sat down. The eyes of everyone in the synagogue were fastened on him. ²¹ He began by saying to them, 'Today this scripture is fulfilled in your hearing.'

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

Sermon

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. If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation. The old has passed away: behold, everything has become new. *2 Corinthians 5.17*

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

Preparation of the Table

SONG Adem om van U te zingen Words & Music: Stichting Opwekking

God ik adem om van u te zingen
Alle dagen zing ik dank op dank
Groter bent U dan in duizend levens
Een mens bevatten kan

Wat Hij doet gaat elke taal te boven
Maar erover zwijgen wil ik niet
Uw rechtvaardigheid wil bezingen
Uw goedheid in dit lied Dit lied

Hij vergeeft, Hij vergeeft
Veegt weg wat wij verkeerd doen
In Zijn liefde blijft Hij dichtbij
Dicht bij al zijn mensen
Dicht bij alles wat Hij leven gaf

Al wat adem kreeg en levenskrachten
Dankt U dat het U als koning kent
Laten alle landen van de aarde / Beseffen wie U bent

En als iemand valt of door het leven
Kromgebogen wordt dan helpt de Heer
Alle mensen die Hem kennen weten:
God is er altijd weer Steeds weer

Wat Hij doet, wat Hij doet / Toont ons Zijn grote liefde
Roep Hem, roep maar / Hij zal er zijn
Hij geeft antwoord / Hij beschermt je
Pak Zijn hand dan val je niet

Van Zijn liefde zal ik blijven zingen
Alle dagen zing ik Hem mijn dank
God ik adem om van U te zingen
Ik zing mijn leven lang

Taking of the Bread and Wine

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.

All honour and praise be yours always and everywhere, mighty creator, ever-living God, through Jesus Christ your only Son our Lord: for at this time we celebrate your glory made present in our midst. In the coming of the magi the King of all the world was revealed to the nations. In the waters of baptism Jesus was revealed as the Christ, the Saviour sent to redeem us. In the water made wine the new creation was revealed at the wedding feast. Poverty was turned to riches, sorrow into joy. Therefore with all the angels of heaven we lift our voices to proclaim the glory of your name and sing our joyful hymn of praise:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.**

We praise and bless you, loving Father,
through Jesus Christ, our Lord;
and as we obey his command, send your Holy Spirit,
that broken bread and wine outpoured may be
for us the body and blood of your dear Son.

On the night before he died he had supper
with his friends and, taking bread, he praised you.
He broke the bread, gave it to them and said:

Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me.

When supper was ended he took the cup of wine.
Again he praised you, gave it to them and said:
Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which
is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this,
as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

So, Father, we remember all that Jesus did, in him we plead
with confidence his sacrifice made once for all upon the cross.
Bringing before you the bread of life and cup of salvation, we
proclaim his death and resurrection until he comes in glory.

**Christ has died: Christ is risen:
Christ will come again.**

Lord of all life, help us to work together for that day when your
kingdom comes and justice and mercy will be seen in all the earth.
Look with favour on your people, gather us in your loving arms
and bring us with all the saints to feast at your table in heaven.

Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of
the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory are yours, O loving Father,
for ever and ever. **Amen.**

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.

SONG We are one in the Spirit Words & Music: Peter Scholtes

We are One in The Spirit, we are One in The Lord,
we are One in The Spirit, we are One in The Lord,
and we pray that all unity may one day be restored.

Chorus And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love,
Yes they'll know we are Christians by our love.

We will walk with each other, we will walk hand in hand,
we will walk with each other, we will walk hand in hand,
and together we'll spread the news that God is in our land.

Chorus

We will work with each other, we will work side by side,
we will work with each other, we will work side by side,
and we'll guard each man's dignity and save each man's pride.

Chorus

All praise to the Father, from whom all things come
And all praise to Christ Jesus, His only son
And all praise to the Spirit, who makes us one. *Chorus*

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 O for a thousand tongues to sing

Words: Charles Wesley; Music: Carl Gläser

O for a thousand tongues to sing
My great Redeemer's praise,
The glories of my God and King,
The triumphs of His grace!

My gracious Master and my God,
Assist me to proclaim,
To spread through all the earth abroad
The honors of Thy name.

Jesus! the name that charms our fears,
That bids our sorrows cease,
'Tis music in the sinner's ears,
'Tis life, and health, and peace.

He breaks the pow'r of canceled sin,
He sets the pris'ner free;
His blood can make the foulest clean;
His blood availed for me.

He speaks, and list'ning to His voice,
New life the dead receive;
The mournful, broken hearts rejoice;
The humble poor, believe.

In Christ, your head, you then shall know,
Shall feel your sins forgiv'n;
Anticipate your heav'n below,
And own that love is heav'n.

Blessing

Christ our Lord, to whom kings bowed down in worship and offered gifts, reveal to you his glory and pour upon you the riches of his grace; 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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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 near the exit after the service.

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



Grace Church (Groningen Anglican Church) brings together people who desire to know Jesus, follow Him and make Him known.

Morning worship is held in English during the academic year on:

- **2nd Sundays** (Morning Prayer or Service of the Word) at **10:30 am** &
- **4th Sundays** (Holy Communion) at **10:30 am**

at **St Maarten-langs-de-weg** (Oud Katholieke Kerk), Witte de Withstraat, 2, Groningen.

Evening services with the Martiniwijkgemeente (also in English) are on:

- **1st Sundays** (Evening Service of the Word) at **17:00** in the **Martinikerk**.

For more info, see our web-site (<http://gracechurchgroningen.com/>), find us on **Facebook** (Grace Church Groningen), or contact the Revd Sam Van Leer, Mon-Wed-Fri, at chaplaingracechurchgn@gmail.com or 050 785 0703.

Grace Church Forthcoming Services and Events:

- **Sunday 6 February, 17:00: Grace & Martini International Service, Martinikerk.**
- **Sunday 13 February, 9:00: Grace Holy Communion (said), Old Catholic Church.**
- **Sunday 13 February, 10:30: Grace Service of the Word, Old Catholic Church.**
- **Sunday 27 February, 10:30: Grace Holy Communion, Old Catholic Church.**
- **Wednesday 2 March, Time t.b.a: Ash Wednesday Service w Old Catholics, Old Catholic Church.**
- **Sunday 6 March, 17:00: Grace & Martini International Service, Martinikerk.**
- **Sunday 13 March, 9:00: Grace Holy Communion (said), Old Catholic Church.**
- **Sunday 13 March, 10:30: Grace Morning Prayer, Old Catholic Church.**
- **Sunday 27 March, 10:30: Grace Holy Communion, Old Catholic Church.**