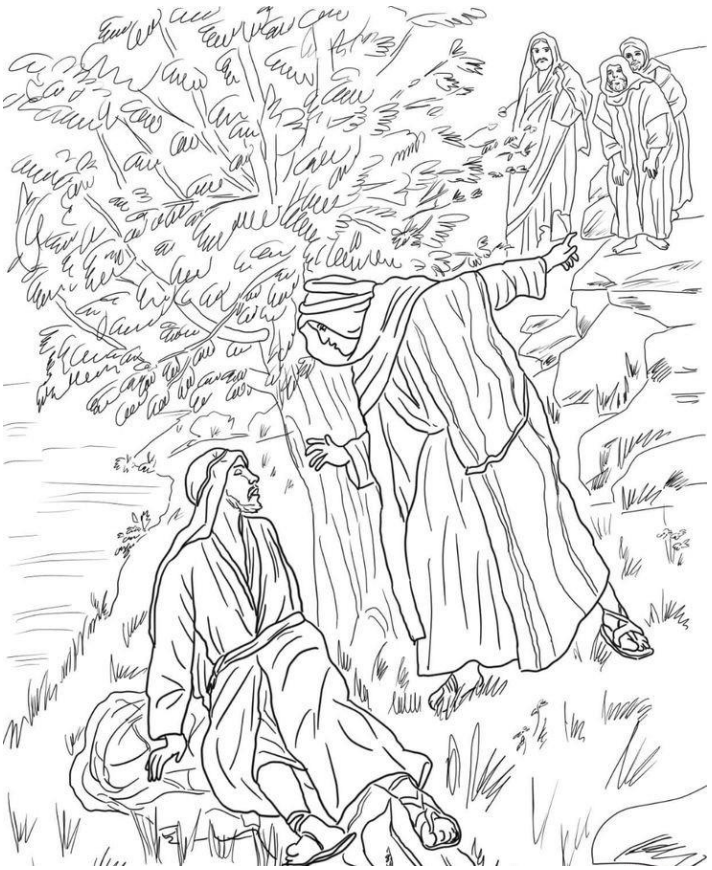
Service of the Word

2nd Sunday after Epiphany

January 14th, 2024



Gracε

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.

HYMN **How great Thou Art** Words (trans fr Russian) & Music: Stuart K Hine

O Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder,
Consider all the works Thy hands have made;
I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder,
Thy power throughout the universe displayed.

Chorus Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to Thee,
How great Thou art! How great Thou art
Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to Thee,
How great Thou art! How great Thou art!

And when I think, that God, His Son not sparing;
Sent Him to die, I scarce can take it in;
That on the cross, my burden gladly bearing,
He bled and died to take away my sin. *Chorus*

When Christ shall come, with shout of acclamation,
And take me home, what joy shall fill my heart.
Then I shall bow, in humble adoration,
And then proclaim, "My God, how great Thou art!" *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 (Second Sunday after Epiphany)

Almighty God, in Christ you make all things new: transform the poverty of our nature by the riches of your grace, and in the renewal of our lives make known your heavenly glory; 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.**

Saying Sorry to God

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. Let us confess our sins. *cf Titus 2.11-14*

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.**

Absolution.

SONG **I Will Offer up My Life** Words & Music: Matt Redman

I will offer up my life in spirit and truth,
pouring out the oil of love as my worship to You.
In surrender I must give my every part;
Lord, receive the sacrifice of a broken heart.

Chorus Jesus, what can I give, what can I bring
to so faithful a friend, to so loving a king?
Saviour, what can be said, what can be sung
as a praise of Your name for the things You have done?
O my words could not tell, not even in part,
of the debt of love that is owed by this thankful heart

You deserve my every breath for You've paid the great cost;
giving up Your life to death, even death on a cross.
You took all my shame away, there defeated my sin,
Opened up the gates of heaven and have beckoned me in.

Chorus

Old Testament Reading 1 Samuel 3:1-10 (NIV/UK)

The Lord calls Samuel

3:[1] The boy Samuel ministered before the LORD under Eli. In those days the word of the LORD was rare; there were not many visions.
[2] One night Eli, whose eyes were becoming so weak that he could barely see, was lying down in his usual place. [3] The lamp of God had not yet gone out, and Samuel was lying down in the house of the LORD, where the ark of God was. [4] Then the LORD called Samuel. Samuel answered, "Here I am." [5] And he ran to Eli and said, "Here I am; you called me." But Eli said, "I did not call;

go back and lie down." So he went and lay down. 6 Again the LORD called, "Samuel!" And Samuel got up and went to Eli and said, "Here I am; you called me." "My son," Eli said, "I did not call; go back and lie down." 7 Now Samuel did not yet know the LORD: The word of the LORD had not yet been revealed to him. 8 A third time the LORD called, "Samuel!" And Samuel got up and went to Eli and said, "Here I am; you called me." Then Eli realized that the LORD was calling the boy. 9 So Eli told Samuel, "Go and lie down, and if he calls you, say, 'Speak, LORD, for your servant is listening.'" So Samuel went and lay down in his place. 10 The LORD came and stood there, calling as at the other times, "Samuel! Samuel!" Then Samuel said, "Speak, for your servant is listening."

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

SONG **Kom tot de Vader** Words and Music: Mireille Schaart & Russell Fragar

Nog voordat je bestond / Kende Hij je naam
Hij zag je elk moment / En telde elke traan
Omdat Hij van je hield / Gaf Hij zijn eigen zoon
Hij wacht alleen nog maar totdat jij komt

En wat je nu ook doet / Zijn liefde blijft bestaan
Ook niets wat jij ooit deed / Verandert daar iets aan
Omdat Hij van je houdt / Gaf Hij zijn eigen zoon
En nu is alles klaar wanneer jij komt

Chorus Kom tot de Vader / Kom zoals je bent
Heel je hart, al je pijn / Is bij Hem bekend
De liefde die Hij geeft / De woorden die Hij spreekt
Daarmee is alles klaar wanneer jij komt

En wat je nu ook doet / Zijn liefde blijft bestaan
Ook niets wat jij ooit deed / Verandert daar iets aan
Omdat Hij van je houdt / Gaf Hij zijn eigen zoon
En nu is alles klaar wanneer jij komt *Chorus*

De liefde die Hij geeft / De woorden die Hij spreekt
Hij wacht alleen nog maar totdat je komt

Gospel Reading John 1:43-51 (NIV/UK) *Jesus Calls Philip & Nathanael*

1:43 The next day Jesus decided to leave for Galilee. Finding Philip, he said to him, "Follow me." 44 Philip, like Andrew and Peter, was from the town of Bethsaida. 45 Philip found Nathanael and told him, "We have found the one Moses wrote about in the Law, and

about whom the prophets also wrote—Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph.” 46 “Nazareth! Can anything good come from there?” Nathanael asked. “Come and see,” said Philip. 47 When Jesus saw Nathanael approaching, he said of him, “Here truly is an Israelite in whom there is no deceit.” 48 “How do you know me?” Nathanael asked. Jesus answered, “I saw you while you were still under the fig tree before Philip called you.” 49 Then Nathanael declared, “Rabbi, you are the Son of God; you are the king of Israel.” 50 Jesus said, “You believe because I told you I saw you under the fig tree. You will see greater things than that.” 51 He then added, “Very truly I tell you, you will see ‘heaven open, and the angels of God ascending and descending on’ the Son of Man.”

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

SERMON

SONG **O God, you search me** Words & Music: Bernadette Farrell

O God, you search me, and you know me
All my thoughts lie open to your gaze
When I walk or lie down, you are before me
Ever the maker and keeper of my days

You know my resting and my rising
You discern my purpose from afar
And with love everlasting, you besiege me
In ev'ry moment of life or death, you are

Before a word is on my tongue, Lord
You have known its meaning through and through
You are with me beyond my understanding
God of my present, my past and future, too

Although your Spirit is upon me
Still I search for shelter from your light
There is nowhere on Earth I can escape you
Even the darkness is radiant in your sight

For you created me and shaped me
Gave me life within my mother's womb
For the wonder of who I am, I praise you
Safe in your hands, all creation is made new

Affirmation of Faith

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.**

Believing the promises of God, 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 Will you come and follow me? (The Summons)

Words & Music: John Bell & Graham Maule

Will you come and follow me if I but call your name?
Will you go where you don't know, and never be the same?
Will you let my love be shown, will you let my name be known,
will you let my life be grown in you, and you in me?

Will you leave yourself behind if I but call your name?
Will you care for cruel and kind, and never be the same?
Will you risk the hostile stare should your life attract or scare,
will you let me answer prayer in you, and you in me?

Will you let the blinded see if I but call your name?
Will you set the pris'ners free, and never be the same?
Will you kiss the leper clean and do such as this unseen,
And admit to what I mean in you, and you in me?

Will you love the 'you' you hide if I but call your name?
Will you quell the fear inside, and never be the same?
Will you use the faith you've found to reshape the world around
Through my sight and touch and sound in you, and you in me?

Lord, your summons echoes true when you but call my name.
Let me turn and follow you, and never be the same.
In your company I'll go where your love and footsteps show.
Thus I'll move and live and grow in you, and you in me.

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.

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Grace
GRONINGEN ANGLICAN CHURCH

Grace Church (Groningen Anglican Church) brings together people who desire to know Jesus, follow Him and make Him known.
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 bags during the service or in the 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**.

Morning worship is held in English on:

- **2nd Sundays**
  - Holy Communion (said) at **9:00 am**;
  - Morning Prayer or Service of the Word at **10:30 am**
- **4th Sundays** (Holy Communion) at **10:30 am**

Both 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** (Sept-June, Evening Service of the Word) at **17:00** in the **Martinikerk**.

Grace web-site: **http://gracechurchgroningen.com/**, and **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**
Grace web-site: **http://gracechurchgroningen.com/**, and **Facebook** (Grace Church Groningen).

Grace Church Forthcoming Services and Events:

- Sunday 28 January, 10:30: **Grace Holy Communion**, Old Catholic Church.
- Sunday 4 February, 17:00: **Grace & Martini International Service**, Martinikerk.
- Sunday 11 February, 10:30: **Grace Service of the Word**, Old Catholic Church.
- Sunday 25 February, 10:30: **Grace Holy Communion**, Old Catholic Church.