

# Digital Worship

# 20 June 2021

English-speaking Christian Congregation, Bochum

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:** Limbe Mvano Women's Guild Choir, Malawi (A song about faith in Jesus)

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

O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;  
for his steadfast love endures forever. (Psalm 107:1)

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

From the corners of the world,  
from the confusion of life,  
from the loneliness of our hearts,  
***gather us, O God.***

To feed our minds,  
to fire our imaginations,  
to free our hearts,  
***gather us, O God.***

That our faith may grow stronger,  
that our hope may be surer,  
and our love may be greater,  
***gather us, O God.***

**HYMN** *Soldiers of Christ, arise* (Church Hymnary 515)

- 1 Soldiers of Christ, arise,  
and put your armour on,  
strong in the strength which God supplies  
through his eternal Son;

strong in the Lord of hosts,  
and in his mighty power;  
who in the strength of Jesus trusts  
is more than conqueror.

- 2 Stand then, in his great might,  
with all his strength endued;  
and take, to arm you for the fight,  
the panoply of God.  
To keep your armour bright  
attend with constant care,  
still walking in your Captain's sight,  
and watching unto prayer.
- 3 From strength to strength go on,  
wrestle, and fight, and pray;  
tread all the powers of darkness down,  
and win the well-fought day,  
that, having all things done  
and all your conflicts passed,  
you may o'ercome through Christ alone,  
and stand complete at last.



## OPENING PRAYER

## CHILDREN'S TIME & SHARING GOD'S PEACE

### SCRIPTURE READING: 1 Samuel 17:1a, 4-11, 32-49 (GNB OT, p. 281)

<sup>1</sup> The Philistines gathered for battle in Socoh, a town in Judah.

<sup>4</sup> A man named Goliath, from the city of Gath, came out from the Philistine camp to challenge the Israelites. He was over nine feet tall <sup>5</sup> and wore bronze armour that weighed about 125 pounds and a bronze helmet. <sup>6</sup> His legs were also protected by bronze armour, and he carried a bronze javelin slung over his shoulder. <sup>7</sup> His spear was as thick as the bar on a weaver's loom, and its iron head weighed about fifteen pounds. A soldier walked in front of him carrying his shield. <sup>8</sup> Goliath stood and shouted at the Israelites, "What are you doing there, lined up for battle? I am a Philistine, you slaves of Saul! Choose one of your men to fight me. <sup>9</sup> If he wins and kills me, we will be your slaves; but if I win and kill him, you will be our slaves. <sup>10</sup> Here and now I challenge the Israelite army. I dare you to pick someone to fight me!"

<sup>11</sup> When Saul and his men heard this, they were terrified.

<sup>32</sup> David said to Saul, "Your Majesty, no one should be afraid of this Philistine! I will go and fight him."

<sup>33</sup> "No," answered Saul. "How could you fight him? You're just a boy, and he has been a soldier all his life!"

<sup>34</sup> “Your Majesty,” David said, “I take care of my father's sheep. Any time a lion or a bear carries off a lamb, <sup>35</sup> I go after it, attack it, and rescue the lamb. And if the lion or bear turns on me, I grab it by the throat and beat it to death. <sup>36</sup> I have killed lions and bears, and I will do the same to this heathen Philistine, who has defied the army of the living God. <sup>37</sup> The Lord has saved me from lions and bears; he will save me from this Philistine.”

“All right,” Saul answered. “Go, and the Lord be with you.” <sup>38</sup> He gave his own armour to David for him to wear: a bronze helmet, which he put on David's head, and a coat of armour. <sup>39</sup> David strapped Saul's sword over the armour and tried to walk, but he couldn't, because he wasn't used to wearing them. “I can't fight with all this,” he said to Saul. “I'm not used to it.” So he took it all off. <sup>40</sup> He took his shepherd's stick and then picked up five smooth stones from the stream and put them in his bag. With his sling ready, he went out to meet Goliath.

<sup>41</sup> The Philistine started walking toward David, with his shield bearer walking in front of him. He kept coming closer, <sup>42</sup> and when he got a good look at David, he was filled with scorn for him because he was just a nice, good-looking boy. <sup>43</sup> He said to David, “What's that stick for? Do you think I'm a dog?” And he called down curses from his god on David. <sup>44</sup> “Come on,” he challenged David, “and I will give your body to the birds and animals to eat.”

<sup>45</sup> David answered, “You are coming against me with sword, spear, and javelin, but I come against you in the name of the Lord Almighty, the God of the Israelite armies, which you have defied. <sup>46</sup> This very day the Lord will put you in my power; I will defeat you and cut off your head. And I will give the bodies of the Philistine soldiers to the birds and animals to eat. Then the whole world will know that Israel has a God, <sup>47</sup> and everyone here will see that the Lord does not need swords or spears to save his people. He is victorious in battle, and he will put all of you in our power.”

<sup>48</sup> Goliath started walking toward David again, and David ran quickly toward the Philistine battle line to fight him. <sup>49</sup> He reached into his bag and took out a stone, which he slung at Goliath. It hit him on the forehead and broke his skull, and Goliath fell face downward on the ground.

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

**HYMN** *Who would true valour see* (Church Hymnary 535)

- 1 Who would true valour see, let him come hither;  
one here will constant be, come wind, come weather;  
there's no discouragement shall make him once relent  
his first avowed intent to be a pilgrim.
- 2 Whoso beset him round with dismal stories,  
do but themselves confound; his strength the more is.  
No lion can him fright; he'll with a giant fight,  
but he will have a right to be a pilgrim.

- 3 Hobgoblin nor foul fiend can daunt his spirit;  
he knows he at the end shall life inherit.  
Then fancies fly away; he'll fear not what men say;  
he'll labour night and day to be a pilgrim.

## REFLECTION "Facing Up to Our Giants" Revd James Brown

### HYMN *Will your anchor hold?* (Church Hymnary 737, 1-2 + 4)

- 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 roar 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 *Look forward in faith* (Church Hymnary 237)

- 1 Look forward in faith, all time is in God's hand.  
Walk humbly with him and trust his future plan.  
God has wisely led his people by his power.  
Look forward in hope, he gives us each new hour.
- 2 Look forward in faith, the world is in God's care.  
His purpose of love he calls on us to share.

In our neighbour's need the Lord is present still.  
He blesses the meek! The earth will know God's will.

- 3 Look forward in faith. God gives us life each day.  
Go onward with Christ, his Spirit guides our way.  
Now God lets us live within the sphere of grace.  
Trust ever in him, he rules o'er earth and space!

## CLOSING RESPONSES & BLESSING

For all that God can do within us,  
for all that God can do without us, ***thanks be to God.***

For all in whom Christ lived before us,  
for all in whom Christ lives beside us, ***thanks be to God.***

For all the Spirit wants to bring us,  
for where the Spirit wants to send us, ***thanks be to God.***

For each other, and for our community in faith:

***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:** "Alleluia" (Lady of Angels Catholic Church Choir, Livingstone, Zambia)



## 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
- This week's **Ecumenical Prayer Cycle** focuses on Malawi and Zambia:  
<https://www.oikoumene.org/resources/prayer-cycle/malawi-zambia>
- **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/>

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## CHILDREN'S WORD SEARCH PUZZLE

### David & Goliath

Reaching into his bag and taking out a stone, he slung it and struck the Philistine on the forehead. The stone sank into his forehead, and he fell facedown on the ground. 1 Samuel 17:49 (NIV)

The puzzle is based on 1 Samuel 17:32-49



J T J H O S A C J C Q J J B X  
S T O N E S T D H Z C A A E A  
U T G Z C H R A X A C B V A I  
A S A T U E S E F X M O E R P  
H X L L H L L T V F Q P L P L  
P C M P L M V P R Q S P I T I  
M H E K G E H D Y E J L N O O  
P H I G O T L J F Z A R I S N  
S U T L L E F C Y Z U M D N M  
D I C U I Q S W O R D E A R G  
S O X H A S H K U A Z C V Z M  
M P S W T Q T Z R N T F I D D  
P T E T H X Q I O T Q R D K R  
S L H A N S V R N E C P W I U  
Y M S I R Z B X E E A R M O R

LION	COAT	STREAM	BEAR	CHAMPION
TALL	ARMOR	SHIELD	STONES	PHILISTINE
JAVELIN	BRONZE	HELMET	STAFF	DAVID
SLING	SWORD	SPEAR	GOLIATH	SHEPHERD

Can you find all the words listed? They are hidden in the word square and can be read across (left to right), down (top to bottom) or diagonally (bottom up or top down).

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