

# ECC Bochum

English-speaking Christian Congregation

## Digital Worship, 6 December 2020



Sing along for

# PEACE

Zoom access: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81484653256?pwd=ZFFHV25JSmcvS1M2SVVNNkcwc091QT09>  
(Click the link to enter. The Zoom worship meeting will open at ca. 12:15 Central European Time on Sunday.)

**ORGAN** J. S. Bach, Choral Prelude “Wachet auf, ruft uns die Stimme” (BWV 645)

### **Watchword for the Week** (Moravian Daily Texts 2020)

He will feed his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms,  
and carry them in his bosom. (Isaiah 40:11)

### **WELCOME & OPENING RESPONSES** (responses in bold-face italics)

Praise God from the tops of the highest mountains!

***Grant us peace, Almighty God!***

Praise God from the bottoms of the deepest valleys!

***Grant us peace, Merciful God!***

Praise God from the bumps in the road!

***Grant us peace, Gracious God!***

Praise God from the still waters!

***Grant us peace, Compassionate God!***

Praise the God of highs and lows, rough places and smooth.

***We come to praise the God who brings peace to us all.***

### **HYMN** *Wake, awake! For night is flying!* (Church Hymnary 278)

- 1 ‘Wake, awake! For night is flying’, the watchmen on the heights are crying.  
‘Awake, Jerusalem, at last!’  
Midnight hears the welcome voices, and at the thrilling cry rejoices:  
‘Come forth, you virgins, night is past!  
The Bridegroom comes; awake, your lamps with gladness take. Alleluia!  
And for his marriage feast prepare, for you must go to meet him there.’

- 2 Zion hears the watchmen singing, and all her heart with joy is springing;  
she wakes, she rises from her gloom;  
for the Lord comes down all-glorious, the strong in grace, in truth victorious;  
her star is risen, her Light is come!  
Now come, O blessed One, God's own beloved Son, Alleluia!  
We follow to the festal hall to sup with you, the Lord of all.
- 3 All the heavens and earth adore you, and saints and angels sing before you,  
with harp and cymbal's clearest tone;  
Zion's gates of pearl before us resound as angels sing in chorus  
and lead us to your dazzling throne.  
No mortal eye nor ear can comprehend or bear such great glory;  
but we rejoice and sing the song, Alleluia! through ages long.

## OPENING PRAYER

**HYMN** *He came down that we may have peace* (Church Hymnary 359)

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!

**SCRIPTURE READING** Isaiah 40:1-11 (GNB Old Testament, page 701)  
The word of God: ***Thanks be to God!***

**REFLECTION** "No hugger-mugger Peace – it must be real Peace."

**HYMN** *Comfort, comfort now my people* (Church Hymnary 274)

- 1 Comfort, comfort now my people; speak of peace – so says your God.  
Comfort those who sit in darkness, burdened by a heavy load.  
To Jerusalem proclaim: God shall take away your shame.  
Now get ready to recover; guilt and suffering are over.
- 2 Hear the herald's proclamation in the desert far and near,  
calling all to true repentance, telling that the Lord is near.  
Oh, that warning cry obey! For your God prepare a way.  
Let the valleys rise to greet him and the hills bow down to meet him.
- 3 Straighten out what has been crooked, make the roughest places plain.  
Let your heart be true and humble, live as fits God's holy reign.  
Soon the glory of the Lord shall on earth be shed abroad.  
All the world shall surely see it, God is ready to decree it.

## NOTICES

## PRAYERS FOR OTHERS

## **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

(Please pray in your preferred language / version.)

***Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name;  
thy kingdom come; thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses  
as we forgive those who trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory,  
for ever and ever. Amen.***

**HYMN:** *When I receive the peace of Christ* (Church Hymnary 566)

- 1 When I receive the peace of Christ my loneliness shall end;  
and I must reach a hand and take my brother as a friend –  
my brother as a friend indeed who has an honoured place  
where he may stand before the Lord in dignity and grace.
- 2 When I receive the peace of Christ my loneliness shall end;  
and I must reach a hand and take my sister as a friend –  
my sister as a friend indeed who has an honoured place  
where she may stand before the Lord in dignity and grace.
- 3 When I receive the peace of Christ my loneliness shall end;  
and I must reach a hand and take my own self as a friend –  
my own self as a friend indeed who has an honoured place  
where I may stand before the Lord in dignity and grace.
- 4 When I receive the peace of Christ my loneliness shall end;  
and I must reach a hand and take Christ Jesus as a friend –  
Christ Jesus as a friend indeed who has an honoured place  
where now stand among us all in dignity and grace.

## **SHARING GOD'S PEACE**

**BLESSING** (spoken together:)

***The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the  
fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all, now and evermore. Amen.***

**CLOSING MUSIC:** *Make me a channel of your peace* (Church Hymnary 528)

- 1 Make me a channel of your peace.  
Where there is hatred let me bring your love;  
where there is injury, your pardon, Lord;  
and where there's doubt, true faith in you.  
*Oh, Master, grant that I may never seek  
so much to be consoled as to console;*

*to be understood as to understand;  
to be loved, as to love with all my soul.*

- 2 Make me a channel of your peace.  
Where there' despair in life let me bring hope;  
where there is darkness, only light;  
and where there's sadness, ever joy.

*Oh, Master, grant that I may never seek  
so much to be consoled as to console;  
to be understood as to understand;  
to be loved, as to love with all my soul.*

- 3 Make me a channel of your peace.  
It is in pardoning that we are pardoned,  
in giving of ourselves that we receive;  
and in dying that we're born to eternal life.

## CHILDREN'S COLOURING PICTURE



## JOHN THE BAPTIST

*Matthew 3:3, Mark 1:3, Luke 3:4*

Other children's resources at: <https://sermons4kids.com/>

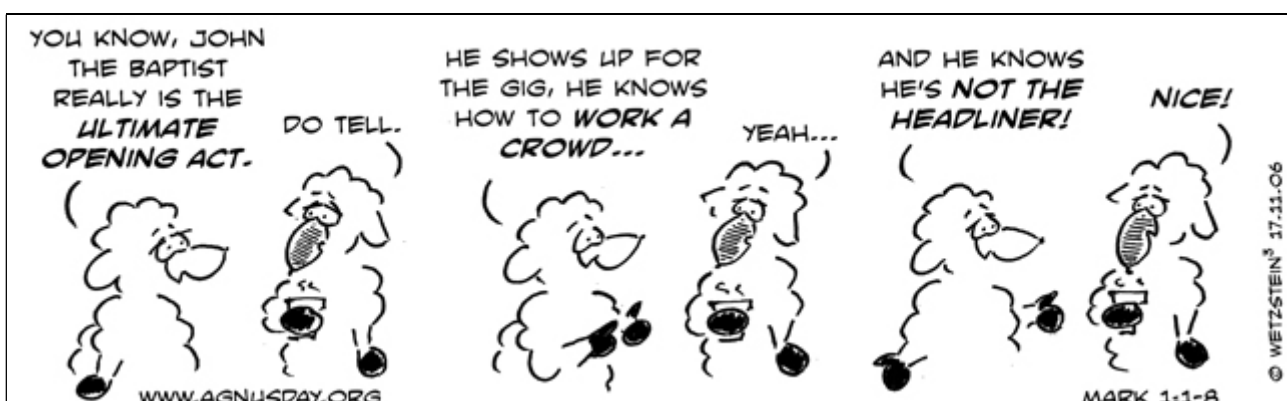
## NOTICES

- **Digital Worship** is held live every Sunday at 12.30 p.m. on Zoom (virtual doors open at 12:15). The Meeting ID is: 814 8465 3256. The Passcode is: 947371. For **data protection** reasons, private audio or video recordings of our Zoom worship services are NOT permitted. Please comply to respect each other's privacy.
- An **Advent Bible Study** is up and running on Thursdays at 19:30 hrs. Like our worship, these Bible studies are also using the conference platform Zoom. The Meeting ID is: 882 1296 9022. The Passcode is: 051157.
- The focus of the **Ecumenical Prayer Cycle** this week is on Cambodia, Laos and Vietnam. Please hold these countries and their people in your prayers this week: <https://www.oikoumene.org/resources/prayer-cycle/cambodia-laos-vietnam>
- Links to many other **online worship resources** provided by various churches, including the United Church of Christ, the Church of Scotland and others, have been posted on our website at: <http://ecc-bochum.de/online-resources/>
- The **Weltladen** (Fair Trade Store) has stocked up with more handmade full-face masks in aid of ECC church funds at a minimum price of € 5 per mask. *Weltladen* opening hours are Tuesday to Friday 14-17 hrs and Saturday 11-17 hrs.
- Almost 2,000 **English books** (mixed content) were donated recently to raise funds for the ECC. Contact Pastor Jimmy to arrange to buy your personal batch of books!
- Our **congregational income** has been dramatically affected by the corona crisis. Please consider donating by bank transfer in order that the ECC may continue to cover ongoing costs. Bank account details are as shown here. *Thank you.*

**Bank Account:** "Englische Gemeinde"

**IBAN:** DE89 4305 0001 0001 4132 36

**SWIFT-BIC:** WELADED1BOC (Sparkasse Bochum)



More lectionary cartoons at: <https://www.agnusday.org>