

INTERCULTURAL WORSHIP Services

ACTS 2:42-47

Evangelische
Kirchengemeinde
Gütersloh



PREACHER

Rev. Dr. Ngoy Leita



HALLELUJA! PRAISE AND WORSHIP BAND



Intercultural Agape Meal-
Karibu Intercultural Buffet



22 September, 2024
27 October, 2024
10 November, 2024
8 December, 2024

Start 10:30 AM - 12:30 PM

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Intercultural Worship Services in Evangelical Johannes parish in Gütersloh



Karibu! That means "Welcome" in Swahili. Once a month on a Sunday, we celebrate a worship service in our congregation, just like in Africa—lively, colourful, and inspiring. We warmly invite people of all nationalities to join us. We aim to come together and experience the growing diversity of our society Gütersloh. This worship service, conducted in German and English, Swahili, and French, connects people regardless of their cultural or linguistic background. Anyone who feels called and wants to experience spirituality in a communal and renewed way is warmly welcome. Gütersloh, our city, has developed into a diverse and multicultural community where now a third of the population has roots outside of Germany. In almost all areas of private and public life, influences from different languages and cultures can be noticed. However, on Sundays, in most church services, this rich blend has hardly been reflected so far. To address this, the intercultural worship services were initiated and brought to life in our church.

For us, in the Evangelical Church Congregation in Gütersloh, this form of worship service is much more than just a new project. Through it, we affirm the most fundamental values of our church—to welcome everyone, embrace diversity, and include people without reservation. Inspired by Acts 2:42-47, where believers shared everything and praised God as one, we create a space where everyone, regardless of their background, feels not only included but deeply valued. When we say Karibu, we do not just mean welcoming newcomers. Our goal is to celebrate the rich mix of cultures among us and embrace the gift of hospitality in a way that aligns with our Christian beliefs.





You are all welcome to this special worship service that reflects the exciting diversity of Gütersloh, where different cultures and traditions meet. You will feel spiritually enriched and enjoy a musical experience. The Halleluja Intercultural Praise and Worship Band combines German church hymns with global gospel music and will captivate you as well. We invite you to stay after the worship service for a communal meal and try the Karibu Intercultural Buffet with delicious finger foods from Europe and Africa. Connect, converse, and celebrate with us the unity in diversity!

With the establishment of Intercultural Worship Services, we also want to create a framework for different initiatives, groups, and church ceremonies such as baptisms, weddings, and funerals in various languages —Swahili, English, and French. We will meet in intercultural Bible study groups to explore the Holy Scriptures together and establish prayer groups to connect people across languages and pray for each other. We will visit refugees, share meals with them, and distribute Bibles in their native languages. These missionary efforts will spread hope and further develop a welcoming, inclusive church. With your support and participation, we will bring this exciting community vision to life!





I am Pastor Dr. Leita Ngoy, responsible for the liturgy of the Intercultural Services as a theologian. I entered the pastoral ministry in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania. I have lived in Germany for six years. Before coming to Gütersloh, I completed a doctoral study in theology at the Ruhr-University Bochum. Establishing the intercultural service is a special personal mission and my guiding initiative as a probationary pastor in the Evangelical Church of Westphalia. I am deeply convinced that conducting intercultural worship services is a tangible expression of hospitality that re-kindles the missionary spirit of the church.



Worship with us!

