

»God s´ports every colour of the rainbow!«

**Ökumenischer Gottesdienst
zum Abschluss der EuroGames 2004 in München**

**Sonntag, 1. August 2004, 10.00 Uhr
im Theatron, Olympia-Park**

Presstext

(München, 7. Juni 2004) Unter den bunten Farben des Regenbogens findet zum Abschluss der EuroGames 2004 ein ökumenischer Gottesdienst statt, der von verschiedenen christlichen Gruppierungen der schwul-lesbischen Szene Münchens gestaltet wird. Alle Sportlerinnen und Sportler sowie Freundinnen und Freunde sind herzlich eingeladen, am Sonntag, den 1. August 2004, um 10:00 Uhr gemeinsam auf die Tage der EuroGames zurückzublicken und Gottesdienst auf der Seebühne des Olympiaparks (»Theatron«) zu feiern. Der Münchner Helena Gospel Spirit Chor und seine Band umrahmen die Feier mit völkerverbindenden Liedern. Der Gottesdienst wird in mehreren Sprachen gehalten und kreative Elemente machen das Motto »God s´ports every colour of the rainbow!« auch sinnlich erlebbar. Mit dem Reisesegen gewappnet können alle Teilnehmenden der EuroGames anschließend gegen 11:00 Uhr zum »Farewell-Brunch« mit Jazz und Sambaklänge auf die benachbarte Wiese im Olympia-Park wechseln.

Vorbereitet und veranstaltet wird der Gottesdienst vom »Team Religion« der EuroGames 2004. Darin vertreten sind Frauen und Männer der schwul-lesbischen Szene Münchens und Bayerns, die sich in verschiedenen christlichen Kirchen zu Hause fühlen. Neben der »Ökumenischen Arbeitsgemeinschaft Lesben und Kirche (LuK)«, der »Arbeitsgemeinschaft schwule Theologie« sowie Mitgliedern des Teams des »Katholischen Gottesdienstes für Lesben, Schwule und Queers« (St. Stephan) und der »Thomas-Messe« (St. Lukas) engagieren sich für den Gottesdienst Christen der evangelisch-lutherischen, der römisch-katholischen sowie der altkatholischen Kirche. Mit dem Gottesdienst zum Abschluss der EuroGames setzen die Verantwortlichen ein Zeichen für die Vielfalt schwul-lesbischen Lebens innerhalb der christlichen Kirchen und der Gesellschaft.

Bereits während der EuroGames 2004 sind die Organisatoren mit einem »Stand der Begegnung« im Rainbow-Village (Olympia-Park) vertreten. Interessierte finden hier Möglichkeiten zur Information über christliche Gruppierungen der schwul-lesbischen Szene und zum Gespräch mit Seelsorgerinnen und Seelsorgern.

Gottesdienst-Ablauf

Eingangslied: Gospel: Ancient of Days

(währenddessen ziehen die Stoffbahnen in den Regenbogenfarben ein und werden fächerförmig auf der Seebühne auf den Boden entfaltet)

Begrüßung

We welcome you all to the ecumenical Farewell Service!

Different colours, different people: God s'ports every colour of the rainbow.

[liturgische Eröffnung] In this joyful symbol we will begin our service in the name of our father and mother, the sun and the holy spirit.

We invite you to celebrate with us the ecumenical farewell service to look back and to celebrate the happenings of the last days during the EuroGames here in Munich.

This service was prepared by several Christian groups of Munich's lesbian and gay community. For us a sign of unity of various christian churches.

We also welcome Gabi Wedel priest from the Lutheran church and Peter Priller priest from the old-catholic church. We are sad that the roman catholic church did not send an official representative. But we hope very much that this discrimination will stop and we will be recognized and respected by official roman-catholic-church in the very near.

And last but not least we are very happy that we could gain the Helena Gospel Spirit choir. They will enrich our worship with their spiritual music.

For you information: This service will be without eucharistie.

And now: Let's start with the song "Shine your light".

Lied: Shine your light

Besinnung

God s'ports every colour of the rainbow

There are six colours with each rainbow
They represent the aspects of our life,
our feelings, hopes and experiences
every aspect of our life is supported by god
by a sense of living,
by life time we got for free as a present
let's have a look on the days that passed by here in Munich
and on our journey from where we live to Munich
let's look back on the games, on our victories and regrets
the ups and downs of the very normal and absurd every day life

red – we have red eyes of lacking sleep this morning, red is the colour of joy and love, of party and night life, of flirting and the overwhelming richness of life, opportunities and chances of development that every one of us has -

god s'ports our growth potential

orange - During these days we took part in various competitions. We reached out for the limits of our physical abilities and perhaps could gain a medal. Playing together with joy and fairness, a good team spirit, or reaching personal aims have made us happy. On the other side are sweat, thirst and heat, maybe we had to face disappointments, an unexpected defeat or even an injury.

God s'ports our success and our failure.

yellow – sun shines, we arrive from everywhere in Europe, we leave a busy work time behind us, some of us already had some holidays, Munich and its inhabitants greet the community, we are welcome in this town, we were supported a lot by the local authorities, welcome desks support your orientation and easy going; yellow:

god s'ports your being welcome

green - This is an international meeting. We could talk to people from different countries using our abilities in foreign languages, gesticulation and laughing. Many of us met old friends, many of us found new friends. But not every encounter was pleasant, when we had to face quarrels or exclusions.

God s'ports us sharing our lives.

blue – blue sky breaks frontiers of nations and connects the countries of our community, we are visible as gay, we work together women and men, we don't have to hide, our orientation is an indispensable dimension of our existence; fortunately, we are safe in this country, how visible am I when I go back home? Are there ways for me to gain visibility? And could that strengthen the community?

blue: god s'ports our community

violet - Together with us in our hearts are people at home, which we love and which love us: partners and friends, parents and perhaps children. We can also remind the sorrow and worries of everyday life, that we put aside during these days. Unsettled obligations, that make us uneasy, or opportunities we let slip, that make us sad. We don't have to conceal any colour, anything in our life from God.

God s'ports every colour in our life – we are so glad he's in our life

Lied: Lord I lift your name on high

Lesung: Jesaja 43,1-7

Predigt

From out these words speaks a deep desire,
The desire of people to be at home somewhere,
To get together at a common place.

At all times people felt a desire to gather,
To have places to come together,
Where you are welcome,
Where you have a name,
Where you are appreciated,
Where you find a home,
And you don't have to hide.

Places of „come together“
They open us a common space of living.

During the last days Munich has become such a
place of “come together”;
We all experienced this on Thursday and Friday,
Where lesbians, gays and transgender arrived from

everywhere.

You came from east, from west, from north and from
South of Germany, Estonia, Poland, England, and
many other European countries to participate at the
EuroGames.

For many of us it was not very important to win a
medal,
The most important was just to participate,
to enjoy the enthusiasm,
and to be present at the EuroGames.
We can gather here as gays, lesbians and trans-
gender,
And we can celebrate the achievements of the last
years,
The civil union
We will be recognised in the public;
We present ourselves in the public with more self-
confidence,

For many of us it is now possible to get out of the closet,
Not only in privacy but also at work.

This was achieved not only by ourselves,
We have to thank all of the gays and lesbians who gathered many years ago in the past;
Who fought together for their rights.
On places where we come together,
We can win if we are not against each other;
If we compete together;
Despite of all the difference.
Where we gather,
We win space,
We capture a place;
We are visible.
There we share our common experience, desires, dreams, sharing a dream of you life.
This helps us to strengths one another; encourages us and gives us confidence.

In the act of gathering lies the strength of each of us,
A strength which I can feel as I am recognized as the person I am.

But nevertheless there are moments in life
That are hard to bear
Moments that forge all my skills
Jesse writes: this are the moments when we walk through the fire,
when our emotions burn in flames
the coming out has been such a moment for some of us
the separating with a partner
misunderstanding with parents
the loss of friends
moments of fire that burn marks in our heard

other dark experiences of our life are like wild rivers
water that makes us unstable and staggering
moments of pressure in our country and
of suppression at our work
moments when we limit ourselves
by self-doubt

these are experiences everyone of us knows
experiences that dissipate instead of gathering

Jesse says:
Nevertheless: there is a voice in us,
Sometimes deep and concealed,
That shouts at us
don't worry
I'll liberate you
I'll free you from your self-doubt
I'll heal your wounds
I'll disengage you from all forces
That stand against you

This voice deep in us encourages us:
I know you by name and by heart
You are precious in my eyes

The homeland of this supporting voice
Is our place of come-together
At the heart of this powerful creator
Is our come-together

Where we are dissipated, he will gather us
Where we are invisible, he will see us
When we walk through fire, he will support us
That's god's commitment: we are not alone

This is an Engagement and a task:
To be a come-together for other people
To go on with our life despite the fire
To follow our commitment despite the threatening waters
To keep the pace

That's call:
Get together you all
Be united
Don't stand it through alone
Then you will be strong and victorious

When we stand together,
when we gather by hearing this inner voice of support
we will create a living space
a living space to love
and to grow like we are

we are formed by our experiences
we are modelled by walking in fire and water
we gained skills and encouragement
we got acquainted with the deepest in our souls
we are awarded by a high sensibility of our gender
and our role
we are highly sensible for injustice and suppressions
of all kind

that's our task:
to stand for justice and freedom
for support and living spaces of love
for every human being

we can envisage the task because of god's commitment to us
he comes together with us in every experience of our life

it' him the power to whom we belong
It's her our creator to whom we belong
God knows us by heart and by name

That is our liberty
This acceptance gives space and freedom to the people we live with
We are come-together for others
Because we deeply experienced god's support in our lives

Musik: Instrumental

Aktion

God s'ports every colour of the rainbow. - Now we all shall express this motto with a symbolic act.

Ihr habt in euren Liedzetteln diese bunten Wollfäden gefunden. [*hochhalten*] So wie wir hier aus vielen verschiedenen Ländern zusammengefunden haben, so wollen wir nun die Farben des Regenbogens zu einem Band der Freundschaft zusammenbringen.

Das kann natürlich keiner allein, deshalb sollt ihr euch jetzt mit der/dem, die/der neben euch sitzt, zusammen tun: Eine(r) hält das Ende fest, der/die andere verflucht die einzelnen Fäden zu einem Bändchen. Ihr müsst immer zwei Fäden zusammennehmen, dann geht das so wie das Zopfplechten. Außerdem machen wir es hier noch mal vor.

You all found coloured woollen bands in the song book. Just as we came together here from many different countries, we now want to bind every colour of the rainbow into a band of friendship.

Nobody can do it on his or her own, therefore you have to find a partner next to you to provide a helping hand. One has to hold the loop of the band while the other braids it.

And this is how it works: Put two coloured strings together into one thread, so you get three threads. Then put the outer thread over the middle thread, alternately from the left and then from the right side, as demonstrated here.

Wenn ihr das Band zu Ende geflochten habt, schließt ihr es mit einem Knoten ab. Nun könnt ihr es eurem Nachbarn/eurer Nachbarin ums Handgelenk legen [*Hand mit Bändchen hochhalten*] und schließen, indem ihr den Knoten durch die Schlaufe schiebt und dann an dem Ende zieht, an dem die Fäden zusammengeklebt sind. - Und dann dürft ihr euch selbst auf die gleiche Weise von eurem Nachbarn ein Freundschaftsbändchen machen lassen.

So bekommt ihr ein kleines Andenken an diesen Gottesdienst, und wir laden euch ein, dieses Zeichen heute, beim Abschlussbrunch und auf eurer Heimreise, zu tragen: als Erinnerung an die Menschen, die ihr hier kennen gelernt habt, und an die Verbundenheit dieser Tage der EuroGames.

When you have braided more then half of the band, you finish it up with a knot. Wrap it around the wrist of your partner, pull the knot through the loop and pull it tight with the short end of the loop. – Afterwards you may get a wrist band from your partner the same way.

That's, how you get a souvenir of this farewell service and we invite you to keep the wrist band visible at the brunch and on your way home: as a reminder of all the men and women you got to know here at the EuroGames in Munich and the spirit of unity you experienced.

Lied: Oh happy day

Fürbitten

God, loving father and caring mother, we pray to you!

1. Die christlichen Kirchen haben lange dazu beigetragen, dass Lesben und Schwule diskriminiert und verfolgt wurden. Zum Teil tun sie es heute noch.

Unser Gott, wir bitten dich:

Öffne unsere Kirchen, damit sie zur Heimat für Menschen in ihrer gottgegebenen Unterschiedlichkeit und Vielfalt werden.

Gemeinde-Liedruf: Amen

2. We pray for the victims of persecution. In many countries gays and lesbians are discriminated against because of their sexuality.

Lord, we pray:

Encourage people who are suffering from discrimination and persecution. Encourage our solidarity.

Gemeinde-Liedruf: Amen

3. Wir beten für Menschen, die unter Krieg und Terror leiden – in Israel und Palästina, im Irak, im Sudan, in den vielen Krisengebieten dieser Erde.

Unser Gott, wir bitten dich:

Dona nobis pacem. Gib uns deinen Frieden. Donne-nous la paix. Grant us your peace.

Gemeinde-Liedruf: Amen

4. Wir bitten dich für Menschen, die mit Krankheit leben müssen, besonders für die, die HIV-positiv oder AIDS-krank sind. Stärke ihren Mut und ihre Freude am Leben. Lehre uns, dass wir mit Narben und Wunden, mit Stärken und Schwächen deine wahren Menschen sind.

Gemeinde-Liedruf: Amen

5. We give thanks to you for the EuroGames in Munich, for the community we have shared, for the Team spirit and success. To be honest: Sometimes it was: "The winner takes it all, the loser standing small."

Lord, never let us forget: Loosing or winning we walk as your blessed daughters and sons in the grace of your shining light.

Gemeinde-Liedruf: Amen

Alle unsere Bitten, die ausgesprochenen und die unausgesprochenen, wollen wir mit hineinnehmen in das Gebet, das Jesus uns gelehrt hat.

Let us pray, everybody in his and her own language, the Lord's Prayer.

Lasst uns das Vaterunser beten, jeder und jede in seiner und ihrer Sprache.

Vater unser

Reisesegen

Irischer Reisesegen in mehreren Sprachen

Schlusslied

Praise you the lord