

ECC Bochum Digital Worship

English-speaking Christian Congregation

14 March 2021

Fourth Sunday of Lent

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: "Amazing grace" Guitar solo (Soren Madsen, Denmark)

Watchword for the Week (Moravian Daily Texts 2021)

By grace you have been saved through faith,
and it is not your own doing; it is the gift of God.
(Ephesians 2:8)

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

With nature in its power and beauty,
with rain and wind and sunshine,
with the ancient rocks and the budding flower,
we gather in praise of God.

With believers and seekers the whole world wide,
with people in every land,
and speakers of every language,
we gather in praise of God.

With the angels and saints in heaven,
with all who built community here,
and with all who have worshipped in this place,
we gather in praise of God.

With Jesus who promised his presence
and the Spirit who showers her blessings,
we gather in praise of God.

Here let heaven and earth embrace;
here may God's people find home.

HYMN *Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father* (Church Hymnary 153)

- 1 Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father,
there is no shadow of turning with thee;
thou changest not, thy compassions they fail not,
as thou hast been thou for ever wilt be.
Great is thy faithfulness! Great s thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see;
all I have needed thy hand hath provided –
great is the faithfulness, Lord, unto me.
- 2 Summer and winter, and seed-time and harvest,
sun, moon, and stars in their courses above,
join with all nature in manifold witness
to thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love.
- 3 Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide;
strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,
blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside.

OPENING PRAYER The Coventry Litany of Reconciliation

“All have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God.”

The hatred which divides nation from nation,
race from race, class from class, ***Father, forgive.***

The covetous desires of people and nations
to possess what is not their own, ***Father, forgive.***

The greed which exploits the work of human hands
and lays waste the earth, ***Father, forgive.***

Our envy of the welfare and happiness of others,
Father, forgive.

Our indifference to the plight of the imprisoned,
the homeless, the refugee, ***Father, forgive.***

The lust which dishonours the bodies of men,
women and children, ***Father, forgive.***

The pride which leads us to trust in ourselves
and not in God, ***Father, forgive.***

HYMN *Kyrie eleison* (Church Hymnary 776)

Kyrie eleison. Kyrie eleison. Kyrie eleison.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE & SHARING GOD'S PEACE

"Be kind to one another, tender hearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you."

CHILDREN'S TIME

SCRIPTURE READING Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22 (GNB Old Testament, page 604)

- 107 "Give thanks to the Lord, because he is good;
his love is eternal!"
- ² Repeat these words in praise to the Lord,
all you whom he has saved.
He has rescued you from your enemies
- ³ and has brought you back from foreign countries,
from east and west, from north and south.
- ¹⁷ Some were fools, suffering because of their sins
and because of their evil;
- ¹⁸ they couldn't stand the sight of food
and were close to death.
- ¹⁹ Then in their trouble they called to the Lord,
and he saved them from their distress.
- ²⁰ He healed them with his command
and saved them from the grave.
- ²¹ They must thank the Lord for his constant love,
for the wonderful things he did for them.
- ²² They must thank him with sacrifices,
and with songs of joy must tell all that he has done.

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

HYMN *Amazing grace, how sweet the sound* (Church Hymnary 555)

- 1 Amazing grace! How sweet the sound that saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found, was blind, but now I see.
- 2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and grace my fears relieved;
how precious did that grace appear the hour I first believed.
- [4] The Lord has promised good to me, his word my hope secures;
he will my shield and portion be as long as life endures.
- [3] Through many dangers, toils, and snares I have already come;
'tis grace has brought me safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.
- 5 When we've been there ten thousand years bright shining as the sun,
we've no less days to sing God's praise than when we first begun.
Praise God! Praise God! ... etc.

REFLECTION “Asking for the Ever-Creating Word” Revd Dr Anja Stuckenberg
(See extra sheet / file)

HYMN *Will your anchor hold in the storms of life?* (Church Hymnary 737)

- 1 Will your anchor hold in the storms of life,
when the clouds unfold their wings of strife?
When the strong tides lift, and the cables strain,
will your anchor drift, or firm remain?
*We have an anchor that keeps the soul
steadfast and sure while the billows roll;
fastened to the Rock which cannot move.
grounded firm and deep in the Saviour's love!*
- 2 Will your anchor hold in the straits of fear,
when the breakers roll and the reef is near?
While the surges rage, and the wild winds blow,
shall the angry waves then your bark o'erflow?
- 4 Will your eyes behold through the morning light
the city of gold and the harbour bright?
Will you anchor safe by the heavenly shore,
when life's storms are past for 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.

HYMN *Soon and very soon, we are going to see* (Church Hymnary 749)

- 1 Soon and very soon, we are going to see the King!
Hallelujah! Hallelujah! We're going to see the King!
- 2 No more crying there – we are going to see the King!
- 3 No more dying there – we are going to see the King!

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: Qissiat Greenland Men's Choir

NOTICES

Welcome to our digital English-language worship from Bochum, Germany, on the digital platform Zoom! We go live every Sunday at ca. 12:15 hrs CET for a 12:30 hrs start. Meeting ID: **814 8465 3256**, Passcode: **947371**.

- For **data protection** reasons, please don't make audio or video recordings of any part of the worship. Videos of hymns and of the reflection will be posted in the worship section of the ECC website for viewing afterwards (ecc-bochum.de).
- **Today's worship team** are Eric Obimdi (Duty Elder), Maureen Orji (Reader), Revd Jimmy Brown (Liturgy) and Revd Dr Anja Stuckenberg (Reflection).
- This week's **Ecumenical Prayer Cycle** focuses on Denmark, Faroe Islands, Finland, Greenland, Iceland, Norway and Sweden. Please pray for these countries and their peoples: <https://www.oikoumene.org/resources/prayer-cycle/denmark-faroe-islands-finland-greenland-iceland-norway-sweden>
- **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/>
- **Online Bible study** on the *Servant Songs in Isaiah*. Fourth meeting on **Tuesday 16 March** at 19:00 hrs. Zoom Meeting ID: 882 1296 9022, Passcode: 051157 <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88212969022?pwd=TWxWM3UrSkd5YzF0QIM1UWd3T3k5QT09>
Contact Pastor Jimmy for a booklet with the passages being studied.
- **Reading the Bible together** through 2021, supported in a Zoom group. Contact Sebastian Stüwe on 0176 76496321 or [sebastian.stuewe\(at\)mailbox.org](mailto:sebastian.stuewe(at)mailbox.org)
- **Volunteer as a reader** for Sunday worship. Check out the Doodle Reader's Rota poll: https://doodle.com/poll/8iznq2f2fzgw9cin?utm_source=poll&utm_medium=link



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

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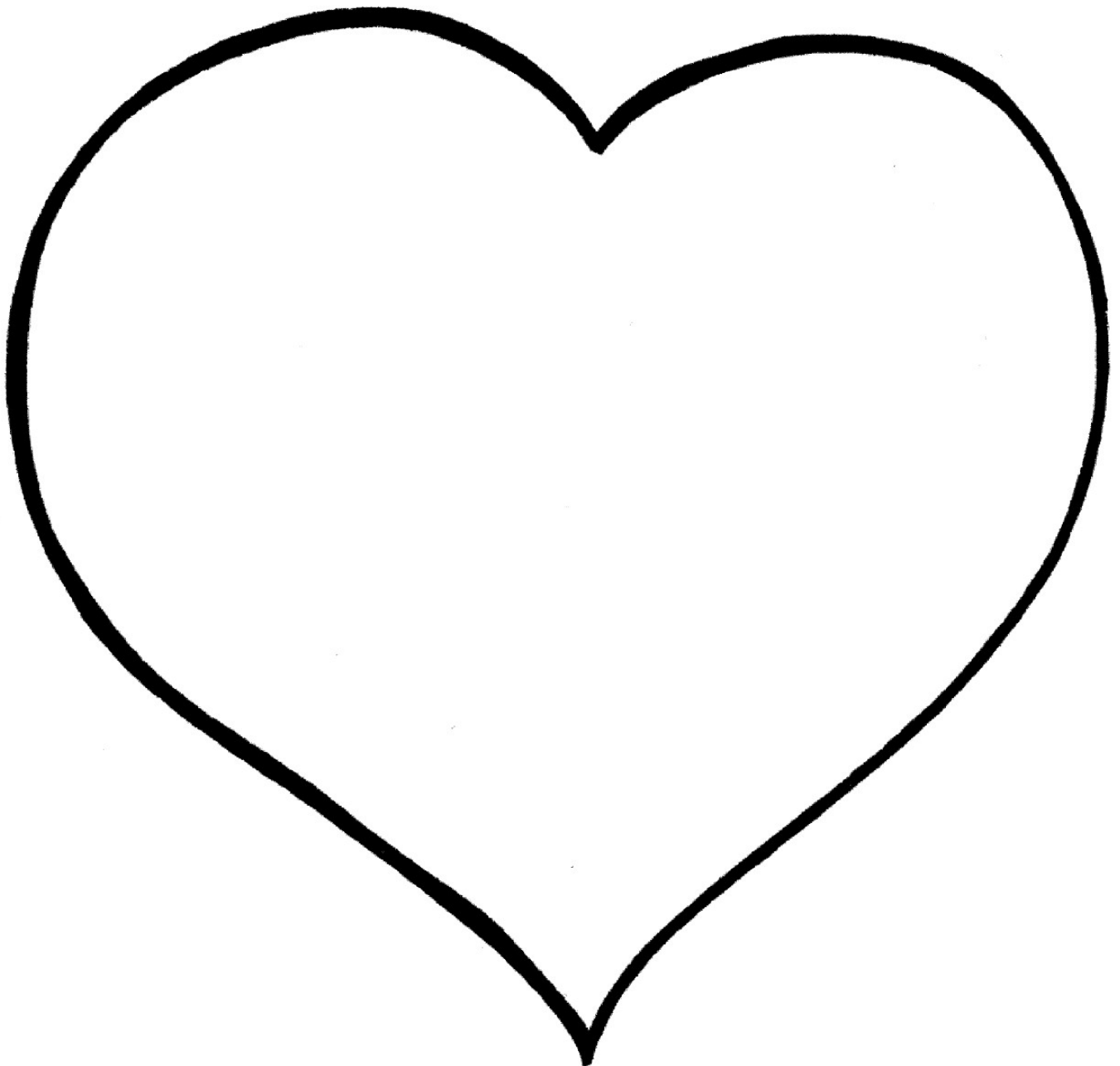
God's love goes on and on

God's love is all around. God loves us over and over and over again.

We can show God's love.

Draw a face on the heart shape, add arms and legs.

Where might you go to show God's love to others?



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