

Sunday Worship

18 July 2021



English-speaking Christian Congregation, Bochum

ORGAN PRELUDE

Watchword for the Week (Moravian Daily Texts 2021)

So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are citizens with the saints and members of the household of God. (Ephesians 2:19)

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

Where shall we find you, O God?

***We shall find you among the star-fields,
in supernovas and solar systems.***

Where shall we find you, O God?

***We shall find you dancing through the mountains
that stretch high and wide across our planet.***

Where shall we find you, O God?

***We shall find you flowing through the rivers as they
wind their way to the vast blue oceans.***

Where shall we find you, O God?

***We shall find you among the cedars of Lebanon
in the forests that sway and bend in the breeze.***

Where shall we find you, O God?

***We shall find you among the people of faith
who give your justice a home in their living.***

Where shall we find you, O God?

We shall find you here and we worship you.

HYMN *Fairest Lord Jesus* (Church Hymnary 463)

- 1 Fairest Lord Jesus, ruler of all nature,
O thou of God and Man the Son;
thee will I cherish, thee will I honour,
thou my soul's glory, joy, and crown.
- 2 Fair are the meadows, fairer still the woodlands,
robed in the verdure and bloom of spring.
Jesus is fairer, Jesus is purer,
he makes the saddest heart to sing.
- 3 Fair is the sunshine, fairer still the moonlight,
and fair the twinkling starry host;
Jesus shines brighter, Jesus shines purer
than all the stars that heaven can boast.

OPENING PRAYER & SHARING GOD'S PEACE

CHILDREN'S TIME

SCRIPTURE READING: 2 Samuel 7:1-14a (GNB Old Testament, page 304)

King David was settled in his palace, and the Lord kept him safe from all his enemies. ² Then the king said to the prophet Nathan, "Here I am living in a house built of cedar, but God's Covenant Box is kept in a tent!"

³ Nathan answered, "Do whatever you have in mind, because the Lord is with you." ⁴ But that night the Lord said to Nathan, ⁵ "Go and tell my servant David that I say to him, 'You are not the one to build a temple for me to live in.' ⁶ From the time I rescued the people of Israel from Egypt until now, I have never lived in a temple; I have travelled around living in a tent. ⁷ In all my traveling with the people of Israel I never asked any of the leaders that I appointed why they had not built me a temple made of cedar.'

⁸ "So tell my servant David that I, the Lord Almighty, say to him, 'I took you from looking after sheep in the fields and made you the ruler of my people Israel. ⁹ I have been with you wherever you have gone, and I have defeated all your enemies as you advanced. I will make you as famous as the greatest leaders in the world. ¹⁰⁻¹¹ I have chosen a place for my people Israel and have settled them there, where they will live without being oppressed any more. Ever since they entered this land, they have been attacked by violent people, but this will not happen again. I promise to keep you safe from all your enemies and to give you descendants. ¹² When you die and are buried with your ancestors, I will make one of your sons king and will keep his kingdom strong. ¹³ He will be the one to build a temple for me, and I will make sure that his dynasty continues forever. ¹⁴ I will be his father, and he will be my son.

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

HYMN *Let us build a house* (Church Hymnary 198) 1-2, 4-5

- 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 God 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:
- 4 Let us build a house where hands will reach beyond the wood and stone
to heal and strengthen, serve and teach, and live the Word they've known.
Here the outcast and the stranger
bear the image of God's face;
let us bring an end to fear and danger:
- 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:

REFLECTION "Of Tents and Temples" Revd James Brown (Church of Scotland)

HYMN *Lord, for the years* (Church Hymnary 159) 1-2, 4-5

- 1 Lord, for the years your love has kept and guided,
urged and inspired us, cheered us on our way,
sought us and saved us, pardoned and provided,
Lord of the years, we bring our thanks today.
- 2 Lord, for that word, the Word of life which fires us,
speaks to our hearts and sets our souls ablaze,
teaches and trains, rebukes us and inspires us,
Lord of the word, receive your people's praise.
- 4 Lord, for our world; when we disown and doubt him,
loveless in strength, and comfortless in pain;
hungry and helpless, lost indeed without him,
Lord of the world, we pray that Christ may reign.
- 5 Lord, for ourselves; in living power remake us,
self on the cross and Christ upon the throne;
past put behind us, for the future take us,
Lord of our lives, to live for Christ alone.

NOTICES

PRAYERS FOR OTHERS

THE LORD'S PRAYER

(Please pray the Lord's Prayer 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 *One more step along the world I go* (Church Hymnary 530) 1-2, 4-5

- 1 One more step along the world I go,
one more step along the world I go;
from the old things to the new
keep me travelling along with you:
*And it's from the old I travel to the new;
keep me travelling along with you.*
- 2 Round the corners of the world I turn,
more and more about the world I learn;
all the new things that I see
you'll be looking at along with me:
- 3 As I travel through the bad and good,
keep me travelling the way I should;
where I see no way to go
you'll be telling me the way, I know:
- 4 Give me courage when the world is rough,
keep me loving though the world is touch;
leap and sing in all I do,
keep me travelling along with you.
- 5 You are older than the world can be,
you are younger than the life in me;
ever old and ever new,
keep me travelling along with you.

BLESSING

ORGAN POSTLUDE

NOTICES

- Welcome to today's **Sunday worship**. Please feel free to sit anywhere you see a white card marked "**Sitzplatz**". You may sit together with other members of your household, but please observe the statutory 1.5 metres distance otherwise. Fill out the "Green Card" you were given as you entered church and give it to one of the stewards as you leave. This information will be treated confidentially and destroyed after a period of 4 weeks. Medical or FFP2 masks should be worn at all times while in church (including during congregational singing of hymns). *Thank you.*
- Our IT specialists will again **stream our worship live** on our website. If you prefer not to attend worship in church in person or are unable to do so, simply open our website (www.ecc-bochum.de) on your device and follow the instructions there. To help the team improve streaming as time goes on, please share your feedback and suggestions with Pastor Jimmy. *A warm welcome to all virtual worshippers!*

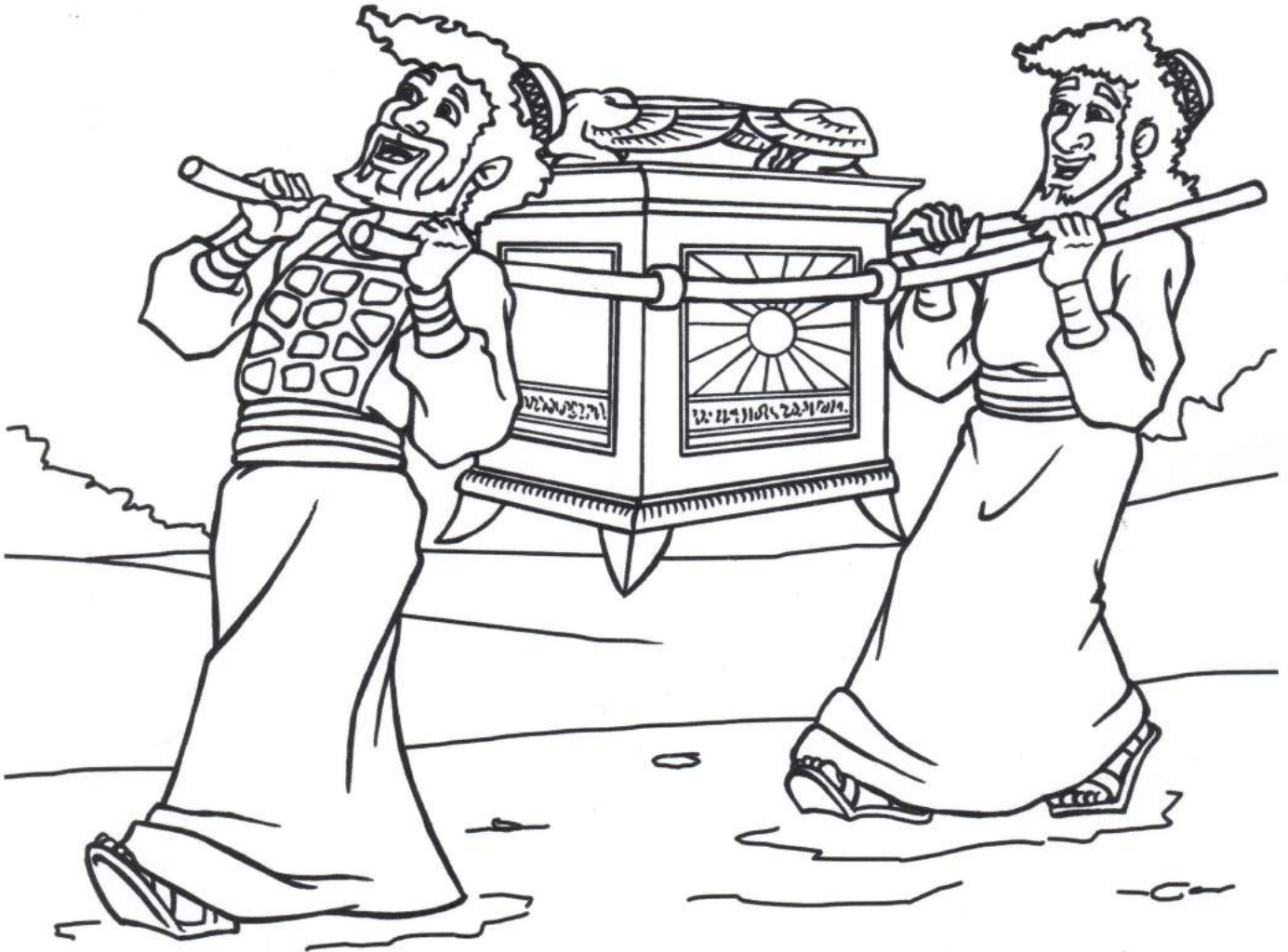


Our **six-week vacation Bible study** exploring biblical aspects of rest, recreation and leisure continues on **Tuesday, 20 July** at 7.30 p.m. (19.30 hrs) with a session on Family Feasts. The venue is Dirk & Sylke's Nature Garden, Umlandstraße 15a (follow the sign and the ribbons along the path to the left just beyond the bridge).

- **Reading the Bible together** through 2021 continues, 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 **WCC Ecumenical Prayer Cycle** focuses on Djibouti and Somalia: <https://www.oikoumene.org/resources/prayer-cycle/djibouti-somalia>
- **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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God's Covenant Box



Colour the picture of the Covenant Box

God told Moses to have this special box made from acacia wood and lots of solid gold. It was used to store the two stone tablets with the Ten Commandments. God's people carried it everywhere they went, and it reminded them that God was always close to them. When they camped or stopped anywhere, they set up a special tent in which God's Covenant Box was stored. King David brought the Covenant Box to Jerusalem. He wanted to build a temple for it, but God told him He preferred to live in the tent.

(2 Samuel 6)