

DO NOT SHOW PARTIALITY

For if a man comes into Your assembly with a gold ring and dressed in fine clothes, and there also comes in a poor man in dirty clothes, and You pay special attention to the one who is wearing the fine clothes, and say,

"You sit here in a good place," and you say to the poor man, **"You stand over there, or you sit down by my footstool,"** have you not made distinctions among yourselves, and become judges With evil motives?

James 2:2-4

Knowing-Jesus.com

English-speaking Christian Congregation, Bochum

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ORGAN PRELUDE

For whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become guilty of all of it. James 2: 10

WELCOME & OPENING RESPONSES

WOMEN: Those who trust in the LORD are like Mount Zion; which cannot be shaken but endures forever.

MEN: As the mountains surround Jerusalem; so the LORD surrounds his people both now and forevermore.

WOMEN: The scepter of the wicked will not remain over the land allotted to the righteous; for then the righteous might use their hands to do evil.

MEN: LORD, do good to those who are good, to those who are upright in heart; But those who turn to crooked ways the LORD will banish with the evildoers.

ALL: Peace be on Israel.

HYMN *Let's sing to the Lord* (Church Hymnary 126)

- 1 Let's sing to the Lord, yes, let's sing God a new song
Let's sing to the Lord, yes, let's sing God a new song
Let's sing to the Lord, yes, let's sing God a new song
Let's sing to the Lord, yes, let's sing to the Lord.
- 2 For God is the Lord, and God has done wonders
For God is the Lord, and God has done wonders
For God is the Lord, and God has done wonders
Let's sing to the Lord, let's sing to the Lord.
- 3 So dance for our God and blow all the trumpets
So dance for our God and blow all the trumpets
So dance for our God and blow all the trumpets
Let's sing to the Lord, let's sing to the Lord.
- 4 Let's shout to our God, who gave us the Spirit
Let's shout to our God, who gave us the Spirit
Let's shout to our God, who gave us the Spirit
Let's sing to the Lord, let's sing to the Lord.
- 5 For Jesus is Lord! Amen! Alleluia!
For Jesus is Lord! Amen! Alleluia!
For Jesus is Lord! Amen! Alleluia!
Let's sing to the Lord, let's sing to the Lord.

OPENING PRAYER & SHARING GOD'S PEACE

CHILDREN'S TIME

SCRIPTURE READING: James 2: 1-17

My brothers and sisters, believers in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ must not show favoritism. ² Suppose a man comes into your meeting wearing a gold ring and fine clothes, and a poor man in filthy old clothes also comes in. ³ If you show special attention to the man wearing fine clothes and say, "Here's a good seat for you," but say to the poor man, "You stand there" or "Sit on the floor by my feet," ⁴ have you not discriminated among yourselves and become judges with evil thoughts?

⁵ Listen, my dear brothers and sisters: Has not God chosen those who are poor in the eyes of the world to be rich in faith and to inherit the kingdom he promised those who love him? ⁶ But you have dishonored the poor. Is it not the rich who are exploiting you? Are they not the ones who are dragging you into court? ⁷ Are they not the ones who are blaspheming the noble name of him to whom you belong?

⁸ If you really keep the royal law found in Scripture, "Love your neighbor as yourself," you are doing right. ⁹ But if you show favoritism, you sin and are convicted by the law as lawbreakers. ¹⁰ For whoever keeps the whole law and yet stumbles at just one point is guilty of breaking all of it. ¹¹ For he who said, "You shall not commit

adultery,” also said, “You shall not murder.” If you do not commit adultery but do commit murder, you have become a lawbreaker.

¹² Speak and act as those who are going to be judged by the law that gives freedom, ¹³ because judgment without mercy will be shown to anyone who has not been merciful. Mercy triumphs over judgment.

¹⁴ What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if someone claims to have faith but has no deeds? Can such faith save them? ¹⁵ Suppose a brother or a sister is without clothes and daily food. ¹⁶ If one of you says to them, “Go in peace; keep warm and well fed,” but does nothing about their physical needs, what good is it? ¹⁷ In the same way, faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead.

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

HYMN *‘I have a dream’, a man once said* (Church Hymnary 710)

- 1 “I have a dream”, a man once said,
“where all is perfect peace;
where men and women, black and white,
stand hand in hand, and all unite
in freedom and in love.”
- 2 But in this world of bitter strife
the dream can often fade;
reality seems dark as night,
we catch but glimpses of the light
Christ sheds on humankind.
- 3 Fierce persecution, war, and hate
are raging everywhere;
God calls us now to pay the price
through struggles and through sacrifice
of standing for the right.
- 4 So dream the dreams and sing the songs,
but never be content:
for thoughts and words don’t ease the pain:
unless there’s action, all is vain;
faith proves itself in deeds.
- 5 Lord, give us vision, make us strong,
help us to do your will;
don’t let us rest until we see
your love throughout humanity
uniting us in peace.

REFLECTION CREATED IN THE IMAGE OF GOD (Revd Emmanuel Mote Ndasah)

HYMN *Moved by the Gospel* (Church Hymnary 247)

- 1 Moved by the Gospel, let us move with every gift and art.
The image of created love indwells each human heart.
The Maker calls creation good, so let us now express
With sound and colour, stone and wood, the shape of holiness.
- 2 Let weavers form from broken strands a tapestry of prayer.
Let artists paint with skilful hands their joy, lament and care.
Then mime the story; Christ has come. With reverence dance the word.
With flute and organ, gong and drum God's praise be ever heard.
- 3 O Spirit, breathe among us here; inspire the work we do.
May hands and voices, eye and ear attest to life made new.
In worship and in daily strife create among us still.
Great Artist, form our common life according to your will

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 *May the God of hope go with us...* (Church Hymnary 256)

- 1 May the God of hope go with us every day,
filling all our lives with love and joy and peace.
May the God of justice speed us on our way,
bringing light and hope to every land and race.
Praying, let us work for peace,
Singing, share our joy with all,
Working for a world that's new,
Faithful when hear Christ's call.
- 2 May the God of healing free the earth from fear,
freeing us for peace, both treasured and pursued.
May the God of love keep our commitment clear
to a world restored, to human life renewed.
Praying, let us work for peace,
Singing, share our joy with all,
Working for a world that's new
Faithful when we hear Christ's call.

BLESSING & ORGAN POSTLUDE

NOTICES

- **Welcome to today's worship!** 3G rules now apply for worship. This means that, before entering church, you must provide evidence of full immunisation (vaccination pass), full recovery from a Covid infection or a negative test no older than 48 hours. *Without one of these, it would be a breach of the law to allow you into church!*
 - ▶ The official ruling of our host Presbyterium, endorsed by our own Church Council, is that FFP2 masks should be worn for congregational singing, especially as people tested negative but not yet immunised may be present.
 - ▶ Although now not obligatory, we strongly advise that you opt to sit where you see a white card marked "**Sitzplatz**". Families / households may sit together, but you are otherwise advised to observe 1.5 metres distance.
- Our worship will be **streamed live** on our website for those who prefer not to attend in person or are unable to do so. A link for the livestream can be found on our website (www.ecc-bochum.de). To help the IT team, please share your feedback and suggestions via Pastor Jimmy. *A warm welcome to all virtual worshippers!*
- **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 Benin, Ivory Coast, and Togo: <https://www.oikoumene.org/resources/prayer-cycle/benin-cote-divoire-togo>
- **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/>
- Please note that, due to Covid prevention measures in place, there is no offering during worship. There will be an **offering basket** as you leave church, however. Please give generously to support the ongoing work of our congregation.

ECC Bank Account: "Englische Gemeinde"
IBAN: DE89 4305 0001 0001 4132 36
SWIFT-BIC: WELADED1BOC (Sparkasse Bochum)

CHILDREN'S WORD SEARCH PUZZLE

Playing Favorites

My brothers, as believers in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ, don't show favoritism. James 2:1 (NIV)

The puzzle is based on James 2:1-10



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

RICH	FAVORITE	FILTHY	DISCRIMINATE	GOLD
CLOTHES	BROTHERS	NEIGHBOR	JUDGE	POOR
EXPLOIT	CHOSEN	SISTERS	GUILTY	RING

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