



ECC Bochum

English-speaking Christian Congregation

Digital Worship, 10 January 2021

Zoom access: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81484653256?pwd=ZFFHV25JSmc5S1M2SVVNNkcwc091QT09>

(Click the link to enter. The Zoom worship meeting will open at ca. 12:15 Central European Time on Sunday.)

PRELUDE: "In the Dark Night" (Ukrainian Orthodox Christmas Chant)

Watchword for the Week (Moravian Daily Texts 2021)

Ascribe to the Lord the glory of his name;
worship the Lord in holy splendour. (Psalm 29:2)

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

God of Christmas and Epiphany,
light of light, true God of true God, ***we bless you.***

God of new beginnings, hope of hope,
as we reach for this new year, ***we bless you.***

God of joy, delight of delight,
as we give thanks for all that is good, ***we bless you.***

God of new life, bringing fulness of life,
known to us in and through Christ, ***we come to praise you.***

HYMN *Thou, whose almighty word* (Church Hymnary 112, verses 1 and 4)

- 1 Thou, whose almighty word chaos and darkness heard,
and took their flight;
Hear us, we humbly pray, and where the Gospel's day
sheds not its glorious ray,
let there be light.
- 4 Blessèd and holy Three, glorious Trinity,
Wisdom, Love, Might,
boundless as ocean's tide, rolling in fullest pride,
through the world far and wide,
let there be light.

OPENING PRAYER

HYMN *Spirit of the living God* (Church Hymnary 619)

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me;
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.



CHILDREN'S TIME & SHARING GOD'S PEACE

SCRIPTURE READING Mark 1:4-11 (GNB New Testament, page 45)

This is the Good News about Jesus Christ, the Son of God. ² It began as the prophet Isaiah had written:

"God said, 'I will send my messenger ahead of you to open the way for you.'

³ Someone is shouting in the desert, 'Get the road ready for the Lord; make a straight path for him to travel!'"

⁴ So John appeared in the desert, baptizing and preaching. "Turn away from your sins and be baptized," he told the people, "and God will forgive your sins." ⁵ Many people from the province of Judea and the city of Jerusalem went out to hear John. They confessed their sins, and he baptized them in the Jordan River.

⁶ John wore clothes made of camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. ⁷ He announced to the people, "The man who will come after me is much greater than I am. I am not good enough even to bend down and untie his sandals. ⁸ I baptize you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

⁹ Not long afterward Jesus came from Nazareth in the province of Galilee, and was baptized by John in the Jordan. ¹⁰ As soon as Jesus came up out of the water, he saw heaven opening and the Spirit coming down on him like a dove. ¹¹ And a voice came from heaven, "You are my own dear Son. I am pleased with you."

RESPONSE The word of God: ***Thanks be to God!***

HYMN *Spirit of truth and grace* (Church Hymnary 608)

- 1 Spirit of truth and grace, come to us in this place
as now in Jesus' name God's people gather.
Open our eyes to see truths that will ever be,
and in communion draw us close together.
- 2 Spirit of joy and peace, make all anxieties cease
with knowledge of the Father's perfect caring.
Then may God's children know love that won't let us go
and joy that fills each day, beyond comparing.

- 3 Spirit of life and power, revive us in this hour
and stir our hearts to praise with true devotion.
Fill us with heavenly fire, and every heart inspire,
that we may serve the world with your compassion.

REFLECTION “Turning points. Defining moments.” (Revd James Brown)

HYMN *On Jordan’s bank the Baptist’s cry* (Church Hymnary 334)

- 1 On Jordan’s bank the Baptist’s cry
announces that the Lord is nigh;
awake and hearken for he brings
glad tidings of the King of kings.
- 2 Then cleansed by every heart from sin;
make straight the way for God within;
prepare we in our hearts a home,
where such a mighty Guest may come.
- 3 For you are our salvation, Lord,
our refuge and our great reward;
without your grace we waste away,
like flowers that wither and decay.
- 4 Stretch out your hand, to heal our sore,
and make us rise to fall no more;
once more upon your people shine,
and fill the world with love divine.
- 5 All praise to you, eternal Son,
whose advent has our freedom won,
whom with the Father we adore,
and Holy Spirit, evermore.

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.

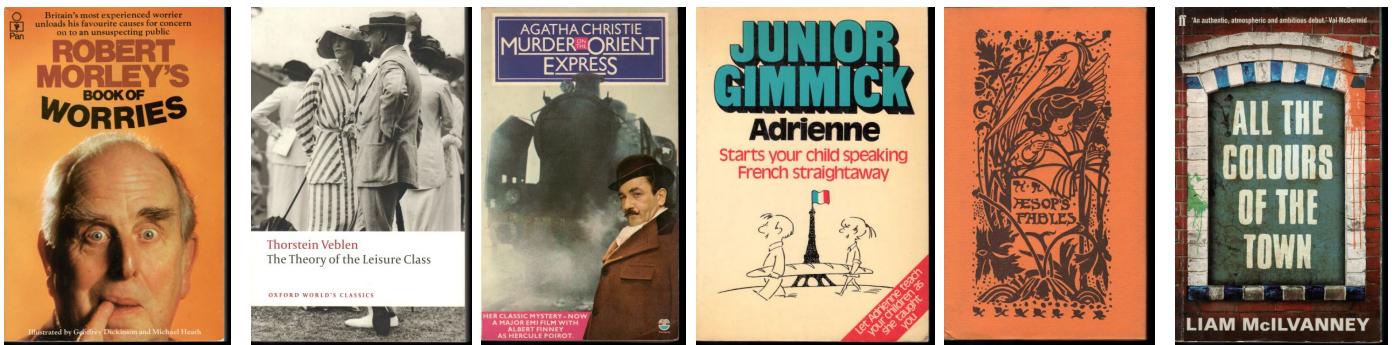
BLESSING (spoken together:)

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.

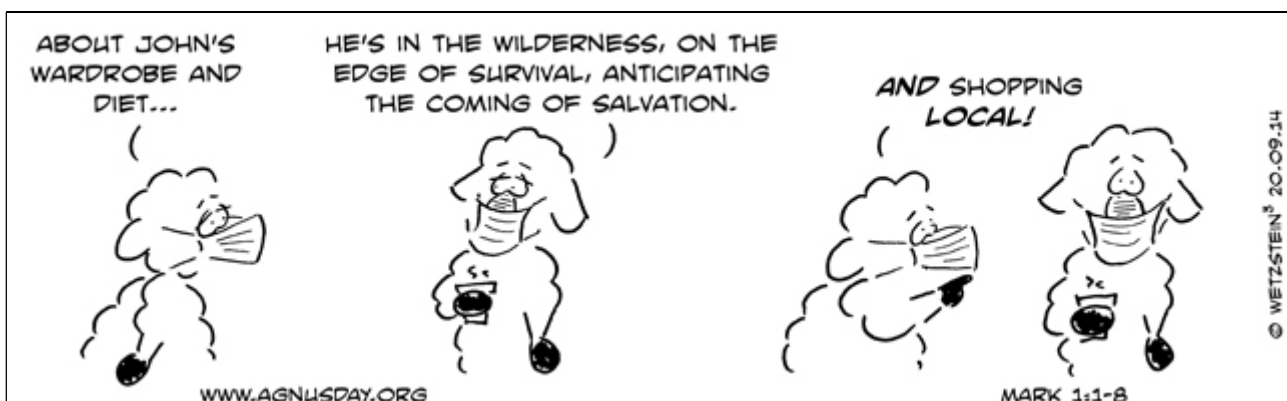
POSTLUDE: “Come, Holy Spirit” (Farsi Christian song from Iran)

NOTICES

- **Digital Worship** live every Sunday at 12.30 p.m. on Zoom (opens 12:15). Meeting ID: 814 8465 3256, Passcode: 947371. No private audio or video recordings to be made, please for **data protection** reasons. Videos of the hymns and (occasionally) reflection are posted in the worship section of the ECC website for viewing later.
- This week's **Ecumenical Prayer Cycle** focuses on the countries Iran, Iraq and Syria: <https://www.oikoumene.org/resources/prayer-cycle/iran-iraq-syria>
- Some ECC members are **reading the Bible** (roughly) **chronologically** throughout 2021. The readings for the coming week are all from the book of Job: Chapters 19-21 (Sun. 10), 22-26 (Mon. 11), 27-29 (Tue. 12), 30-31 (Wed. 13), 32-34 (Thu. 14), 35-37 (Fri. 15), 38-39 (Sat. 16) and 40-42 (Sun. 17).
- **Online worship resources** by various churches, including the UCC, the Church of Scotland and others, are on our website at: <http://ecc-bochum.de/online-resources/>



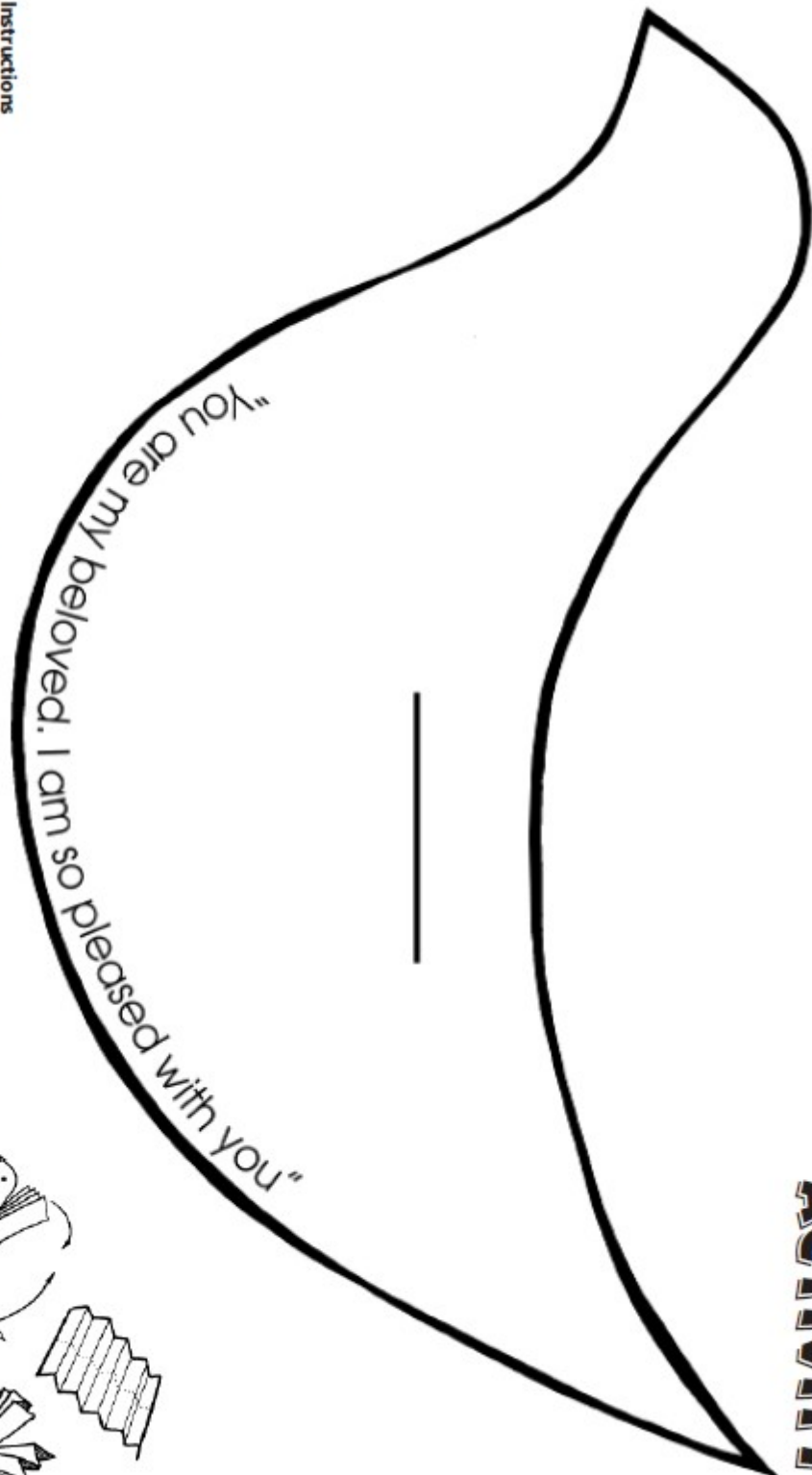
Literally 1000s of **English books** (mixed content) were donated to the ECC at the end of last year and are available for inspection at the 'Pfarrhaus', Neustraße 15. Phone Pastor Jimmy on 0234 13365 to arrange a time to browse and select a few books. Donations to the ECC funds are welcome for whatever books you choose!



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

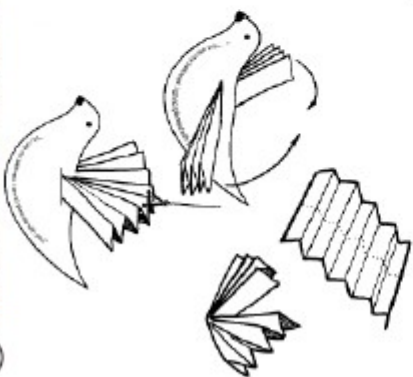
ECC Bank Account: "Englische Gemeinde"
IBAN: DE89 4305 0001 0001 4132 36
SWIFT-BIC: WELADED1BOC (Sparkasse Bochum)

Dove Mobile



Instructions

1. Photocopy or trace the dove pattern, decorate and cut it out.
2. Cut a slit as shown.
3. Accordion-fold a sheet of letter-size paper.
4. Insert accordion wing into the slit.
5. Bring both sides up and use a hole punch to make a hole at each end.
6. Insert yarn through the holes and tie ends to make a hanger.



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