

Elizabeth S. Martejijn

Dr. Elizabeth Martejijn is a postdoctoral researcher at the Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München. Her interdisciplinary study of Eastern Christian religious thought and practice is engaged with themes such as contextual theology, rituality, mission history and migration. She received her PhD from the Centre for the Study of World Christianity of the University of Edinburgh in 2022.

[last updated: 12.12.2023]

Appointments

- From 2024 *Wissenschaftliche Assistentin*, Faculty of Protestant Theology, Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München
- 2023 *Wissenschaftliche Mitarbeiterin*, Faculty of Protestant Theology, Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München

Qualifications

- 2016-2022 **PhD in World Christianity (viva voce with no corrections; summa cum laude)**
School of Divinity, the University of Edinburgh
Thesis: *Between Ruins and Remnants: Religious Reinvention and Renewal among Christians in West Bank Palestine* (supervised by Dr Joshua Ralston and Professor Brian Stanley)
- 2014-2015 **MTh in World Christianity (graduated with distinction; summa cum laude)**
School of Divinity, the University of Edinburgh
- 2011-2014 **BA in Theology (graduated first class-honours; summa cum laude)**
Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam and Protestantse Theologische Universiteit Amsterdam
- 2010-2013 **BSc in Cultural Anthropology and Development Sociology (graduated first class-honours; summa cum laude)**
Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam

Fellowships, Awards and Prizes (selection)

- 2023 Veni Grant, NWO Talent Programme, Nederlandse Organisatie voor Wetenschappelijk Onderzoek (Dutch Research Council), € **280,000**.
- 2023 Honourable Mention, Leigh Douglas Memorial Prize for the best PhD dissertation in Middle Eastern studies, British Society for Middle Eastern Studies.
- 2023 Woflhart Pannenberg Research Fellowship, Faculty of Protestant Theology, Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München.
- 2019 David M. Stowe Fellowship for Mission Research, Yale Divinity Library, Yale University.

- 2017 Tweedie Exploration Fellowship, College of Arts Humanities and Social Sciences, the University of Edinburgh, £ 2,000.
- 2017 Ethnography Through the Eyes of Faith Graduate Student Summer Fellowship, On Knowing Research Center (Eastern University), in collaboration with the John Templeton Foundation, \$ 10,000.
- 2016 Principal's Career Development PhD Scholarship, the University of Edinburgh, **£ 42,000.**
- 2015 Doctoral Award, Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC), payment of fees.
- 2015 Peregrine Maitland Award, Faculty of Divinity, University of Cambridge, £ 12,000.
- 2015 MEC Santander Graduate Award, Murray Edwards College Cambridge, £ 5,000.
- 2015 Young Talent Award, Prins Bernhard Cultuurfonds, **€ 25,000.**
- 2015 School of Divinity Scholarship, the University of Edinburgh, payment of fees.
- 2014 VSBfonds Scholarship, VSBfonds, € 7,000.

Teaching

Academic Teaching

- WS 2023/24 *Christianities of the Middle East (20th/21st centuries)*, UG, Faculty of Protestant Theology, Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München.
- WS 2019/20 *Religion, Violence and Peacebuilding*, UG, School of Divinity, University of Edinburgh. Nominated for Best Student who Tutors (university-wide). Student rating of 4.7 out of 5.

Invited Guest Lectures

- May 2023 "Conflict and Migrations: Middle Eastern Diasporas in Europe," *Conflicts and Coexistence in the Middle East*, UG, Department of Middle Eastern Studies, University of Groningen [online].
- April 2022 "Palestinian Christian Theology," *Asian Theologies*, PG, Koinonia Theological Seminary, Philippines [online].
- April 2022 "Lived Theology in Palestine and the Middle East," *Lived Theology and World Christianity*, PG, Overseas Ministries Study Center, Princeton Theological Seminary [online].

Teaching Qualification

- Sept-Dec 2018 Tutor-training course offered by the School of Divinity, University of Edinburgh.

Publications

Edited Work

- 2022 with Lucy Schouten, "Special Issue: Heritage and Identity. Exploring the Middle East within World Christianity." *Studies in World Christianity* 28, no. 3.

Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles

- 2024 "'Iḥya' al-Masīḥiyya al-Filastīniyya: Al-Taṭwarāt fī al-Lahūt al-Filastīnī." *Journal of Palestinian Christianity* 1:1 [forthcoming; accepted].

- 2022 with Lucy Schouten, “Editorial: Heritage and Identity. Exploring the Middle East within World Christianity.” *Studies in World Christianity* 28, no. 3: 255-66.
- 2020 “The Revival of Palestinian Christianity: Developments in Palestinian Theology.” *Exchange: Journal of Contemporary Christianities in Context* 49, no. 3-4: 257-77.
- 2020 “Martyrdom, Liberation, and Belonging: An Ethnography on the Popular Saint George Veneration among Palestinian Christians.” *Journal of World Christianity* 10, no. 1: 53-67.
- 2020 “The Politics of Interpretation: Understanding Biblical History in Palestinian Rural Culture.” *Studies in World Christianity* 26, no. 1: 4-20.
- 2019 “De publieke rol van Palestijnse theologie: Theologie in dialoog met de Palestijnse context.” *Radix* 45, no. 2: 136-50.

Book Chapters

- 2024 “The Revival of Palestinian Christianity: Developments in Palestinian Theology.” In *Christianity in the Contemporary Middle East: Orthodox, Catholic, and Protestant Communities in Context*, edited by Deanna Ferree Womack. Leiden: Brill [forthcoming; submitted to publisher 2024].
- 2024 “Baraka without Boundaries: The Christian-Muslim Encounter at Shared Shrines in Bethlehem and Jerusalem.” In *Palestine’s Christians and the Nationalist Cause*, edited by Erik Freas. London: Routledge [forthcoming; accepted].
- 2021 “Popular Religion and Christianity.” In *The Rowman & Littlefield Handbook of Christianity in the Middle East*, edited by Mitri Raheb and Mark A. Lamport, 175-87. Lanham: Rowman & Littlefield Publishers.
- 2020 “Saint, Liberator, Martyr: Popular Palestinian Saint George Veneration in the Village of Al-Khader.” In *Bethlehem: A Socio-Cultural History*, edited by Mitri Raheb, 81-97. Bethlehem: Diyar Publisher.

Book Reviews

- 2024 Review of *Palestinian Rituals of Identity: The Prophet Moses Festival in Jerusalem, 1850-1948*, by Awad Halabi. *Journal of Palestinian Christianity* 1:1 [forthcoming; accepted].
- 2022 Review of *Walking on the Pages of the Word of God: Self, Land, and Text Among Evangelical Volunteers in Jerusalem*, by Aron Engberg. *Exchange: Journal of Contemporary Christianities in Context* 51, no. 1: 89-90.

Digital Publications

- 2022 “Heritage and Identity: Debunking 5 myths about Middle Eastern Christians.” *Edinburgh University Press Blog*. Posted on 28 October 2022. <https://eupublishingblog.com/2022/10/28/debunking-5-myths-about-middle-eastern-christians/>.
- 2019 “Celebrating Easter Twice: Holy Week in a Palestinian Village.” *Catholics & Cultures*. Posted on 25 April 2019. <https://www.catholicsandcultures.org/palestinian-territories-christian-village-celebrates-easter-twice>.
- 2018 “Christmas in Palestine: A Celebration of Christianity, Unity, and Nationalism.” *Christian-Muslim Studies Network blog*. Posted on 19 December 2018. <https://christianmuslim.div.ed.ac.uk/christmas-in-palestine/>.
- 2018 “Looking Eastward: The Middle East in the Field of World Christianity.” *Centre for the Study of World Christianity weblog*. Posted on 19 March 2018. <https://www.cswc.div.ed.ac.uk/2018/03/looking-eastward-the-middle-east-in-the-field-of-world-christianity/>.

- 2018 “World Christianity and Interdisciplinarity: Combining Theology and Social Sciences in the Field of World Christianity.” *Centre for the Study of World Christianity weblog*. Posted on 13 February 2018. <https://www.cswc.div.ed.ac.uk/2018/02/world-christianity-and-interdisciplinarity-combining-theology-and-social-sciences-in-the-field-of-world-christianity/>.

Academic Presentations

Invited Talks

- 2024 “Palestinian and Middle Eastern Christianity.” *Lunch Series in World Christianity*, City Seminary of New York, January 2024 [upcoming].
- 2023 “Rituals of Return: The Palestinian Christians from Iqrit and Kufr Bir’im, 1948-present.” *Semesteröffnung*, Faculty of Protestant Theology, Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München, October 2023.
- 2022 “*Baraka* without Boundaries: The Christian-Muslim Encounter at Shared Shrines in West Bank Palestine.” *Islam and Christian-Muslim Relations Research Seminar*, School of Divinity, the University of Edinburgh, September 2022.
- 2018 “The Public Role of Palestinian Contextual Theology.” *Centre for the Study of World Christianity Research Seminar*, School of Divinity, the University of Edinburgh, November 2018

Conference Presentations (Selection)

- 2023 “Rituals of Return: Diasporic Religion among Internally Displaced Christian Palestinians in North Israel, 1948-present.” *DAVO-Congress 2023*, German Middle East Association for Contemporary Research and Documentation, Vienna, September 2023.
- 2023 “Between Ruins and Remnants: Religious Renewal among Palestinian Christians in Rural West Bank Palestine.” *Annual Palestine Forum 2023*, Arab Center for Research & Policy Studies and the Institute for Palestine Studies, Doha, January 2023.
- 2022 “*Baraka* without Boundaries: Religious Crossing at Shared Shrines in West Bank Palestine.” Annual Conference of the British Society for Middle Eastern Studies “*Exploring and Contesting the (Re)production of Coloniality in the Middle East: Borders, Transnationalism, and Resistance*,” University of St Andrews, July 2022.
- 2021 “*Baraka* without Boundaries: Religious Crossing at Shared Shrines in West Bank Palestine.” International Interdisciplinary Conference “*Currents, Perspectives and Methodologies for the Study of World Christianity and its Interactions with other Religions*,” Princeton Theological Seminary, March 2021 [online].
- 2019 “The Politics of Interpretation: Reading the Bible in the Palestinian Countryside.” Co-sponsored session of the Middle Eastern Christianity unit and the SBL Biblical Exegesis from Eastern Orthodox Perspectives unit, *Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Religion (AAR)*, San Diego, November 2019
- 2019 “Saint, Liberator and Martyr: Popular Palestinian Saint George Veneration.” International Conference “*Bethlehem: A Socio-cultural History*,” Dar al-Kalima University Bethlehem, August 2019.
- 2019 “Justice, Peace and Reconciliation: The Revival of the Palestinian Church.” 13th Biennial International Conference “*The Calling of the Church in Times of Polarisation*,” International Reformed Theological Institute (IRTI), Amsterdam, August 2019.

- 2019 “The Politics of Interpretation: Reading the Bible in the Palestinian Countryside.” Yale-Edinburgh Meeting “*Diversity and Difference in Custom, Belief, and Practice in the History of Missions and World Christianity*,” Yale Divinity School, Yale University, June 2019.
- 2019 “Saint, Liberator, Martyr: An Ethnographic Analysis of the Popular Palestinian Saint George Veneration.” International Interdisciplinary Conference “*Currents, Perspectives and Ethnographic Methodologies in World Christianity*,” Princeton Theological Seminary, March 2019.
- 2018 “Diaspora, Blood and Belonging: The Survival of the Popular Saint George Veneration among Palestinian Christians.” Co-sponsored session of the Middle Eastern Christianity unit and World Christianity unit, *Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Religion (AAR)*, Denver, November 2018.
- 2018 “The Public Role of Palestinian Contextual Theology.” International Conference on “*Christianity and the Public Sphere in Africa and Asia*,” Andrew Walls Centre for the Study of African and Asian Christianity, Liverpool Hope University, July 2018.
- 2018 “Martyrdom, Liberation and Belonging: Popular Palestinian Saint George Veneration as Grassroots Theological Platform.” Yale-Edinburgh Meeting “*Scripture, Prayer and Worship in the History of Missions and World Christianity*,” School of Divinity, the University of Edinburgh, June 2018.
- 2018 “Combining Theology and Ethnography in the Study of World Christianity.” International Interdisciplinary Conference “*Currents, Perspectives, and Methodologies in World Christianity*,” Princeton Theological Seminary, January 2018.

Panels Organised

- 2023 with Anna Hager, “Middle Eastern Christian Diasporas: Between Homelands and Europe.” *DAVO-Congress 2023*, German Middle East Association for Contemporary Research and Documentation, Vienna, September 2023.

Other Conference Contributions (Selection)

- 2019 Book panel discussant on Professor Andrew Wall’s book *Crossing Cultural Frontiers* (Orbis, 2017). *Centre for the Study of World Christianity Research Seminar*, School of Divinity, the University of Edinburgh, October 2019.
- 2019 Panel chair “Research on European Christianities.” International Interdisciplinary Conference “*Currents, Perspectives and Ethnographic Methodologies in World Christianity*,” Princeton Theological Seminary, March 2019.
- 2018 Panel discussant “The Future of World Christianity Scholarship: Perspectives from Graduate Researchers.” International Interdisciplinary Conference “*Currents, Perspectives, and Methodologies in World Christianity*,” Princeton Theological Seminary, January 2018.

Fieldwork (Israel-Palestine)

- 2023 Iqrit, Kufr Birim (1 month; March-April).
- 2019 Taybeh, Jerusalem, Bethlehem (2 months; August).
- 2017 Taybeh, Ramallah, Jerusalem, Bethlehem, Nazareth (13 months; August 2017 – August 2018).
- 2016 Jerusalem, Bethlehem, Taybeh, Zababdeh (1 month; February).
- 2014 Jerusalem, Nazareth, Tiberias (1 month; April, May).

Service to the Profession & Community Service (selection)

- 2023 **Consulted expert**, Protestant Church in the Netherlands (PKN). Provided advice for the church's new policy document regarding Israel and the Middle East (May 2023).
- 2022 **Member of the Advisory Board** of the newly established peer-reviewed *Journal of Palestinian Christianity*, Bethlehem Bible College (From October 2022 onwards).
- 2022 **Guest co-editor** for a special issue (28:3) for *Studies in World Christianity*, Edinburgh University Press, titled "Heritage and Identity: Exploring the Middle East within World Christianity". Tasks included recruiting authors and peer-reviewers, managing the publishing schedule, and editing all articles.
- 2022 **Peer-reviewer** of an article manuscript for *Ecclesial Practices*, Brill (April 2022).

Media Appearances

- 2023 quoted in "75 jaar Nakba: 'De Nakba is nog steeds onze dagelijkse realiteit'." *Weblog of the Protestantse Kerk in Nederland (PKN; Protestant Church in the Netherlands)*, Posted online on 15 May 2023, <https://protestantsekerk.nl/nieuws/75-jaar-nakba-de-nakba-is-nog-steeds-onze-dagelijkse-realiteit/>.
- 2019 with Maurits Bakker, "Luister eerlijk naar Palestijnse christenen." *Reformatorisch Dagblad*, 20 May 2019. Also online: <https://www.rd.nl/opinie/luister-eerlijk-naar-palestijnse-christenen-1.1569106>.
- 2019 Interview on *Christian-Muslim Studies Network blog*, "Elizabeth Marteiijn. A Student Profile: A Theology of Ordinary Faith." Posted online on 4 January 2019, https://christianmuslim.div.ed.ac.uk/student-profile-a-theology-of-ordinaryfaith/?fbclid=IwAR3hJoyWLE5l1PDa6wm56dF7B-ZpAq_x00n6XMzeFbgnH25Q52AdF3eo.
- 2018 Interview in *Reformatorisch Dagblad*, "Palestijnse christenen hebben ons gebed nodig." 9 October 2018. Also online: <https://www.rd.nl/kerk-religie/palestijnse-christenen-hebben-ons-gebed-nodig-1.1518856>.

Languages

English (C2; fluent)	Colloquial Palestinian Arabic (A2; conversational)
Dutch (C2; native)	
German (B2; intermediate)	Modern Standard Arabic (A2; conversational)
French (B2; intermediate)	

Professional Memberships

American Academy of Religion
British Society for Middle Eastern Studies
German Middle East Association for Contemporary Research and Documentation
North American Society for Christian Arabic Studies
Yale-Edinburgh Group on the History of the Missionary Movement and World Christianity