

# ECC Bochum

English-speaking Christian Congregation

## Digital Worship 7 February 2021

Zoom access: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81484653256?pwd=ZFFHV25JSmcrS1M2SVVNNkcwc091QT09>

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

**PRELUDE:** "The heavens are telling the glory of God" (Haydn, "The Creation")

**Watchword for the Week** (Moravian Daily Texts 2021)

Great is our Lord, and abundant in power;  
his understanding is beyond measure. (Psalm 147:5)

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

We come together to praise God,  
***how good it is to sing praises.***

God heals the broken-hearted  
***and binds up their wounds,***

God created heaven and earth  
***and calls us each by name,***

God sustains the humble;  
***we put our hope in God's unfailing love.***

We come together to worship!  
***Let us sing to God's glory!***

**HYMN** *Sing of the Lord's goodness* (Church Hymnary 157)

1 Sing of the Lord's goodness Father of all wisdom,  
come to him and bless his name.

Mercy he has shown us, his love is forever,  
faithful to the end of days.

*Come, then, all you nations, sing of your Lord's goodness,  
melodies of praise and thanks to God.*

*Ring out the Lord's glory, praise him with your music,  
worship him and bless his name.*

- 2 Power he has wielded, honour is his garment  
risen from the snares of death.  
His word he has spoken, one bread he has broken,  
new life he now gives to all.
- 3 Courage in our darkness, comfort in our sorrow,  
Spirit of our God most high;  
solace for the weary, pardon for the sinner,  
splendour of the living God.
- 4 Praise him with your singing, praise him with the trumpet  
praise God with the lute and harp;  
praise him with the cymbals, praise him with your dancing,  
praise God till the end of days.

## **OPENING PRAYER**

## **CHILDREN'S TIME** "Groaning Competition"

### **HYMN** *Christ be beside me* (Hymnary 577)

- 1 Christ be beside me, Christ be before me,  
Christ be behind me, King of my heart.  
Christ be within me, Christ be below me,  
Christ be above me, never to part.
- 2 Christ on my right hand, Christ on my left hand,  
Christ all around me, shield in the strife.  
Christ in my sleeping, Christ in my sitting,  
Christ in my rising, light of my life.
- 3 Christ be in all hearts thinking about me,  
Christ be in all tongues telling of me.  
Christ be the vision in eyes that see me,  
in ears that hear me, Christ ever be.

## **SHARING GOD'S PEACE**

### **SCRIPTURE READING** Isaiah 40:21-31 (GNB Old Testament, page 702)

- <sup>21</sup> Do you not know?  
Were you not told long ago?  
Have you not heard how the world began?
- <sup>22</sup> It was made by the one who sits on his throne  
above the earth and beyond the sky;  
the people below look as tiny as ants.  
He stretched out the sky like a curtain,  
like a tent in which to live.

<sup>23</sup> He brings down powerful rulers  
 and reduces them to nothing.  
<sup>24</sup> They are like young plants,  
 just set out and barely rooted.  
 When the Lord sends a wind,  
 they dry up and blow away like straw.  
<sup>25</sup> To whom can the holy God be compared?  
 Is there anyone else like him?  
<sup>26</sup> Look up at the sky!  
 Who created the stars you see?  
 The one who leads them out like an army,  
 he knows how many there are  
 and calls each one by name!  
 His power is so great –  
 not one of them is ever missing!  
<sup>27</sup> Israel, why then do you complain  
 that the Lord doesn't know your troubles  
 or care if you suffer injustice?  
<sup>28</sup> Don't you know? Haven't you heard?  
 The Lord is the everlasting God;  
 he created all the world.  
 He never grows tired or weary.  
 No one understands his thoughts.  
<sup>29</sup> He strengthens those who are weak and tired.  
<sup>30</sup> Even those who are young grow weak;  
 young people can fall exhausted.  
<sup>31</sup> But those who trust in the Lord for help  
 will find their strength renewed.  
 They will rise on wings like eagles;  
 they will run and not get weary;  
 they will walk and not grow weak.

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

**REFLECTION** “Don’t you know? Haven’t you heard?” (Thoughts on Isaiah 40:21-31)

**HYMN** *Those who wait on the Lord* (Songs of God’s People 106)

- 1 Those who wait on the Lord shall renew their strength,  
*they shall rise up on wings as eagles,  
 they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint:  
 help us Lord, help us Lord in your way.*
- 2 Those who serve the suffering world shall renew their strength,
- 3 Those who live the risen life shall renew their strength,
- 4 Those who love the Mystery shall renew their strength,

- 5 Those who die on the march shall renew their strength,
- 6 Those who wait on the Lord shall renew their strength,

## 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** *O for a thousand tongues to sing* (Church Hymnary 352) (verses 1-2, 4, 6)

- 1 O for a thousand tongues to sing  
my great Redeemer's praise,  
the glories of my God and King,  
the triumphs of his grace!
- 2 Jesus! The name that charms our fears,  
that bids our sorrows cease;  
'tis music in the sinner's ears,  
'tis life, and health, and peace.
- 4 He speaks, and, listening to his voice,  
new life the dead receive,  
the mournful, broken hearts rejoice,  
the humble poor believe.
- 6 My gracious Master and my God,  
assist me to proclaim,  
to spread through all the earth abroad  
the honours of thy name.

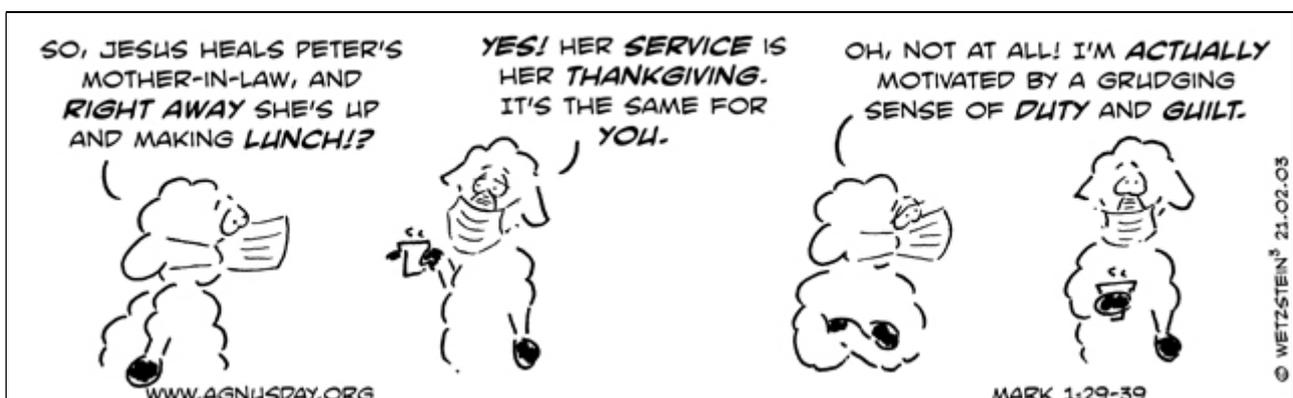
**BLESSING** (ending with these words, spoken together:)

***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:** "Tigi Salnatek – Our Father" (Andrew Cauchi, sung in Maltese)

## 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 hymns and reflection will be posted in the worship section of the ECC website for viewing after Sunday.
- Today's **worship team** includes: Justus Masa (Duty Elder), Gundi Dehling (Reader) and Jimmy Brown (Reflection).
- To **volunteer as a reader**, please check out the Doodle Reader's Rota poll: [https://doodle.com/poll/8iznq2f2fzgw9cin?utm\\_source=poll&utm\\_medium=link](https://doodle.com/poll/8iznq2f2fzgw9cin?utm_source=poll&utm_medium=link)
- Our choir director is looking for singers for the **digital recording project** to prepare songs for Lent and Easter. Please contact Hendrik on: hendrik.ziser(at)t-online.de
- This week's **Ecumenical Prayer Cycle** focuses on Andorra, Italy, Malta, Portugal, San Marino, Spain and Vatican City: <https://www.oikoumene.org/resources/prayer-cycle/andorra-italy-malta-portugal-san-marino-spain-vatican-city> We have sister congregations in four of these countries (Italy, Malta, Portugal and Spain) and you can learn more about them via the International Presbytery website: <https://internationalpresbytery.net/index.php/congregations-mainmenu-26>
- A group of people within the ECC are **reading the Bible chronologically** through 2021, following a special reading plan. If you would also like to take part, please contact Sebastian Stüwe on 0176 76496321 or sebastian.stuwe(at)mailbox.org
- **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/>
- **English books** are still available in the basement 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"  
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Those who trust in the  
Lord for help will find  
their strength renewed.  
They will rise on wings  
like eagles.

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