# Service of the Word

## 3rd Sunday of Easter

## April 14th, 2024

**Music by the band: Driv'n**

Ernst Lutgert, Piet, Everlien & Mathias Bruinsma, Robert Hulzebos & Marise Kaper, Annemargriet Hopman and Martin Vrieling

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!

When through the woods and forest glades I wander,
And hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees;
When I look down from lofty mountain grandeur
And hear the brook and feel the gentle breeze. *Chorus*

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 (3rd Sunday of Easter)**: Almighty Father, who in your great mercy gladdened the disciples with the sight of the risen Lord: give us such knowledge of his presence with us, that we may be strengthened and sustained by his risen life and serve you continually in righteousness and truth; 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**

Jesus Christ, risen Master and triumphant Lord, we come to you in sorrow for our sins, and confess to you our weakness and unbelief.

We have lived by our own strength, and not by the power of your resurrection. In your mercy, forgive us.
**Lord, hear us and help us.**

We have lived by the light of our own eyes, as faithless and not believing. In your mercy, forgive us.
**Lord, hear us and help us.**

We have lived for this world alone, and doubted our home in heaven. In your mercy, forgive us.
**Lord, hear us and help us.**

*Absolution.*

***SONG*** **If I can dream** Words & Music: Elvis Presley

There must be lights burning brighter somewhere
Got to be birds flying higher in a sky more blue
If I can dream of a better land
Where all my brothers walk hand in hand
Tell me why, oh why, oh why can't my dream come true / Oh, why?

There must be peace and understanding sometime
Strong winds of promise that will blow away the doubt and fear
If I can dream of a warmer sun
Where hope keeps shining on everyone
Tell me why, oh why, oh why won't that sun appear

We're lost in a cloud with too much rain
We're trapped in a world that's troubled with pain
But as long as a man has the strength to dream
He can redeem his soul and fly

Deep in my heart there's a trembling question
Still I am sure that the answer, answer's gonna come somehow
Out there in the dark, there's a beckoning candle, yeah
And while I can think, while I can talk
While I can stand, while I can walk
While I can dream, please let my dream come true
Right now, let it come true right now

**Acts Reading Acts 3:12-19** (NIV)

*After a lame beggar is healed, Peter speaks to onlookers*

3:[12] While the man held on to Peter and John, all the people were
astonished and came running to them in the place called
Solomon's Colonnade. [12] When Peter saw this, he said to them:
'Fellow Israelites, why does this surprise you? Why do you stare at
us as if by our own power or godliness we had made this man
walk? [13] The God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, the God of our
fathers, has glorified his servant Jesus. You handed him over to be
killed, and you disowned him before Pilate, though he had decided
to let him go. [14] You disowned the Holy and Righteous One and
asked that a murderer be released to you. [15] You killed the author
of life, but God raised him from the dead. We are witnesses of this.
[16] By faith in the name of Jesus, this man whom you see and know
was made strong. It is Jesus' name and the faith that comes
through him that has completely healed him, as you can all see.
[17] 'Now, fellow Israelites, I know that you acted in ignorance, as
did your leaders. [18] But this is how God fulfilled what he had
foretold through all the prophets, saying that his Messiah would
suffer. [19] Repent, then, and turn to God, so that your sins may be
wiped out, that times of refreshing may come from the Lord.
This is the Word of the Lord: **Thanks be to God.**

**Gospel Reading Luke 24:36b-48** (NIV)*Jesus appears to the disciples*

24:[36b] Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, 'Peace be
with you.' [37] They were startled and frightened, thinking they saw a
ghost. [38] He said to them, 'Why are you troubled, and why do
doubts rise in your minds? [39] Look at my hands and my feet. It is I
myself! Touch me and see; a ghost does not have flesh and bones,
as you see I have.' [40] When he had said this, he showed them his
hands and feet. [41] And while they still did not believe it because of
joy and amazement, he asked them, 'Do you have anything here to
eat?' [42] They gave him a piece of broiled fish, [43] and he took it and
ate it in their presence. [44] He said to them, 'This is what I told you
while I was still with you: everything must be fulfilled that is written
about me in the Law of Moses, the Prophets and the Psalms.'
[45] Then he opened their minds so they could understand the
Scriptures. [46] He told them, 'This is what is written: the Messiah will
suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, [47] and repentance for
the forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations,
beginning at Jerusalem. [48] You are witnesses of these things.
This is the Word of the Lord: **Thanks be to God.**

## SERMON

### *SONG* Bridge over troubled water Words & Music: Paul Simon

When you're weary, / Feeling small
When tears are in your eyes / I'll dry them all
I'm on your side / Oh, when times get rough
And friends just can't be found

*Chorus* Like a bridge over troubled water / I will lay me down
Like a bridge over troubled water / I will lay me down

When you're down and out / When you're on the street
When evening falls so hard / I will comfort you
I'll take your part / Oh, when darkness comes
And pain is all around *Chorus*

Sail on silver girl / Sail on by
Your time has come to shine / All your dreams are on their way
See how they shine / Oh, if you need a friend
I'm sailing right behind

Like a bridge over troubled water / I will ease your mind
Like a bridge over troubled water / I will ease your mind

## 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.**

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.**

## ***SONG*** **Joshua fit the battle of Jericho**

Words & Music: African American Spiritual, Elvis Presley version

*Chorus* God knows that Joshua fit the battle of Jericho / Jericho Jericho
Joshua fit the battle of Jericho / And the walls come tumbling down

Good morning sister Mary / Good morning brother John
Well I wanna stop and talk with you / Wanna tell you how I come along

I know you've heard about Joshua / He was the son of Nun
He never stopped his work until / Until the work was done *Chorus*

You may talk about your men of Gideon/ You may brag about your men of Saul
There's none like good old Joshua / At the battle of Jericho

Up to the walls of Jericho / He marched with spear in hand
Go blow them ram horns, Joshua cried/ 'Cause the battle is in my hands

*Chorus*

Yet bold and brave he stood / Salvation in his hand
Go blow them ram horns Joshua cried
'Cause the devil can't do you no harm *Chorus*

Up to the walls of Jericho / He marched with spear in hand
Go blow them ram horns, Joshua cried
'Cause the battle is in my hands *Chorus*

## NOTICES

***HYMN*** **Amazing Grace** Words: John Newton; Music: American folk-hymn

Amazing Grace, how sweet the sound,
That saved a wretch like me.
I once was lost but now I'm found,
Was blind, but now I see.

'Twas Grace that taught, my heart to fear.
And grace, my fears relieved.
How precious did that grace appear,
the hour I first believed.

Through many dangers, toils and snares,
I have already come.
'tis grace that brought me safe thus far,
and grace will lead us home.

Amazing Grace, how sweet the sound,
That saved a wretch like me.
I once was lost but now I'm found,
Was blind, but now I see.

## 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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## 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.**

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**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 and Events:

- Sunday 28 April, 10:30: **Grace Holy Communion**, Old Catholic Church.
- 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.