Service of the Word

3rd Sunday of Lent

March 8th, 2026



Grace
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.

SONG **The Lord is my salvation** Words & Music: Keith & Kristyn Getty

The grace of God has reached for me
And pulled me from the raging sea
And I am safe on the solid ground / The Lord is my salvation

I will not fear when darkness falls
His strength will help me scale these walls
I'll see the dawn of the rising sun / The Lord is my salvation

Chorus Who is like the Lord our God?
Strong to save faithful in love
My debt is paid, and the victory won
The Lord is my salvation

My hope is hidden in the Lord / He flowers each promise of His word
When winter fades, I know spring will come
The Lord is my salvation

In times of waiting, times of need / When I know loss, when I am weak
I know His grace will renew these days
The Lord is my salvation *Chorus*

And when I reach my final day / He will not leave me in the grave
But I will rise / He will call me home
The Lord is my salvation *Chorus*

Glory be to God, the Father / Glory be to God, the Son
Glory be to God, the Spirit / The Lord is our Salvation (x2)
The Lord is my salvation / The Lord is my salvation

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 Lent): Almighty God, whose most dear Son went not up to joy but first he suffered pain, and entered not into glory before he was crucified: mercifully grant that we, walking in the way of the cross, may find it none other than the way of life and peace; through our Lord Jesus Christ, 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 sacrifice of God is a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart God will not despise. Let us come to the Lord, who is full of compassion, and acknowledge our transgressions in penitence and faith. *Cf Ps 51*

Most merciful God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, we confess that we have sinned in thought, word and deed. We have not loved you with our whole heart. We have not loved our neighbours as ourselves. In your mercy forgive what we have been, help us to amend what we are, and direct what we shall be; that we may do justly, love mercy, and walk humbly with you, our God. Amen.

Absolution.

SONG **The Power of your Name** Words & Music: Lincoln Brewster & Mia Fieldes

Surely children weren't made for the streets
And fathers were not made to leave
Surely this isn't how it should be/ Let Your kingdom come

Surely nations were not made for war
Or the broken meant to be ignored
Surely this just can't be what You saw
Let Your Kingdom come here in my heart

Chorus
And I will live to carry Your compassion, to love a world that's broken
To be Your hands and feet
And I will give with the life that I've been given
And go beyond religion to see the world be changed

By the power of Your name / The power of Your name

Surely life wasn't made to regret
And the lost were not made to forget
Surely faith without action is dead
Let Your Kingdom come, Lord, break this heart

Chorus

Bridge Jesus, Your name is a shelter for the hurting
Your name is a refuge for the weak
Only Your name can redeem the undeserving
Jesus ,Your name holds everything I need *Chorus 2x*

Epistle Reading: Romans 5:1-11 (NIV/UK) *Peace and hope*

5:[1] Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, [2] through whom we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand. And we boast in the hope of the glory of God. [3] Not only so, but we also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; [4] perseverance, character; and character, hope. [5] And hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us. [6] You see, at just the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly. [7] Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous person, though for a good person someone might possibly dare to die. [8] But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. [9] Since we have now been justified by his blood, how much more shall we be saved from God's wrath through him! [10] For if, while we were God's enemies, we were reconciled to him through the death of his Son, how much more, having been reconciled, shall we be saved through his life! [11] Not only is this so, but we also boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

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

Gospel Reading John 4:5-30 (NIV/UK) *Jesus meets a Samaritan woman*

4:[5] So he came to a town in Samaria called Sychar, near the plot of ground Jacob had given to his son Joseph. [6] Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired as he was from the journey, sat down by the well. It was about noon. [7] When a Samaritan woman came to draw water, Jesus said to her, 'Will you give me a drink?' [8] (His disciples had gone into the town to buy food.) [9] The Samaritan woman said to him, 'You are a Jew and I am a Samaritan woman. How can you ask me for a drink?' (For Jews do not associate with Samaritans.) [10] Jesus answered her, 'If you knew the gift of God and who it is that asks you for a drink, you would have asked him and he would have given you living water.' [11] 'Sir,' the woman said, 'you have nothing to draw with and the well is deep. Where can you get this living water? [12] Are you greater than our father Jacob, who gave us the well and drank from it himself, as did also his sons and his livestock?' [13] Jesus answered, 'Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again, [14] but whoever drinks the water I give them will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give them will become in them a spring of water welling up to eternal life.' [15] The woman said to him, 'Sir, give me this water so that

I won't get thirsty and have to keep coming here to draw water.'
16 He told her, 'Go, call your husband and come back.' 17 'I have no
husband,' she replied. Jesus said to her, 'You are right when you say
you have no husband. 18 The fact is, you have had five husbands,
and the man you now have is not your husband. What you have just
said is quite true.' 19 'Sir,' the woman said, 'I can see that you are a
prophet. 20 Our ancestors worshipped on this mountain, but you Jews
claim that the place where we must worship is in Jerusalem.'
21 'Woman,' Jesus replied, 'believe me, a time is coming when you will
worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. 22 You
Samaritans worship what you do not know; we worship what we do
know, for salvation is from the Jews. 23 Yet a time is coming and has
now come when the true worshippers will worship the Father in the
Spirit and in truth, for they are the kind of worshippers the Father
seeks. 24 God is spirit, and his worshippers must worship in the Spirit
and in truth.' 25 The woman said, 'I know that Messiah' (called Christ)
'is coming. When he comes, he will explain everything to us.' 26 Then
Jesus declared, 'I, the one speaking to you – I am he.' 27 Just then
his disciples returned and were surprised to find him talking with a
woman. But no one asked, 'What do you want?' or 'Why are you
talking with her?' 28 Then, leaving her water jar, the woman went
back to the town and said to the people, 29 'Come, see a man who
told me everything I've ever done. Could this be the Messiah?'
30 They came out of the town and made their way towards him.

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

SERMON

HYMN I heard the voice of Jesus say

Words: H Bonar; Music: R Vaughan Williams

I heard the voice of Jesus say: / "Come unto Me and rest.
Lay down thou weary one, lay down / thy head upon My breast."
I came to Jesus as I was, / weary and worn and sad.
I found in Him a resting place, / and He has made me glad.

I heard the voice of Jesus say: / "Behold I freely give
the living water, thirsty one, / stoop down and drink and live."
I came to Jesus and I drank / Of that life giving stream.
My thirst was quenched, my soul revived / And now I live in Him.

I heard the voice of Jesus say: / "I am this dark world's light.
Look unto Me, the morn shall rise / And all thy day be bright."
I looked to Jesus and I found / In Him my Star, my Sun.
And in that light of life I'll walk / Till travelling days are gone.

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.**

Trusting in the compassion 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.

SONG **Still** Words & Music: Reuben Morgan

Hide me now / Under your wings
Cover me / Within Your mighty hands

Chorus When the oceans rise and thunders roar
I will soar with You, above the storm
Father, You are king over the flood
I will be still and know You are God

Find rest my soul, in Christ alone
Know His power, in quietness and trust *Chorus 2x*

NOTICES

HYMN **To God be the glory** Words & Music: F.J. van Alstyne & W.H. Doane

To God be the glory, great things He hath done,
So loved He the world that He gave us His Son,
Who yielded His life an atonement for sin,
And opened the life-gate that all may go in.

Chorus Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the earth hear His voice;
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the people rejoice;
Oh, come to the Father, through Jesus the Son,
And give Him the glory; great things He hath done.

O perfect redemption, the purchase of blood!
To ev'ry believer the promise of God;
The vilest offender who truly believes,
That moment from Jesus a pardon receives. *Chorus*

Great things He hath taught us, great things He hath done,
And great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son;
But purer, and higher, and greater will be
Our wonder, our rapture, when Jesus we see. *Chorus*

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

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.

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 22 March, 10:30: Grace Holy Communion, Old Catholic Church.
- Sunday 22 March, after the service and bring & share: Grace Church Annual Mtg.
- Sunday 29 March, 10:30: Old Catholic Palm Sunday Service.
- Sunday 5 April (Easter), 9:00: Bring& Share Breakfast, Church Hall.
  - 10:30: Grace Holy Communion, Old Catholic Church.
- Sunday 12 April, 10:30: Grace Service of Baptism, Old Catholic Church.
- Sunday 26 April, 10:30: Grace Holy Communion, Old Catholic Church.

Lent Course: Hopemakers: Hostility to Hospitality
Wednesday evenings, 25 Feb to 1 April, at 20:00, contact Chaplain for zoom link.

Movie Nights (at 19:30 at SKLO Bldg, Kraneweg 33, Groningen):

April 10th: Florence Foster Jenkins;
May 8th: Music Box.

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