

Holy Communion

Third Sunday after Epiphany

January 26th, 2025



Grac⁺e
GRONINGEN ANGLICAN CHURCH

The Greeting

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

SONG Come Thou fount of every blessing

Words & Music: John Wyeth, Robert Robinson & Thomas Miller

Come, Thou Fount of every blessing, tune my heart to sing Thy grace
Streams of mercy, never ceasing call for songs of loudest praise
Teach me some melodious sonnet sung by flaming tongues above
Praise the mount, I'm fixed up, on it/ Mount of Thy re- deeming love

Chorus Come, Thou Fount, come, Thou King;
 Come, Thou precious Prince of Peace
 Hear Your bride, to You we sing,
 Come, Thou Fount of our blessing

I was lost in utter darkness 'til You came and rescued me
I was bound by all my sin when Your love came and set me free
Now my soul can sing a new song, now my heart has found a home
Now Your grace is always with me/ And I'll never be a- lone
O, to grace, how great a debtor daily I'm constrained to be
Let Thy goodness, like a fetter, bind my wandering heart to Thee
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it, prone to leave the God I love
Here's my heart, Lord, take and seal it/ Seal it for Thy courts above

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

New Testament Reading: 1 Corinthians 12:12-31a (NIV)

Unity in Diversity in the Body of Christ

12:¹² Just as a body, though one, has many parts, but all its many parts form one body, so it is with Christ. ¹³ For we were all baptized by one Spirit so as to form one body—whether Jews or Gentiles, slave or free—and we were all given the one Spirit to drink. ¹⁴ Even so the body is not made up of one part but of many. ¹⁵ Now if the foot should say, “Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body,” it would not for that reason stop being part of the body. ¹⁶ And if the ear should say, “Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body,” it would not for that reason stop being part of the body. ¹⁷ If the whole body were an eye, where would the sense of hearing be? If the whole body were an ear, where would the sense of smell be? ¹⁸ But in fact God has placed the parts in the body, every one of them, just as he wanted them to be. ¹⁹ If they were all one part, where would the body be? ²⁰ As it is, there are many parts, but one body.

²¹ The eye cannot say to the hand, "I don't need you!" And the head cannot say to the feet, "I don't need you!" ²² On the contrary, those parts of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, ²³ and the parts that we think are less honorable we treat with special honour. And the parts that are unpresentable are treated with special modesty, ²⁴ while our presentable parts need no special treatment. But God has put the body together, giving greater honor to the parts that lacked it, ²⁵ so that there should be no division in the body, but that its parts should have equal concern for each other. ²⁶ If one part suffers, every part suffers with it; if one part is honored, every part rejoices with it. ²⁷ Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it. ²⁸ And God has placed in the church first of all apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then miracles, then gifts of healing, of helping, of guidance, and of different kinds of tongues. ²⁹ Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? ³⁰ Do all have gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues? Do all interpret? ³¹ Now eagerly desire the greater gifts.

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

SONG Way Maker

Words & Music: Michael W Smith

You are here, moving in our midst
I worship You / I worship You
You are here, working in this place
I worship You / I worship You

Chorus You are Way maker, miracle worker, promise keeper
Light in the darkness / My God, that is who You are

You are here, touching every heart
I worship You / I worship You
You are here, healing every heart
I worship You / I worship You *Chorus*

You are here, turning lives around
I worship You / I worship You
You are here, mending every heart
I worship You / I worship You *Chorus*

Tag That is who You are (x 4)

Bridge Even when I don't see it, You're working
Even when I don't feel it, You're working
You never stop, You never stop working
You never stop, You never stop working

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

SONG Er is een dag Words & Music: Nathan Fellingham (Dutch transl Peter van Essen)

Er is een dag, / waar al wat leeft al lang op wacht,
een dag van blijdschap, / als heel de schepping wordt bevrijd.
En op die dag, dan komt de Heer en haalt zijn bruid,
die rein en stralend / Opgaat in zijn heerlijkheid.

Refrein: Spoedig zullen wij Hem zien / en voor altijd op Hem lijken
en Jezus kennen zoals Hij is, amen!

Nooit meer tranen, nooit meer pijn, want wij zullen met Hem leven
in zijn nabijheid, voor altijd. / Amen, amen!

Er klinkt geschal, / wanneer de graven opengaan
en doden opstaan, voor eeuwig levend door zijn kracht.
Hun aardse tent wordt nu bekleed met heerlijkheid,
de dood verzwolgen, overwonnen voor altijd.

Dus kijk omhoog en zie wat nog verborgen is,
maar wat beloofd is, dat blijft in alle eeuwigheid.
En als je lijdt, weet dat het maar voor even is.
Als Jezus terugkomt, deel je in zijn heerlijkheid
Spoedig zullen wij Hem zien / en voor altijd op Hem lijken
en Jezus kennen zoals Hij is, amen!
Nooit meer tranen, nooit meer pijn, want wij zullen met Hem leven
in zijn nabijheid, voor altijd. / Amen, amen!

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 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.

Taking of the Bread and Wine

The Lord is here
Lift up your hearts.

**His Spirit is with us.
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.

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 Shout to the North Words & Music: Charlie Hall

Men of faith rise up and sing / Of the great and glorious King
You are strong when you feel weak
In your brokenness complete

Chorus Shout to the north and the south
Sing to the east and the west
Jesus is Savior to all
He's Lord of heaven and earth

Rise up women of the truth / Stand and sing to broken hearts
Who can know the healing power
Of our awesome King of love *Chorus*

Rise up church with broken wings / Fill this place with songs again
Of our God who reigns on high/ By his grace again we'll fly *Chorus*

Bridge We've been through fire, we've been through pain
We've been refined by the power of Your name
We've fallen deeper in love with You
You've burned the truth on our lips *Chorus*

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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Morning worship:

2nd Sundays, Morning Prayer/Service of the Word at **10:30 am**;

4th Sundays (Holy Communion) at **10:30 am**, all at **St Maarten-langs-de-weg** (Oud Katholieke Kerk), Witte de Withstraat, 2, Groningen.

Evening services:

with the Martiniwijkgemeente: **1st Sundays** at **17:00** in the **Martinikerk**.

Web-site: <http://gracechurchgroningen.com/>; 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

Safeguarding in Grace Church: <https://gracechurchgroningen.com/caring/safeguarding/>

Diocese: <https://www.europe.anglican.org/resources/safeguarding-diocese-europe>

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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 during the service or near the exit afterwards.

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 Church Forthcoming Services & Activities:

- Sunday 2 February, 17:00: Grace & Martini International Service, Martinikerk.
- Sunday 9 February, 10:30: Grace Service of the Word, Old Catholic Church.
- Sunday 23 February, 10:30: Grace Holy Communion, Old Catholic Church.
- Sunday 2 March, 17:00: Grace & Martini International Service, Martinikerk.
- Sunday 9 March, 10:30: Grace Service of the Word, Old Catholic Church.

Movie Nights: January 31st: Merchants of Doubt. SKLO Bldg.

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