

# ECC Bochum Digital Worship

English-speaking Christian Congregation



## Good Friday, 2 April 2021

Zoom access: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81484653256?pwd=ZFFHV25JSmcS1M2SVVNNkcwc091QT09>

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

**BELLS:** Church bells of the Pauluskirche

**Watchword for Good Friday** (Moravian Daily Texts 2021)

For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son,  
so that everyone who believes in him may not perish  
but may have eternal life. (John 3:16)

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

My God, my God, we come to this forsaken day,  
***and our emotions and tears may seek to overwhelm us.***

As we witness the trial and execution of Jesus,  
we cannot help but to cry with him and the psalmist:  
***why have you forsaken him?***

In a time filled with abuse of power  
and oppression of the marginalised,  
***we cry out to you, O my God,  
and yet you do not answer.***

Or are we too jaded to hear the timeless message of Passion?  
***May we bow down before you, Lord God,  
and listen once more.***

**SCRIPTURE READING** St. John 18:1-14 (GNB New Testament, page 141)

Jesus left with his disciples and went across Kidron Brook. There was a garden in that place, and Jesus and his disciples went in. <sup>2</sup> Judas, the traitor, knew where it was, because many times Jesus had met there with his disciples. <sup>3</sup> So Judas went to the garden, taking with him a group of Roman soldiers, and some Temple guards sent by the chief priests and the

Pharisees; they were armed and carried lanterns and torches. <sup>4</sup> Jesus knew everything that was going to happen to him, so he stepped forward and asked them, “Who is it you are looking for?”

<sup>5</sup> “Jesus of Nazareth,” they answered.

“I am he,” he said.

Judas, the traitor, was standing there with them. <sup>6</sup> When Jesus said to them, “I am he,” they moved back and fell to the ground. <sup>7</sup> Again Jesus asked them, “Who is it you are looking for?”

“Jesus of Nazareth,” they said.

<sup>8</sup> “I have already told you that I am he,” Jesus said. “If, then, you are looking for me, let these others go.” (<sup>9</sup> He said this so that what he had said might come true: “Father, I have not lost even one of those you gave me.”)

<sup>10</sup> Simon Peter, who had a sword, drew it and struck the High Priest's slave, cutting off his right ear. The name of the slave was Malchus. <sup>11</sup> Jesus said to Peter, “Put your sword back in its place! Do you think that I will not drink the cup of suffering which my Father has given me?”

<sup>12</sup> Then the Roman soldiers with their commanding officer and the Jewish guards arrested Jesus, tied him up, <sup>13</sup> and took him first to Annas. He was the father-in-law of Caiaphas, who was High Priest that year. <sup>14</sup> It was Caiaphas who had advised the Jewish authorities that it was better that one man should die for all the people.

## **“WHO IS IT YOU WANT?”**

### **SCRIPTURE READING** St. John 18:19-38

<sup>19</sup> The High Priest questioned Jesus about his disciples and about his teaching. <sup>20</sup> Jesus answered, “I have always spoken publicly to everyone; all my teaching was done in the synagogues and in the Temple, where all the people come together. I have never said anything in secret. <sup>21</sup> Why, then, do you question me? Question the people who heard me. Ask them what I told them—they know what I said.”

<sup>22</sup> When Jesus said this, one of the guards there slapped him and said, “How dare you talk like that to the High Priest!”

<sup>23</sup> Jesus answered him, “If I have said anything wrong, tell everyone here what it was. But if I am right in what I have said, why do you hit me?”

<sup>24</sup> Then Annas sent him, still tied up, to Caiaphas the High Priest.

<sup>28</sup> Early in the morning Jesus was taken from Caiaphas' house to the governor's palace. The Jewish authorities did not go inside the palace, for they wanted to keep themselves ritually clean, in order to be able to eat the Passover meal. <sup>29</sup> So Pilate went outside to them and asked, “What do you accuse this man of?”

<sup>30</sup> Their answer was, "We would not have brought him to you if he had not committed a crime."

<sup>31</sup> Pilate said to them, "Then you yourselves take him and try him according to your own law."

They replied, "We are not allowed to put anyone to death." (<sup>32</sup> This happened in order to make come true what Jesus had said when he indicated the kind of death he would die.)

<sup>33</sup> Pilate went back into the palace and called Jesus. "Are you the king of the Jews?" he asked him.

<sup>34</sup> Jesus answered, "Does this question come from you or have others told you about me?"

<sup>35</sup> Pilate replied, "Do you think I am a Jew? It was your own people and the chief priests who handed you over to me. What have you done?"

<sup>36</sup> Jesus said, "My kingdom does not belong to this world; if my kingdom belonged to this world, my followers would fight to keep me from being handed over to the Jewish authorities. No, my kingdom does not belong here!"

<sup>37</sup> So Pilate asked him, "Are you a king, then?"

Jesus answered, "You say that I am a king. I was born and came into the world for this one purpose, to speak about the truth. Whoever belongs to the truth listens to me."

<sup>38</sup> "And what is truth?" Pilate asked.

**HYMN** *My song is love unknown* (Church Hymnary 399) omitting verse 4

- 1 My song is love unknown, my Saviour's love to me,  
love to the loveless shown, that they might lovely be.  
Oh, who am I, that for my sake  
my Lord should take frail flesh and die?
- 2 He came from his blest throne, salvation to bestow:  
but people scorned and none the longed-for Christ would know.  
But O my Friend, my Friend indeed,  
who at my need his life did spend!
- 3 Sometimes they strew his way, and his sweet praises sing;  
resounding all the day hosannas to their King.  
Then 'Crucify!' is all their breath,  
and for his death they thirst and cry.
- 5 They rise, and needs will have my dear Lord done away;  
a murderer they save, the Prince of Life they slay.  
Yet cheerful he to suffering goes,  
that he his foes from thence might free.

- 6 In life no house, no home my Lord on earth might have;  
in death, no friendly tomb but what a stranger gave.  
What may I say? Heaven was his home:  
but mine the tomb wherein he lay.
- 7 Here might I stay and sing: no story so divine;  
never was love, dear King, never was grief like thine!  
This is my Friend, in whose sweet praise  
I all my days would gladly spend.

## **SCRIPTURE READING** St. John 18:38 – 19:6, 14-22

Then Pilate went back outside to the people and said to them, “I cannot find any reason to condemn him. <sup>39</sup> But according to the custom you have, I always set free a prisoner for you during the Passover. Do you want me to set free for you the king of the Jews?”

<sup>40</sup> They answered him with a shout, “No, not him! We want Barabbas!”  
(Barabbas was a bandit.)

Then Pilate took Jesus and had him whipped. <sup>2</sup> The soldiers made a crown out of thorny branches and put it on his head; then they put a purple robe on him <sup>3</sup> and came to him and said, “Long live the King of the Jews!” And they went up and slapped him.

<sup>4</sup> Pilate went back out once more and said to the crowd, “Look, I will bring him out here to you to let you see that I cannot find any reason to condemn him.” <sup>5</sup> So Jesus came out, wearing the crown of thorns and the purple robe. Pilate said to them, “Look! Here is the man!”

<sup>6</sup> When the chief priests and the Temple guards saw him, they shouted, “Crucify him! Crucify him!”

Pilate said to them, “You take him, then, and crucify him. I find no reason to condemn him.”

<sup>14</sup> It was then almost noon of the day before the Passover. Pilate said to the people, “Here is your king!”

<sup>15</sup> They shouted back, “Kill him! Kill him! Crucify him!”

Pilate asked them, “Do you want me to crucify your king?”

The chief priests answered, “The only king we have is the Emperor!”

<sup>16</sup> Then Pilate handed Jesus over to them to be crucified.

So they took charge of Jesus. <sup>17</sup> He went out, carrying his cross, and came to “The Place of the Skull,” as it is called. (In Hebrew it is called “Golgotha.”)

<sup>18</sup> There they crucified him; and they also crucified two other men, one on each side, with Jesus between them. <sup>19</sup> Pilate wrote a notice and had it put on the cross. “Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews,” is what he wrote.

<sup>20</sup> Many people read it, because the place where Jesus was crucified was not far from the city. The notice was written in Hebrew, Latin, and Greek.

<sup>21</sup> The chief priests said to Pilate, "Do not write 'The King of the Jews,' but rather, 'This man said, I am the King of the Jews.'"

<sup>22</sup> Pilate answered, "What I have written stays written."

**PRAISE SONG** *What a beautiful name* (Debbie Hubweber & Charlotte Kreimer)

**SCRIPTURE READING** St. John 19:23-30, 38-42

<sup>23</sup> After the soldiers had crucified Jesus, they took his clothes and divided them into four parts, one part for each soldier. They also took the robe, which was made of one piece of woven cloth without any seams in it. <sup>24</sup> The soldiers said to one another, "Let's not tear it; let's throw dice to see who will get it." This happened in order to make the scripture come true:

"They divided my clothes among themselves  
and gambled for my robe."

And this is what the soldiers did.

<sup>25</sup> Standing close to Jesus' cross were his mother, his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. <sup>26</sup> Jesus saw his mother and the disciple he loved standing there; so he said to his mother, "He is your son."

<sup>27</sup> Then he said to the disciple, "She is your mother." From that time the disciple took her to live in his home.

<sup>28</sup> Jesus knew that by now everything had been completed; and in order to make the scripture come true, he said, "I am thirsty."

<sup>29</sup> A bowl was there, full of cheap wine; so a sponge was soaked in the wine, put on a stalk of hyssop, and lifted up to his lips. <sup>30</sup> Jesus drank the wine and said, "It is finished!"

Then he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.

<sup>38</sup> After this, Joseph, who was from the town of Arimathea, asked Pilate if he could take Jesus' body. (Joseph was a follower of Jesus, but in secret, because he was afraid of the Jewish authorities.) Pilate told him he could have the body, so Joseph went and took it away. <sup>39</sup> Nicodemus, who at first had gone to see Jesus at night, went with Joseph, taking with him about one hundred pounds of spices, a mixture of myrrh and aloes. <sup>40</sup> The two men took Jesus' body and wrapped it in linen cloths with the spices according to the Jewish custom of preparing a body for burial. <sup>41</sup> There was a garden in the place where Jesus had been put to death, and in it there was a new tomb where no one had ever been buried. <sup>42</sup> Since it was the day before the Sabbath and because the tomb was close by, they placed Jesus' body there.

**NARRATIVE OF THE INSTITUTION**

**TAKING OF BREAD AND WINE**



## COMMUNION PRAYER

The Lord be with you, ***and also with you.***

Lift up your hearts; ***we lift them to the Lord.***

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

***It is right to give our thanks and praise.***

It is indeed right ...

... Therefore, with your people of all places and times,  
and with the whole company of heaven,

we proclaim your greatness and sing your praise in the angels' song:

***Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.***

***Hosanna in the highest.***

***Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.***

***Hosanna in the highest.***

We bless you for his holy birth ...

... And here we offer and present to you our very selves,  
to be a living sacrifice, dedicated and fit for your acceptance;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

***Through him, with him, in him,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
all honour and glory are yours,  
almighty Father, now and forever. Amen.***

## 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.***

## COMMUNION

## PEACE

The peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

***Amen.***

## CLOSING PRAYER

**HYMN** *Were you there?* (Church Hymnary 403) verses on video differ from hymnbook

- 1    Were you there when they crucified my Lord?  
     Were you there when they crucified my Lord?  
     Oh! Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.  
     Were you there when they crucified my Lord?
- 2    Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?  
     Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?  
     Oh! Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.  
     Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?
- 3    Were you there when the stone was rolled away?  
     Were you there when the stone was rolled away?  
     Oh! Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.  
     Were you there when the stone was rolled away?

## DISMISSAL AND BLESSING

## 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).
- **Our Easter Worship** on Sunday 4 April will include an Easter message from Elungkiebe Zeliang of Zeme Baptist Church, Nagaland, North India.

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