

ECC Bochum Digital Worship

English-speaking Christian Congregation

9 May 2021

Sixth Sunday of Easter

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: "All hail the power of Jesus' name" St Andrews Kirk, Chennai, India

Watchword for the Week (Moravian Daily Texts 2021)

Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth;
break forth into joyous song and sing praises. (Psalm 98:4)

WELCOME & OPENING RESPONSES based on Psalm 98

(responses in bold-face italics)

Sing a new song to the LORD who has done wonderful things!

Sing praises to the LORD!

By his own power the Lord has won the victory
and made his saving power known to the nations.

Sing praises to the LORD!

Play music on the harps! Blow trumpets and horns,
and shout for joy to the LORD, our king.

Sing praises to the LORD!

Roar, sea, and every creature in you;
sing, earth, and all who live on you!

Sing praises to the LORD!

Sing together with joy before the Lord.
He will rule the peoples with justice and fairness.

Sing praises to the LORD!

HYMN *Praise the Lord with the sound of trumpet* (Church Hymnary 169)

- 1 Praise the Lord with the sound of trumpet,
praise the Lord with the harp and lute,
praise the Lord with the gentle sounding flute.

Praise the Lord in the field and forest,
praise the Lord in the city square,
praise the Lord anytime and anywhere.
Praise the Lord in the wind and sunshine,
praise the Lord in the dark of night,
praise the Lord in the rain or snow
or in the morning light.

Praise the Lord in the deepest valley,
praise the Lord on the highest hill,
praise the Lord; never let your voice be still.

- 2 Praise the Lord with the clashing cymbal,
praise the Lord with the pipe and string,
praise the Lord with the joyful songs you sing.
Praise the Lord on a weekday morning,
praise the Lord on a Sunday noon,
praise the Lord by the light of sun and moon.
Praise the Lord in the time of sorrow,
praise the Lord in the time of joy,
praise the Lord every moment;
nothing let your praise destroy.
Praise the Lord in the peace and quiet,
praise the Lord in your work or play,
praise the Lord everywhere in every way!

OPENING PRAYER (A prayer from India, Aruna Gnanadason)

When everything around seems to be collapsing into injustice and chaos
Creator God, teach us to love you
and to recognize that you hold the earth gently in your hands.
When we do not know just what to do and where to turn,
teach us to trust your wisdom,
so that we can discern your presence in events around us.
When we become unforgiving and vindictive,
teach us to grasp your tenderness,
and forgive us for all we do wrong.
When violence, fear and hatred seem to overtake us,
teach us to receive your compassion,
and steer our lives in the ways of justice and peace.
When we think we can go it alone,
teach us to depend on your grace,
so that with patience and persistence we can transform the world.
But most of all,
teach us to appreciate your goodness,
for in you we have new life! Amen.

CHILDREN'S TIME & SHARING GOD'S PEACE

SCRIPTURE READING John 15:9-17 (GNB New Testament, page 138)

“I love you just as the Father loves me; remain in my love. ¹⁰ If you obey my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have obeyed my Father's commands and remain in his love.

¹¹ “I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete. ¹² My commandment is this: love one another, just as I love you.

¹³ The greatest love you can have for your friends is to give your life for them. ¹⁴ And you are my friends if you do what I command you. ¹⁵ I do not call you servants any longer, because servants do not know what their master is doing. Instead, I call you friends, because I have told you everything I heard from my Father. ¹⁶ You did not choose me; I chose you and appointed you to go and bear much fruit, the kind of fruit that endures. And so the Father will give you whatever you ask of him in my name.

¹⁷ This, then, is what I command you: love one another.”

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

HYMN *A new commandment I give unto you*

A new commandment I give unto you
that you love one another as I have loved you,
that you love one another as I have loved you.
By this may all know you are my disciples
if you have love one for another;
by this may all know you are my disciples
if you have love one for another.

REFLECTION Love? So, what else is new!?! (Revd James Brown)

HYMN *Let us build a house* (Church Hymnary 198, 1-2 + 5)

- 1 Let us build a house where love can dwell
and all can safely live,
a place where saints and children tell
how hearts learn to forgive;
built of hopes and dreams and visions,
rock of faith and vault of grace;
here the love of Christ shall end divisions:
*All are welcome, all are welcome,
all are welcome in this place.*
- 2 Let us build a house where prophets speak,
and words are strong and true,
where all God's children dare to seek
to dream God's reign anew.
Here the cross shall stand as witness
and as symbol of God's grace;

here as one we claim the faith of Jesus:

*All are welcome, all are welcome,
all are welcome in this place.*

- 5 Let us build a house where all are named,
their songs and visions heard
and loved and treasured, taught and claimed
as words within the Word.

Built of tears and cries and laughter,
prayers of faith and songs of grace,
let this house proclaim from floor to rafter:

*All are welcome, all are welcome,
all are welcome in this place.*

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 / BLESSING / POSTLUDE *Shalom, shalom* (Church Hymnary 208)

*Shalom, shalom, peace to his people,
shalom, shalom, the grace of God be with you,
now and for ever.*

- 1 The love of God be with you,
a boundless love with no measure,
a love you must daily treasure now and for ever.
- 2 The grace of God be with you,
a loving grace with no measure,
his grace and favour we treasure now and for ever.
- 3 The peace of God be with you,
a quiet calm with no measure,
God's loving peace you must treasure now and for ever.

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 record any part of worship. Hymn and reflection videos will be posted for viewing on the ECC website (ecc-bochum.de).
- The new **online Bible study** *Sing and Study* exploring some of our favourite hymns continues on **Tuesday 11 May** at 19:00 hrs. This week's session will be led by Pastor Jimmy. Zoom Meeting ID: 882 1296 9022, Passcode: 051157
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88212969022?pwd=TWxWM3UrSkd5YzF0QIM1UWd3T3k5QT09>
- **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)
- This week's **Ecumenical Prayer Cycle** focuses on India, Pakistan and Sri Lanka: <https://www.oikoumene.org/resources/prayer-cycle/india-pakistan-sri-lanka>
- **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/>



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

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CHILDREN'S ACTIVITY PAGE

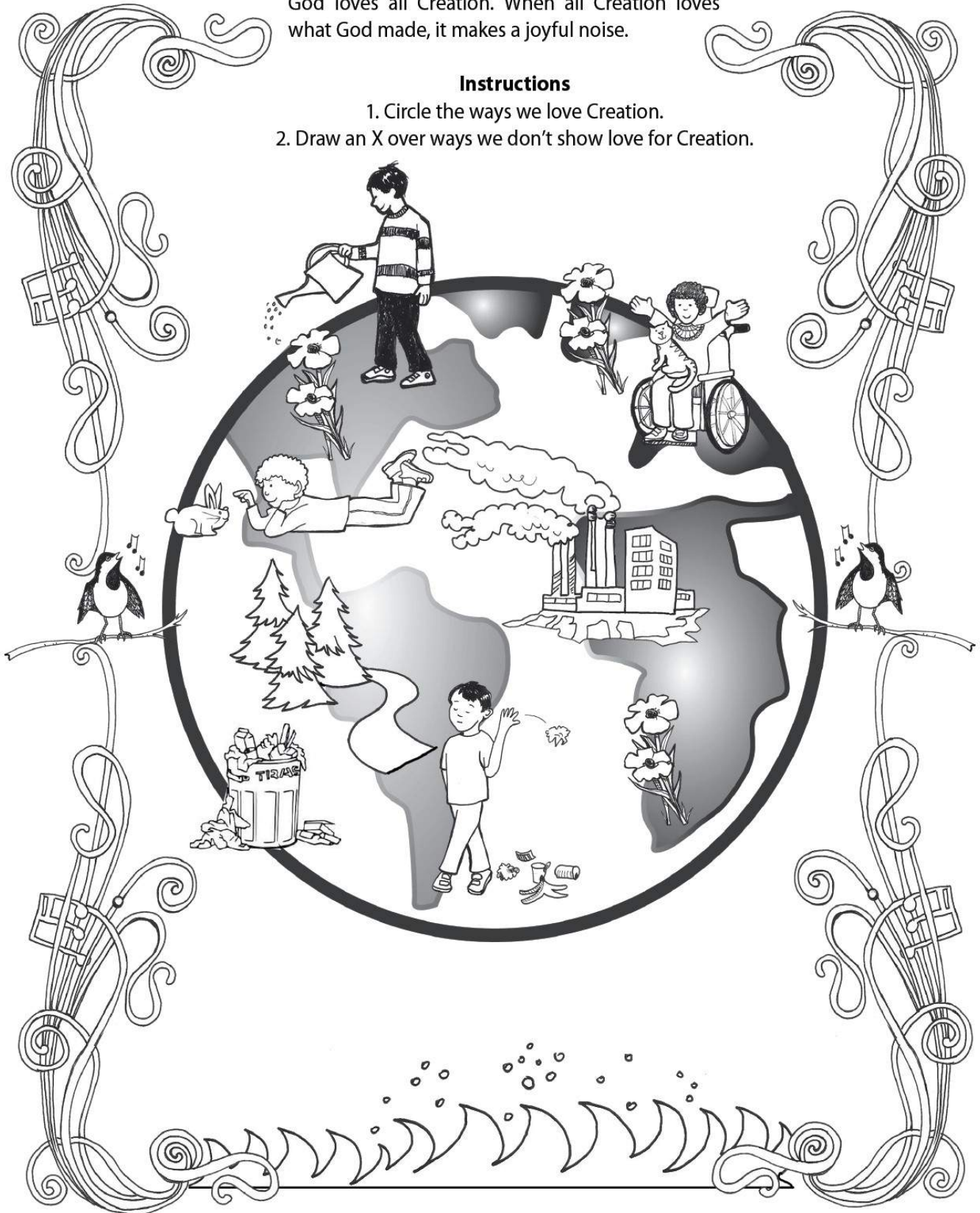
Jesus taught about God's love. A poet once wrote about joining together with all creation to **sing to God a joyful song** (Psalm 98).



God loves all Creation. When all Creation loves what God made, it makes a joyful noise.

Instructions

1. Circle the ways we love Creation.
2. Draw an X over ways we don't show love for Creation.



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