

“Within these walls let no-one be a stranger”

English Reformed Church, Amsterdam

5 May 2024

Holy Communion

Prelude *Pastorale* - Philip Hayes

Welcome and announcements

Candle lighting and Call to Worship

Creator of the cosmos,
of eternity and time:
be with us in this time.

Saviour of the world,
healer of the nations:
be with us in this place.

Breath of all that lives,
of people near and far:
stir within our lives.

Maker-Spirit-Son,
God of here and now:
*be present in our worship,
that we may find new ways
to be present in your world.*



Hymn 484 *Great God, your love has called us here*

1 Great God, your love has called us here,
as we, by love for love were made.
Your living likeness still we bear,
though marred, dishonoured, disobeyed.

We come, with all our heart and mind
your call to hear, your love to find.

- 2 We come with self-inflicted pains
of broken trust and chosen wrong,
half-free, half-bound by inner chains,
by social forces swept along,
by powers and systems close confined
yet seeking hope for humankind.
- 3 Great God, in Christ you call our name
and then receive us as your own,
not through some merit, right or claim,
but by your gracious love alone.
We strain to glimpse your mercy-seat
and find you kneeling at our feet.
- 4 Then take the towel, and break the bread,
and humble us, and call us friends.
Suffer and serve till all are fed,
and show how grandly love intends
to work till all creation sings,
to fill all worlds, to crown all things.
- 5 Great God, in Christ you set us free
your life to live, your joy to share.
Give us your Spirit's liberty
to turn from guilt and dull despair
and offer all that faith can do
while love is making all things new.

Prayer *ending with the Lord's Prayer (in any language)*

Reflection

Hymn 359 *He came down that we may have love*

1 He came down that we may have love;
he came down that we may have love;
he came down that we may have love;
hallelujah for evermore.

CANTOR: (Why did he come?)

(repeat verse)

2 He came down that we may have peace;
he came down that we may have peace;
he came down that we may have peace;
hallelujah for evermore.

3 He came down that we may have joy;
he came down that we may have joy;
he came down that we may have joy;
hallelujah for evermore.

First Reading Psalm 98, OT Page 563

O sing to the LORD a new song,
for he has done marvellous things.

His right hand and his holy arm
have gained him victory.

²The LORD has made known his victory;
he has revealed his vindication in the sight of the nations.

³He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness
to the house of Israel.

All the ends of the earth have seen
the victory of our God.

⁴Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth;
break forth into joyous song and sing praises.

⁵Sing praises to the LORD with the lyre,
with the lyre and the sound of melody.

⁶With trumpets and the sound of the horn
make a joyful noise before the King, the LORD.

Spirit of the living God
fall afresh on me:
break me, melt me,
mould me, fill me.
Spirit of the living God,
fall afresh on me.

Spirit of the living God
move among us all;
make us one in heart and mind,
makes us one in love,
humble, caring,
selfless, sharing.
Spirit of the living God,
fill our lives with love.

Sermon ...*followed by a time of silence for reflection*

Prayers of Concern

Offering *Cornet Voluntary* - John Travers

Hymn 429 *Alleluia! Jesus is risen!*

1 Alleluia! Jesus is risen!
Trumpets resounding in glorious light!
Splendour, the Lamb, heaven forever!
Oh, what a miracle God has in sight!
*Jesus is risen and we shall arise:
Give God the glory! Alleluia!*

2 Weeping, be gone; sorrow, be silent:
death is defeated, and Easter is bright.
Angels announce, 'Jesus is risen!'
Clothe us in wonder, adorn us in light.

3 Walking the way, Christ walking with us,
telling the story to open our eyes;
breaking the bread, showing his glory;
Jesus our blessing, our constant surprise.

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

The Apostle's Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty
creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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.

Passing of the Peace

Celebrant: The Peace of the Lord be with you

All: **And also with you** (*Greet one another with words of Peace*)

The Invitation to Communion

The Narrative *or* Story of the Last Supper ...*as recorded by St Paul.*

The Prayer of Thanksgiving *beginning with The Sursum Corda*

Celebrant: The Lord be with you
All: **And also with you**
Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.
All: **We lift them up to the Lord**
Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
All: **It is right to give God thanks and praise**

The Sanctus *(music at Hymn 651)*

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might.
Heaven and earth are full of your glory,
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessèd is he, O blessèd is he
who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.
Hosanna in the highest.**

The Consecration

The Agnus Dei

1.+2.+3.
Lamb of God, you take a - way the
1.+ 2.
sin of the world. Have mer - cy up - on us.
3.
sin of the world. Grant us your peace.

The Sharing of Communion

Bread of the World - John Duro

Closing Prayer

Hymn 622 *We sing a love that sets all people free*

- 1 We sing a love that sets all people free,
that blows like wind, that burns like scorching flame,
enfolds the earth, springs up like water clear:
come, living love, live in our hearts today.
- 2 We sing a love that seeks another's good,
that longs to serve and not to count the cost,
a love that, yielding, finds itself made new:
come, caring love, live in our hearts today.
- 3 We sing a love, unflinching, unafraid
to be itself, despite another's wrath,
a love that stands alone and undismayed:
come, strengthening love, live in our hearts today.
- 4 We sing a love that, wandering, will not rest
until it finds its way, its home, its source,
through joy and sadness pressing on refreshed:
come, pilgrim love, live in our hearts today.
- 4 We sing the Holy Spirit, full of love,
who seeks out scars of ancient bitterness,
brings to our wounds the healing grace of Christ:
come, radiant love, live in our hearts today.

Benediction *followed by sung Amen*

Postlude "Vier Vijf Mei"

This morning's service is conducted by our Interim Moderator,

Rev Jimmy Brown

The reader is Christopher Decker

The elders on duty are Giles Francis and Nick Anderton

Today

- **Crèche for infants and toddlers (0-4 years old) is available this morning and every Sunday worship service.** The crèche is

located in a room on the left side of the building. If you need directions, please ask one of the elders on duty.

- **The 20s-30s group** will meet for lunch after the service. Every young adult (young at heart included) is welcome to join!

Upcoming events

- **Consistory Meeting (online)** on Wednesday, **8 May**, at 19:30. The meeting is open to all members of the congregation. If you would like to join the meeting and/or raise a topic, please let the scriba team know (scriba@erc.amsterdam).
- **Cooking at the Kloof** on Saturday, **11 May**, at 09:30. If you are interested, please send an email to Giles Francis at gilesf@telfort.nl for more information.
- **Minister Nominee**
The Nominating Committee has determined a minister nominee who will lead worship on **Sunday, 26 May**. Following the service, a congregational vote will take place regarding the minister nominee. Having devoted much prayerful consideration to discerning a minister nominee whom it thinks best suited to lead the congregation, the Nominating Committee hopes that it has served the congregation well.
- **Night of The Refugee on 15-16 June.**
This year a group will again be walking 40/20/10 km through the night, raising money to support refugees all over the world. If you'd like to join our group and help refugees please get in touch with Gillian on gillian.walker.ams@icloud.com Here are some links if you'd like to know more:
<https://www.nachtvande vluchteling.nl/>
<https://www.nachtvande vluchteling.nl/project/haarlem-amsterdam>
And if you don't feel like walking you could volunteer to help set up and/or support those with blisters and bags under their eyes.
<https://www.nachtvande vluchteling.nl/updates/7601-vrijwilligers-gezocht-en-handige-toolkits>
All are welcome to join in!

Other Notices

- **Prayer:** Those who feel especially **in need of prayer** either for themselves or for someone else or have a particular prayer request, please contact Peggy Krol, peggy.krol@planet.nl. She and the prayer team will pray accordingly.
- **Finance:** Please note that besides the weekly collection in church, you can also donate to the ERC's General Fund, Mulanje Mission Hospital and Maintenance Fund via bank transfer:

Maintenance Fund: *Stichting Friends of the English Reformed Church* NL90 ABNA 0624 1800 69

General Fund or Mulanje Mission Hospital: *English Reformed Church* NL44 ABNA 0547 6235 50

Alternatively, please feel free to use these QR codes for a Tikkie or to use PayPal:

Coming up

12 May: Worship Service
13 May: Women's Fellowship
15 May: Bible Study
19 May: Pentecost Service
26 May: Minister Nominee
27 May: Women's Fellowship
29 May: Bible Study



Church contacts

Interim Moderator , Rev Jimmy Brown	jbrown@churchofscotland.org.uk
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Visit us at
www.erc.amsterdam