

Sunday Worship

12 September 2021



English-speaking Christian Congregation, Bochum

PRELUDE

Watchword for the Week (Moravian Daily Texts 2021)
Jesus asked, "But who do you say that I am?"
(Mark 8:29)

WORDS OF WELCOME & OPENING RESPONSES

(Verses from Psalm 19 – responses in bold-face italics)

The heavens declare the glory of God;
the skies proclaim the work of his hands.

***Day after day they pour forth speech;
night after night they reveal knowledge.***

They have no speech, they use no words;
no sound is heard from them.

***Yet their voice goes out into all the earth,
their words to the ends of the world.***

May the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart
be pleasing in your sight,

O Lord, my Rock and my Redeemer.

HYMN *Humbly in your sight we come together, Lord* (Church Hymnary 496)

- 1 Humbly in your sight we come together, Lord;
grant us now the blessing of your presence here.
- 2 These, our hearts, are yours, we give them to you, Lord;
purify our love to make it like your own.
- 3 These, our eyes, are yours, we give them to you, Lord;
may we always see the world as with your sight.
- 4 These, our hands, are yours, we give them to you, Lord;
give them strength and skill to do all work for you.

OPENING PRAYER

HYMN *Humbly in your sight we come together, Lord* (Church Hymnary 496)

- 5 These, our feet, are yours, we give them to you, Lord;
may we always walk the path of life with you.
- 6 These, our tongues, are yours, we give them to you, Lord;
may we speak your healing words of life and truth.
- 7 These, our ears, are yours, we give them to you, Lord;
open them to hear the Gospel as from you.
- 8 Our whole selves are yours, we give them to you, Lord;
take us now and keep us yours for evermore.

SHARING GOD'S PEACE

CHILDREN'S TIME

SCRIPTURE READING James 3:1-12 (GNB New Testament, p. 289)

My friends, not many of you should become teachers. As you know, we teachers will be judged with greater strictness than others. ² All of us often make mistakes. But if a person never makes a mistake in what he says, he is perfect and is also able to control his whole being. ³ We put a bit into the mouth of a horse to make it obey us, and we are able to make it go where we want. ⁴ Or think of a ship: big as it is and driven by such strong winds, it can be steered by a very small rudder, and it goes wherever the pilot wants it to go. ⁵ So it is with the tongue: small as it is, it can boast about great things.

Just think how large a forest can be set on fire by a tiny flame! ⁶ And the tongue is like a fire. It is a world of wrong, occupying its place in our bodies and spreading evil through our whole being. It sets on fire the entire course of our existence with the fire that comes to it from hell itself. ⁷ We humans are able to tame and have tamed all other creatures – wild animals and birds, reptiles and fish. ⁸ But no one has ever been able to tame the tongue. It is evil and uncontrollable, full of deadly poison. ⁹ We use it to give thanks to our Lord and Father and also to curse other people, who are created in the likeness of God. ¹⁰ Words of thanksgiving and cursing pour out from the same mouth. My friends, this should not happen! ¹¹ No spring of water pours out sweet water and bitter water from the same opening. ¹² A fig tree, my friends, cannot bear olives; a grapevine cannot bear figs, nor can a salty spring produce sweet water.

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

SOLOIST

REFLECTION “Haud yer wheesht!” (Revd James Brown)

HYMN *Take my life, Lord, let it be* (Church Hymnary 502)

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|---|---|
| <p>1 Take my life, Lord, let it be
consecrated, glad, and free;
take my moments and my days,
let them flow in ceaseless praise.</p> <p>2 Take my hands, and let them move
at the impulse of your love;
take my feet, that I may run
bearing news of Christ, your Son.</p> | <p>3 Take my voice, and let me sing
always, only, for my King;
take my intellect and use
every power as you shall choose.</p> <p>4 Take my will – your will be done,
may my will and yours be one;
take my heart – it is your own,
it shall be your royal throne.</p> |
| <p>5 Take my love – my Lord, I pour
at your feet its treasure-store;
take myself, and I will be
all for you, eternally.</p> | |

NOTICES

PRAYERS FOR OTHERS & CHORUS

Lord, you are everywhere. Lord God, you are everywhere. [repeat]
No one can ever be compared with you. Yes, you are everywhere. [repeat]

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.

SOLOIST

BLESSING

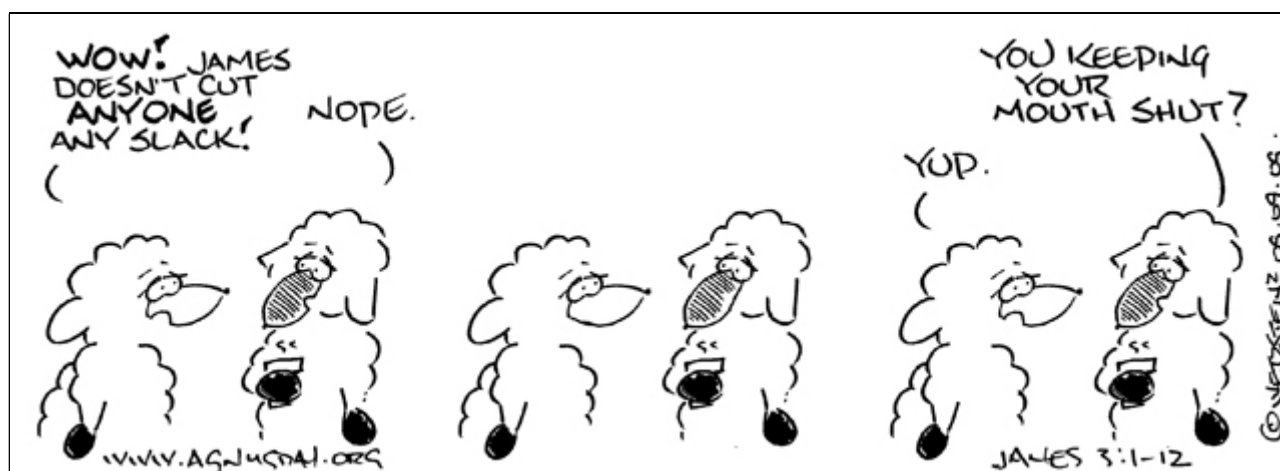
POSTLUDE

NOTICES

- ***Welcome to today's worship!*** Please note that, as a measure to stem Covid-19 infection rates, 3G rules now also apply for indoor worship. If you have not already done so, please show your vaccination pass, immunisation certificate or negative Covid test result (no older than 48 hours) on entering church.
 - » **Children and school pupils** do not need to produce any such documents, since they are tested regularly at school and therefore count as tested.

- » **Masks** may be removed once seated, but should be worn for *congregational* singing in order to avoid all risk of aerosol infection. Today's soloist and choir singers will keep extra distance (3-4 metres) as an alternative precaution.
- » **Physical distancing** is no longer compulsory, but still advisable. This means: feel free to sit together with others from your family/household, but you may prefer to observe 1.5 metres distance otherwise.
- » Our worship will be **streamed live** on our website (www.ecc-bochum.de) for those who prefer not to attend in person or are unable to do so. A link for the livestream is on the website. *A warm welcome to all virtual worshippers!*
- **Music in worship:** The *ECC Choir* is always happy to welcome new singers to rehearsals every Wednesday at 6 p.m. (18:00 hrs). More details from choir director Hendrik Ziser. Emmanuel Mote-Ndasah is looking for anyone who would like to sing *African-style choruses* for worship, especially in preparation for this year's Harvest Thanks celebration. Please ask Pastor Emmanuel for fuller information.
- **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)
- **Prayer** This week's WCC Ecumenical Prayer cycle focuses on Ghana and Nigeria: <https://www.oikoumene.org/resources/prayer-cycle/ghana-nigeria>
- **Online worship resources** by various churches, including Daily Devotional (UCC), Sanctuary First (Church of Scotland), Prayer Matters (International Presbytery) and more, can be accessed from 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)



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

CHILDREN'S COLOURING PAGE



MEMORY VERSE

Everything that happens in this world
happens at the time God chooses.
He sets the time for silence
and the time for talk.
(Ecclesiastes 3:1+7b)