

# English-speaking Christian Congregation, Bochum

24 October 2021

## ORGAN PRELUDE

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

The Lord has done great things for us.

(Psalm 126:3)

## WELCOME & OPENING RESPONSES (verses from Psalms 126 and 34)

Leader: The LORD has filled our mouths with laughter  
and our tongues with shouts of joy

All: ***The LORD has done great things for us  
and we are glad indeed.***

Leader: I will bless the LORD at all times,

All: ***God's praise will continually be in my mouth.***

Leader: My soul makes its boast in the LORD,

All: ***let the humble hear and be glad.***

Leader: O magnify the LORD with me,

All: ***Let us exalt God's name together.***

**HYMN 286** *Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord!* [words on insert]

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Leader: Let us confess our sins to God,  
who alone has the power to save  
and waits in mercy to forgive.

All: ***Merciful God, we have not been humble.  
We have discouraged others from seeking you.  
We have not sought your wisdom.  
Forgive us, O God,  
and teach us to boast only of you.  
Help us to celebrate when others seek after you.***

***Give us the light of your wisdom and ways,  
through Christ our Lord. Amen.***

## **DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS**

Leader: People of God, the Lord hears, forgives, and saves.  
Therefore, be reconciled to one another  
and walk humbly before God.

## **SHARING GOD'S PEACE**

## **CHILDREN'S TIME**

## **SCRIPTURE READING** *Job 42:1-6, 10-17* (GNB Old Testament, page 533)

Then Job answered the Lord.

<sup>2</sup> I know, Lord, that you are all-powerful;  
that you can do everything you want.

<sup>3</sup> You ask how I dare question your wisdom  
when I am so very ignorant.

I talked about things I did not understand,  
about marvels too great for me to know.

<sup>4</sup> You told me to listen while you spoke  
and to try to answer your questions.

<sup>5</sup> In the past I knew only what others had told me,  
but now I have seen you with my own eyes.

<sup>6</sup> So I am ashamed of all I have said  
and repent in dust and ashes.

<sup>10</sup> Then, after Job had prayed for his three friends, the Lord made him prosperous again and gave him twice as much as he had had before. <sup>11</sup> All Job's brothers and sisters and former friends came to visit him and feasted with him in his house. They expressed their sympathy and comforted him for all the troubles the Lord had brought on him. Each of them gave him some money and a gold ring.

<sup>12</sup> The Lord blessed the last part of Job's life even more than he had blessed the first. Job owned fourteen thousand sheep, six thousand camels, two thousand head of cattle, and one thousand donkeys. <sup>13</sup> He was the father of seven sons and three daughters. <sup>14</sup> He called the oldest daughter Jemimah, the second Keziah, and the youngest Keren Happuch. <sup>15</sup> There were no other women in the whole world as beautiful as Job's daughters. Their father gave them a share of the inheritance along with their brothers.

<sup>16</sup> Job lived a hundred and forty years after this, long enough to see his grandchildren and great-grandchildren. <sup>17</sup> And then he died at a very great age.

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

**HYMN 485** *Dear Lord and Father of mankind* [words on insert]

**SERMON** “And all manner of thing shall be well?” (Rev. James Brown)

**HYMN 374** *From heaven you came, helpless babe* [words on insert]

## **NOTICES**

## **PRAYERS FOR OTHERS**

Response: God of mercy: ***hear our prayer.***

## **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 705** *It is God who holds the nations* [words on insert]

## **CLOSING RESPONSES**

Leader: O God who kindles the stars,  
kindle a flame of love within us  
All: ***to light our path in days of darkness.***

Leader: O God who gives warmth to the sun,  
warm us with your love  
All: ***to melt the frozen hand of guilt.***

Leader: O God who polishes the moon,  
polish the shield of faith  
All: ***that we may seek justice  
and follow the ways of peace.***

Leader: O God, assure us of your presence always.  
All: ***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.***

## **ORGAN POSTLUDE**

## NOTICES

### ►► **Welcome to today's English-language worship!**

- **3G rules apply**, so please show your vaccination or immunisation pass as you enter church, or a negative Covid test result (no older than 48 hours).
  - **Children and school pupils** count as (and mostly are) already tested.
  - Feel free to **sit where you wish**, observing 1.5 metres distance if you prefer.
  - You may remove your **mask** once seated, but should wear it when singing.
  - A warm welcome too to all **virtual worshippers** on the livestream.
  - The **offering** will be gathered as you leave church. Please give generously.
- The **Kirchencafé** is open after worship for tea and coffee. Please help afterwards by clearing away cups and plates, washing dishes and tidying up. Thank-you!
- **Reformation Day** worship on Sunday 31 October will be led by Revd Dr Anja Stuckenberg. Please note: Summer time ends next weekend when clocks are moved back one hour in the night from Saturday to Sunday. This gives us all an extra hour's sleep before heading for church next Sunday. – *Enjoy!*
- This week's **World Council of Churches** prayer cycle focuses our prayers on the Caribbean, which means this long list of islands – Antigua and Barbuda, Aruba, Bahamas, Barbados, Cuba, Curaçao, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Grenada, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, Puerto Rico, Sint Maarten, St Kitts-Nevis, St Lucia, St Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago:  
<https://www.oikoumene.org/resources/prayer-cycle/the-caribbean>
- **Music in worship**: The *ECC Choir* welcomes new singers to rehearsals every Wednesday at 6 p.m. (18:00 hrs). Ask Hendrik Ziser. Emmanuel Mote-Ndasah is looking for anyone who would like to practise *African-style choruses* for worship.
- **Online worship resources** such as 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/>
- **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)
- **Christian Discipline** (Prayer, Study, Simplicity, Service, Celebration) is a 5-week Bible study series at 7 p.m. on Monday evenings from 8 November to 6 December in the Kirchencafé. Zoom option: ID = 882 1296 9022; Passcode = 051157.
- There will be an **offering basket** as you leave church. Please give generously to support the ongoing work of our congregation. For bank transfer donations:

**ECC Bank Account:** "Englische Gemeinde"

**IBAN:** DE89 4305 0001 0001 4132 36

**SWIFT-BIC:** WELADED1BOC (Sparkasse Bochum)