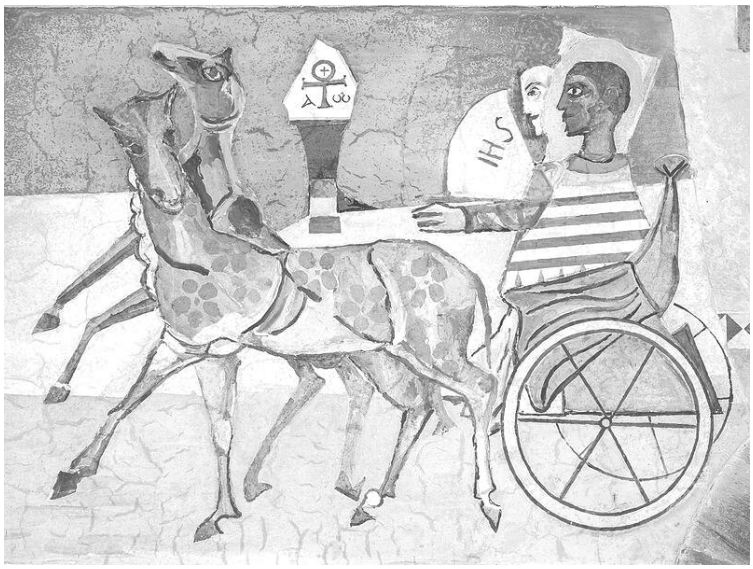
Holy Communion
5th Sunday of Easter
April 28th, 2024



Gracie
GRONINGEN ANGLICAN CHURCH

The Greeting

Hallelujah! Christ is risen.
He is risen indeed. Hallelujah!

SONG **Here I am to Worship** Words & Music: Tim Hughes

Light of the world / You stepped down into darkness
Opened my eyes let me see
Beauty that made this heart adore You
Hope of a life spent with You

Chorus So here I am to worship / Here I am to bow down
Here I am to say that You're my God
You're altogether lovely / Altogether worthy
Altogether wonderful to me

King of all days / O so highly exalted
Glorious in Heaven above
Humbly You came to the earth You created
All for love's sake became poor *Chorus*

Bridge I'll never know how much it cost
To see my sin upon the cross (x2) *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.

SONG **Create in me a clean heart** Words & Music: Keith Green

Create in me a clean heart, O God
And renew a right spirit within me
Create in me a clean heart, O God
And renew a right spirit within me

Cast me not away from Thy presence, O Lord
And take not Thy holy spirit from me
Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation
And renew a right spirit within me

Prayers of Penitence

In baptism we died with Christ, so that as Christ was raised from the dead, we might walk in newness of life. Let us receive new life in him as we confess our sins in penitence and faith. *cf Romans 6:4*

Lord Jesus, you raise us to new life.
Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**
Lord Jesus, you forgive us our sins.
Christ, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.**
Lord Jesus, you feed us with the living bread.
Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

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.**

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 (Fifth Sunday of Easter)
Almighty God, who through your only-begotten Son Jesus Christ have overcome death and opened to us the gate of everlasting life: grant that, as by your grace going before us you put into our minds good desires, so by your continual help we may bring them to good effect; through Jesus Christ our risen 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

Acts 8:26-40 (NIV) *Philip and the Ethiopian*

8:[26] Now an angel of the Lord said to Philip, 'Go south to the road – the desert road – that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.' [27] So he started out, and on his way he met an Ethiopian eunuch, an important official in charge of all the treasury of the Kandake (which means 'queen of the Ethiopians'). This man had gone to Jerusalem to worship, [28] and on his way home was sitting in his chariot reading the Book of Isaiah the prophet. [29]

The Spirit told Philip, 'Go to that chariot and stay near it.' 30 Then Philip ran up to the chariot and heard the man reading Isaiah the prophet. 'Do you understand what you are reading?' Philip asked. 31 'How can I,' he said, 'unless someone explains it to me?' So he invited Philip to come up and sit with him. 32 This is the passage of Scripture the eunuch was reading: 'He was led like a sheep to the slaughter, and as a lamb before its shearer is silent, so he did not open his mouth. 33 In his humiliation he was deprived of justice. Who can speak of his descendants? For his life was taken from the earth.' 34 The eunuch asked Philip, 'Tell me, please, who is the prophet talking about, himself or someone else?' 35 Then Philip began with that very passage of Scripture and told him the good news about Jesus. 36 As they travelled along the road, they came to some water and the eunuch said, 'Look, here is water. What can stand in the way of my being baptised?' 38 And he gave orders to stop the chariot. Then both Philip and the eunuch went down into the water and Philip baptised him. 39 When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord suddenly took Philip away, and the eunuch did not see him again, but went on his way rejoicing. 40 Philip, however, appeared at Azotus and travelled about, preaching the gospel in all the towns until he reached Caesarea.

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

GOSPEL John 15:1-8 (NIV) *The vine and the branches*

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John:
Glory to you, O Lord.

15:1 'I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener. 2 He cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit he prunes so that it will be even more fruitful. 3 You are already clean because of the word I have spoken to you. 4 Remain in me, as I also remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me. 5 'I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. 6 If you do not remain in me, you are like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned. 7 If you remain in me and my words

remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. 8 This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples.

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

Sermon

SONG **Take my Life** Words & Music: Chris Tomlin & Luis Giglio

Take my life and let it be; consecrated Lord to Thee.
Take my moments and my days; let them flow in ceaseless praise.
Take my hands and let them move; at the impulse of Thy love.
Take my feet and let them be; swift and beautiful for Thee.

Take my voice and let me sing; always only, for my King.
Take my lips and let them be; filled with messages from Thee.
Take my silver and my gold; not a mite would I withhold.
Take my intellect and use; every power as Thou shalt choose.

Chorus Here am I, All of me
Take my life, It's all for thee (x2)

Take my will and make it Thine; it shall be no longer mine.
Take my heart it is Thine own; it shall be Thy royal throne.
Take my love my Lord I pour; at Thy feet its treasure store.
Take myself and I will be, ever only all for Thee.

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

The risen Christ came and stood among his disciples and said, 'Peace be with you.' Then were they glad when they saw the Lord. Hallelujah! *John 20.19,20*

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

Preparation of the Table

HYMN Guide me, O thou great Redeemer Words: W Williams; Music: J Hughes

Guide me, O thou great redeemer,
Pilgrim through this barren land;
I am weak, but thou art mighty,
Hold me with thy powerful hand;
Bread of heaven, bread of heaven
Feed me now and evermore;
Feed me now and evermore.

Open now the crystal fountain
Whence the healing stream doth flow;
Let the fire and cloudy pillar
Lead me all my journey through:
Strong deliv'rer, strong deliv'rer;
Be thou still my strength and shield;
Be thou still my strength and shield.

When I tread the verge of Jordan,
Bid my anxious fears subside;
Death of death, and hell's destruction
Land me safe on Canaan's side:
Songs of praises, songs of praises,
I will ever give to thee;
I will ever give to thee.

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.

Rejoicing in God's new creation, 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 **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 (oh)
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 *Chorus*

Hallelujah name above all / Hallelujah name above all
Hallelujah / Hallelujah

Blessing

May God, by whose glory Christ was raised from the dead, strengthen you to walk with him in his risen life;
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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GRONINGEN ANGLICAN CHURCH

Giving

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**.
Or with this QR code:

Grace
GRONINGEN ANGLICAN CHURCH

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** (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:

- Sunday 5 May, 17:00: **Grace & Martini International Service**, Martinikerk.
- Sunday 12 May, 10:30: **Grace Service of the Word**, Old Catholic Church.
- Sunday 26 May, 10:30: **Grace Holy Communion**, Old Catholic Church.
- Sunday 2 June, 17:00: **Grace & Martini International Service**, Martinikerk.
- Sunday 9 June, 10:30: **Grace Service of the Word**, Old Catholic Church.
- Sunday 23 June, 10:30: **Grace Holy Communion**, Old Catholic Church.
- Sunday 14 July, 10:30: **Grace Service of the Word**, Old Catholic Church.

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