

Holy Communion

6th Sunday of Easter

May 25th, 2025



Grac^ε
GRONINGEN ANGLICAN CHURCH

The Greeting

Hallelujah! Christ is risen.

He is risen indeed. Hallelujah!

HYMN Thou Whose Almighty Word Words: J Marriott; Music: F de Giardini

All Thou, whose almighty word / chaos and darkness heard,
and took their flight;
hear us, we humbly pray, / and where the gospel-day
sheds not its glorious ray, / let there be light.

Men Thou, who didst come to bring / on thy redeeming wing
healing and sight,
health to the sick in mind, / sight to the inly blind,
O now to all mankind / let there be light.

Women Spirit of truth and love, / life-giving, holy Dove,
speed forth thy flight;
move on the water's face, / bearing the lamp of grace,
and in earth's darkest place / let there be light.

All Holy and blessed Three, / glorious Trinity,
Wisdom, Love, Might;
boundless as ocean's tide / rolling in fullest pride,
through the earth far and wide / let there be light.

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

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.

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 (6th Sunday of Easter)

God our redeemer, you have delivered us from the power of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of your Son: grant, that as by his death he has recalled us to life, so by his continual presence in us he may raise us to eternal joy; 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 Acts 16:9-15 (NIV)

Paul's vision and Lydia's conversion in Philippi

16:⁹ During the night Paul had a vision of a man of Macedonia standing and begging him, 'Come over to Macedonia and help us.'

¹⁰ After Paul had seen the vision, we got ready at once to leave for Macedonia, concluding that God had called us to preach the gospel to them. ¹¹ From Troas we put out to sea and sailed straight for Samothrace, and the next day we went on to Neapolis. ¹² From

there we travelled to Philippi, a Roman colony and the leading city of that district of Macedonia. And we stayed there several days. ¹³ On

the Sabbath we went outside the city gate to the river, where we expected to find a place of prayer. We sat down and began to

speak to the women who had gathered there. ¹⁴ One of those

listening was a woman from the city of Thyatira named Lydia, a dealer in purple cloth. She was a worshipper of God. The Lord

opened her heart to respond to Paul's message. ¹⁵ When she and

the members of her household were baptised, she invited us to her home. 'If you consider me a believer in the Lord,' she said, 'come and stay at my house.' And she persuaded us.

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

GOSPEL John 14:23-29 (NIV) *Jesus promises the Holy Spirit*

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

14:²³ Jesus replied, 'Anyone who loves me will obey my teaching. My Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them. ²⁴ Anyone who does not love me will not obey my teaching. These words you hear are not my own; they belong to the Father who sent me. ²⁵ 'All this I have spoken while still with you. ²⁶ But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you. ²⁷ Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid. ²⁸ 'You heard me say, "I am going away and I am coming back to you." If you loved me, you would be glad that I am going to the Father, for the Father is greater than I. ²⁹ I have told you now before it happens, so that when it does happen you will believe. This is the Gospel of the Lord: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon

SONG Light of the world (Sing Hallelujah) *Words & Music: Andrew Bergthold*

Light of the world, treasure of Heaven
Brilliant like the stars, in the wintery sky
Joy of the Father, reach through the darkness
Shine across the earth, send the shadows to flight

Light of the world, from the beginning
The tragedies of time, were no match for Your love
From great heights of glory, You saw my story
God, You entered in, and became one of us

Chorus Sing hallelujah, sing hallelujah
 Sing hallelujah for the things He has done
 Come and adore Him, bow down before Him
 Sing hallelujah to the light of the world

Light of the world, crown in a manger
Born for the Cross, to suffer, to save
High King of Heaven, death is the poorer
We are the richer, by the price that He paid, ohh *Chorus*

Light of the world, soon will be coming
With fire in His eyes, He will ransom His own
Through clouds He will lead us, straight into glory
And there He shall reign, forevermore / Oh, forevermore
Chorus

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

SONG Holy Spirit, Living Breath of God Words & Music: Keith Getty & Stuart Townend

Holy Spirit, living Breath of God,
Breathe new life into my willing soul.
Bring the presence of the risen Lord
To renew my heart and make me whole.
Cause Your Word to come alive in me;
Give me faith for what I cannot see;
Give me passion for Your purity.
Holy Spirit, breathe new life in me.

Holy Spirit, come abide within;
May Your joy be seen in all I do—
Love enough to cover ev'ry sin
In each thought and deed and attitude,
Kindness to the greatest and the least,
Gentleness that sows the path of peace.
Turn my striving into works of grace.
Breath of God, show Christ in all I do.

Holy Spirit, from creation's birth,
Giving life to all that God has made,
Show Your power once again on earth;
Cause Your church to hunger for Your ways.
Let the fragrance of our prayers arise.
Lead us on the road of sacrifice
That in unity the face of Christ
Will be clear for all the world to see.

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 The Lord bless you and keep you

Barucha

The Lord bless you and keep you
The Lord make His face shine upon you
And give you peace / And give you peace
And give you peace forever

The Lord be gracious to you
The Lord turn His face towards you
And give you peace / And give you peace
And give you peace forever

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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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 and Events:

- Sunday 1 June, 17:00: **Grace & Martini International Service**, Martinikerk.
- Sunday 8 June, 10:30: **Grace Pentecost Sunday Service of the Word + Baptism**, Old Catholic Church.
- Sunday 22 June, 10:30: **Grace Holy Communion**, Old Catholic Church.
- Sunday 13 July, 10:30: **Grace Service of the Word**, Old Catholic Church.
- Sunday 24 August, 10:30: **Grace Holy Communion**, Old Catholic Church.

Movie Nights: June 6th, SKLO Bldg (Kraneweg 33, 9718 JE Groningen)

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