

ECC Digital Worship

English-speaking Christian Congregation

30 May 2021
Trinity Sunday

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: “Utima wange” (‘My heart is thirsting’) Umbundu Praise Song, Angola
(My heart is thirsting for him. My heart is joyful. Lord God the Creator.)

Watchword for the Week (Moravian Daily Texts 2021)

Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts;
the whole earth is full of his glory.
(Isaiah 6:3)

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

From the distant galaxies to the invisible atom,
from the highest of mountains to the depths of the sea,
you, O God, created it all. ***Thank you, Creator God.***

As a baby in a manger born, a curious teenager,
a courageous prophet, a wise teacher, and faithful friend,
you, O God, have saved us all. ***Thank you, Redeeming God.***

For the inspiration of the scriptures, the whisper of creativity,
and the empowerment of gifts, ***thank you, Sustaining God.***

In your unity, diversity, divinity and mystery,
we praise you, Triune God.

Come, let us worship.

HYMN *Holy, holy, holy, Lord God almighty!* (Church Hymnary 111)

- 1 Holy, holy, holy, Lord God almighty!
early in the morning our song shall rise to thee;
holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty!
God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

- 2 Holy, holy, holy! All the saints adore thee,
casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea;
cherubim and seraphim falling down before thee,
God ever living through eternity.
- 3 Holy, holy, holy! Though the darkness hide thee,
though the sinful human eye thy glory may not see,
only thou art holy; there is none beside thee,
perfect in power, in love, and purity.
- 4 Holy, holy, holy, Lord God almighty!
all thy works shall praise thy name in earth and sky and sea;
holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty!
God in three persons, blessed Trinity.

OPENING PRAYER & SHARING GOD'S PEACE

CHILDREN'S TIME & SONG

God Creator, God Creator; God the Son, God the Son;
God the Holy Spirit, God the Holy Spirit; Three in One, Three in One

SCRIPTURE READING: John 3:1-17 (GNB New Testament, page 119)

There was a Jewish leader named Nicodemus, who belonged to the party of the Pharisees. ² One night he went to Jesus and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher sent by God. No one could perform the miracles you are doing unless God were with him."

³ Jesus answered, "I am telling you the truth: no one can see the Kingdom of God without being born again."

⁴ "How can a grown man be born again?" Nicodemus asked. "He certainly cannot enter his mother's womb and be born a second time!"

⁵ "I am telling you the truth," replied Jesus, "that no one can enter the Kingdom of God without being born of water and the Spirit. ⁶ A person is born physically of human parents, but is born spiritually of the Spirit. ⁷ Do not be surprised because I tell you that you must all be born again. ⁸ The wind blows wherever it wishes; you hear the sound it makes, but you do not know where it comes from or where it is going. It is like that with everyone who is born of the Spirit."

⁹ "How can this be?" asked Nicodemus.

¹⁰ Jesus answered, "You are a great teacher in Israel, and you don't know this? ¹¹ I am telling you the truth: we speak of what we know and report what we have seen, yet none of you is willing to accept our message. ¹² You do not believe me when I tell you about the things of this world; how will you ever believe me, then, when I tell you about the things of heaven? ¹³ And no

one has ever gone up to heaven except the Son of Man, who came down from heaven.”

¹⁴ As Moses lifted up the bronze snake on a pole in the desert, in the same way the Son of Man must be lifted up, ¹⁵ so that everyone who believes in him may have eternal life. ¹⁶ For God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not die but have eternal life. ¹⁷ For God did not send his Son into the world to be its judge, but to be its saviour.

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

CONFESSION OF FAITH The Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
and became truly human.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father [and the Son],
who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

ANTHEM The Lord bless you and keep you (John Rutter)

REFLECTION Revd Dr Anja Stuckenberger

HYMN *Come, join the dance of Trinity* (Tune: Kingsfold)

- 1 Come, join the dance of Trinity, before all worlds begun –
the interweaving of the Three, the Father, Spirit, Son.
The universe of space and time did not arise by chance,
but as the Three, in love and hope, made room within their dance.
- 2 Come, see the face of Trinity, new-born in Bethlehem;
then bloodied by a crown of thorns outside Jerusalem.
The dance of Trinity is meant for human flesh and bone;
when fear confines the dance in death, God rolls away the stone.
- 3 Come, speak aloud of Trinity, as wind and tongues of flame
set people free at Pentecost to tell the Saviour's name.
We know the yoke of sin and death, our necks have worn it smooth;
go tell the world of weight and woe that we are free to move!
- 4 Within the dance of Trinity, before all worlds begun,
we sing the praises of the Three, the Father, Spirit, Son.
Let voices rise and interweave, by love and hope set free,
to shape in song this joy, this life: the dance of Trinity.

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 *Praise with joy the world's Creator* (Tune: Praise My Soul)

- 1 Praise with joy the world's Creator, God of justice, love and peace.
Source and end of human knowledge, grace bestowing without cease.
Celebrate the Maker's glory, power to rescue and release.
- 2 Praise to Christ who feeds the hungry, frees the captive, finds the lost,
heals the sick, upsets religion, fearless both of fate and cost.
Celebrate Christ's constant presence: Friend and Stranger, Guest and Host.
- 3 Praise the Spirit sent among us, liberating truth from pride,
forging bonds where race or gender, age or nation dare divide.
Celebrate the Spirit's treasure – foolishness none dare deride.
- 4 Praise the Maker, Christ, and Spirit, one God in community,
calling Christians to embody oneness and diversity.
This the world shall see reflected – God is one and one in three.

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, evermore. Amen.

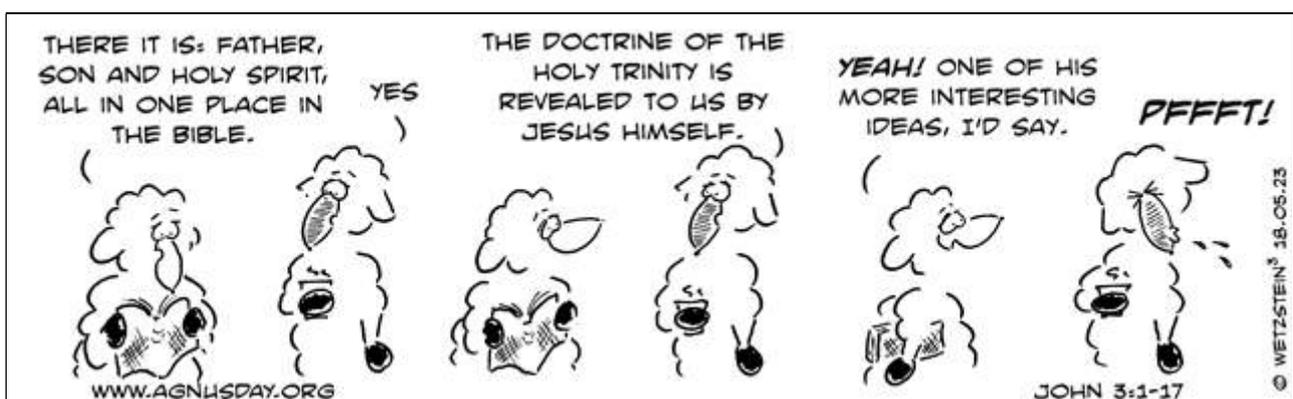
POSTLUDE: Church Song Compilation (Napipine Anglican Church, NE Mozambique)
(Let me walk with Jesus / There is no one like the Lord / My life is preserved by a purpose)



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).
- **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@mailbox.org)
- This week's **Ecumenical Prayer Cycle** focuses on the Angola and Mozambique: <https://www.oikoumene.org/resources/prayer-cycle/angola-mozambique>
- **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/>

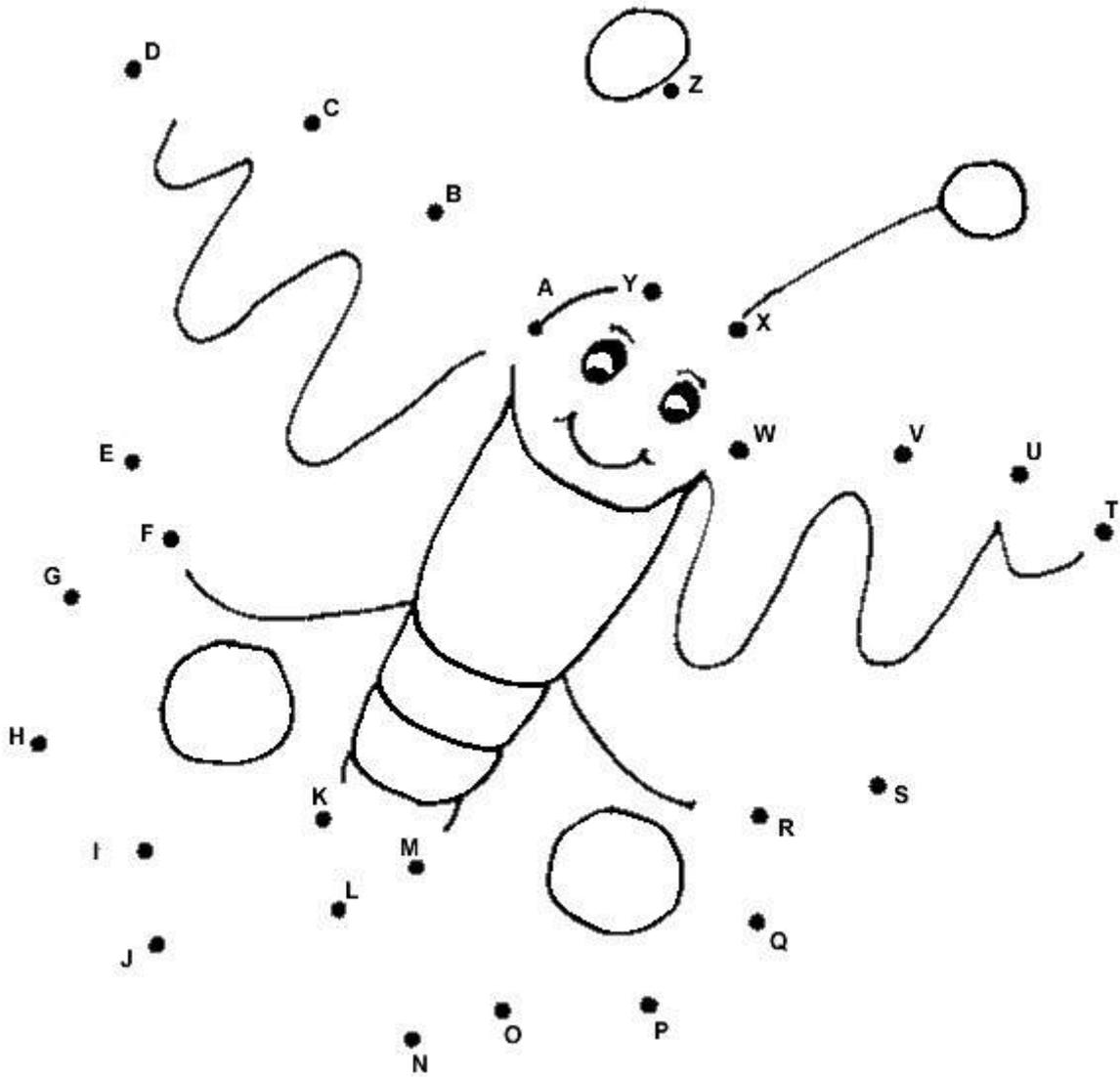


More lectionary cartoons at: <https://www.agnusday.org>

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CHILDREN'S ACTIVITY PAGE

Connect the dots and then colour the picture



Anyone who is joined to Christ is a new being;
the old is gone, the new has come.
(2 Corinthians 5:17)

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