

English-speaking Christian Congregation, Bochum

7 November 2021

ORGAN PRELUDE

Watchword for the Week (Moravian Daily Texts 2021)

The Lord lifts up those who are bowed down;
the Lord loves the righteous.
(Psalm 146:8)

WELCOME & OPENING RESPONSES (verses from Psalm 24)

All: *Who can climb the mountain of our God,
and dwell in a holy place?*

Leader: Come, people of God – God is here in our midst,
inviting us into a new place.

All: *Who can climb the mountain of our God,
and dwell in a holy place?*

Leader: The God who offered a land flowing with milk and honey offers a new
heaven and a new earth, a holy city, a place of God's presence.

All: *Who can climb the mountain of our God,
and dwell in a holy place?*

Leader: God calls us to cleanse our hearts,
to offer ourselves to God with all our beings.

All: *Let us climb the mountain of our God,
and dwell in a holy place!*

Leader: Come, let us worship God.

HYMN 83 *I rejoiced when I heard them say* [words on insert]

PRAYER OF APPROACH

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

SHARING GOD'S PEACE

CHILDREN'S TIME

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING *Isaiah 25:6-9* (GNB Old Testament, page 689)

Here on Mount Zion the Lord Almighty will prepare a banquet for all the nations of the world – a banquet of the richest food and the finest wine. ⁷ Here he will suddenly remove the cloud of sorrow that has been hanging over all the nations. ⁸ The Sovereign Lord will destroy death forever! He will wipe away the tears from everyone's eyes and take away the disgrace his people have suffered throughout the world. The Lord himself has spoken.

⁹ When it happens, everyone will say, "He is our God! We have put our trust in him, and he has rescued us. He is the Lord! We have put our trust in him, and now we are happy and joyful because he has saved us."

HYMN 779 *Listen now for the Gospel* [words on insert]

GOSPEL READING *Mark 12:37b-44* (GNB New Testament, page 64)

A large crowd was listening to Jesus gladly. ³⁸ As he taught them, he said, "Watch out for the teachers of the Law, who like to walk around in their long robes and be greeted with respect in the marketplace, ³⁹ who choose the reserved seats in the synagogues and the best places at feasts. ⁴⁰ They take advantage of widows and rob them of their homes, and then make a show of saying long prayers. Their punishment will be all the worse!"

⁴¹ As Jesus sat near the Temple treasury, he watched the people as they dropped in their money. Many rich men dropped in a lot of money; ⁴² then a poor widow came along and dropped in two little copper coins, worth about a penny. ⁴³ He called his disciples together and said to them, "I tell you that this poor widow put more in the offering box than all the others. ⁴⁴ For the others put in what they had to spare of their riches; but she, poor as she is, put in all she had – she gave all she had to live on."

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

SERMON *Of Saints, Suppers, and Simplicity* (Rev. James Brown)

HYMN 198 *Let us build a house* [words on insert]

NOTICES

PRAYERS FOR OTHERS

Response: Not our will, Lord,
but yours be done.

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 742 *Rejoice in God's saints* [words on insert]

CLOSING RESPONSES

Leader: For all that God can do within us,
for all that God can do without us,

All: *Thanks be to God!*

Leader: For all in whom Christ lived before us,
for all in whom Christ lives beside us,

All: *Thanks be to God!*

Leader: For all the Spirit wants to bring us,
for where the Spirit wants to send us,

All: *Thanks be to God!*

Leader: Christ has promised to be with us,
in the world as in our worship.

All: *Amen, we go to meet him!*

BLESSING

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.
- **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.
- Welcome too to everyone attending worship today 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!

►► Our 5-week Bible study series on **Christian Discipline** starts tomorrow at 7 p.m. in the Kirchencafé. Zoom participation: ID = 882 1296 9022; Passcode = 051157.

8 November	<i>Prayer</i>	Matthew 6:5-15	Pastor Anja
15 November	<i>Study</i>	Romans 12:1-21	Pastor Jimmy
22 November	<i>Simplicity</i>	Matthew 6:25-34	Pastor Anja
29 November	<i>Service</i>	John 13:1-17	Pastor Emmanuel
6 December	<i>Celebration</i>	lots of Bible verses	Pastor Jimmy

►► This week's **World Council of Churches** prayer cycle invites us to focus our prayers on Oceania (American Samoa, Cook Islands, Fiji, French Polynesia [Maohi Nui], Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Micronesia, Nauru, New Caledonia, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu): <https://www.oikoumene.org/resources/prayer-cycle/oceania>

►► **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)

►► There is 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)