

Contextualizing

DESMOND TUTU

Online-Conference
Saturday, 13. November 2021
10.00–16.000 (CET)

Nine Decades for
Justice and Peace

Desmond Tutu turned 90 years old on the 7th of October, 2021. We are taking this special birthday as an opportunity to honor the life and work of this Nobel Prize winner and anti-apartheid activist. The Christian basis for his engagement for justice, peace and reconciliation has impressed and motivated countless people for decades—and not just in South Africa and Germany. In the face of so many current challenges around the world, we ask what we can learn from Desmond Tutu and how we can embrace the responsibilities that he entrusted to us through his life and work.

Nine Decades for Justice and Peace—this is the title of the online conference to which we have invited South African and German friends and companions of Desmond Tutu.

The international online conference will take place on Saturday, the 13th of November 2021, from 10:00 to 16:00 (Central European Time).

We are pleased to welcome Prof. Sarojini Nadar (Desmond Tutu Center UWC), Pastor Dr. Allan Boesak and Bishop Prof. Dr. Heinrich Bedford-Strohm. They will report about encounters and conversations with Desmond Tutu and show us how these can shape our responsibility today.

In the afternoon the participants will be invited to attend thematic workshops in order to discuss current challenges in the light of Desmond Tutu's life's work and to consider the next steps that should be taken.

English will be the main language of the event; the main speakers will have translation.

The conference is being presented by



South African Council of Churches



Evangelische Kirche
in Deutschland



Kirchliche Arbeitsstelle
Südliches Afrika

Evangelische Mission
Weltweit
Association of Protestant Churches
and Missions in Germany



PROGRAMME

Online-Conference
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10.00–16.000 (CET)

Morning

9:45 Incoming, open for technical updates

10:00 Welcoming and Devotion: Bishop Malusi Mpumlwana, SACC

10:20 Contextualizing Desmond Tutu

20 min Input: Allan Boesak, South African Dutch Reformed Church cleric, politician and anti-apartheid activist.

10:40 Contextualizing Desmond Tutu

Input: Prof. Sarojini Nadar, Desmond Tutu SARChI Research Chair in Religion and Social Justice.

11:00 Contextualizing Desmond Tutu

Input: Prof. Dr. Bedford-Strohm, Chairperson of the council of the Protestant Church in Germany (EKD)

11:25 BREAK

11:40 Discussion in break-away groups

12:25 Video clips Contextualizing Desmond Tutu from a youth perspective

12:35 Plenary round up: output from the break-away groups

13:00 LUNCH BREAK

Afternoon

14:00 Workshops

1. Is Tutu right to reject the idea of a homophobic God?

Why would anyone self-identify as gay knowing the negative reactions they would get? Are most people anti-gay?

2. Can All lives really matter if Black lives do not matter? Can we really hold hands if your foot is permanently on my neck? Aren't we all African?

3. Is Tutu a prime exemplar of non-violent opposition to an apartheid state? Is Bonhoeffer's approach different?

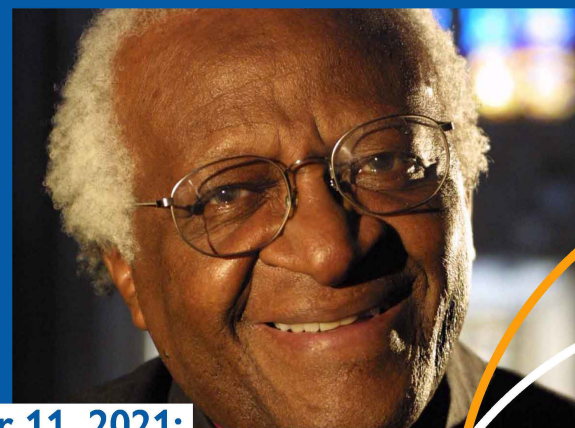
4. Are spirituality & justice only Christian attributes or does it belong to all? Is Tutu right when he says that "God is not a Christian?"

5. Is the sin of patriarchy partly responsible for the rape of Mother Earth? Does Tutu's Ubuntu include unity & inter-dependence with the earth?

6. Is politics & spirituality mutually compatible? Does spirituality have any role to play in the public sphere or is it to be privatized in the sanctuary?

15:30 Plenary roundup: lessons learned, way forward

15:50 Summary and blessings



REGISTRATION

Please click on this link to register until November 11, 2021:

<https://t1p.de/CoDeTu21>

also for one of the afternoon workshops.

After registration you will receive a confirmation e-mail with the access link to the conference