

# Sermon

## for the visit of friends from Gerschede, Essen

People have asked to see in Magna the text of the sermon delivered by the Rector on Sunday 28th May when friends from Gerschede were visiting. Here it is.

Jesus prays to his Father:

" All mine are yours and yours are mine;  
and I have been glorified in them." John 17: 10

Jesus prays to his Father.

**It is a moment of intimacy and intimation.  
Es ist ein Augenblick von Vertrautheit und Mitteilung.**

Jesus and the Father are intimately one and the intimation of victory is total and deeply communicated. Their common ownership of us, the disciples, is a common care, a common trust that we will be always safe and never lost, whatever wickedness and malice might come our way.

**It is a moment of confiding and confidence.  
Es ist ein Augenblick von Anvertrauen und Vertrauen.**

As Jesus was crucified, he called out to the same Father, now asking for forgiveness for those responsible, now calling out in abandonment as human death approached him. In both the call for forgiveness and the call of desertion. Jesus speaks with his Father, he speaks as at one with his Father, and the intimacy must surely have conveyed the human pain to his Father as well.

**It is a moment of joy and rejoicing;  
Es ist ein Augenblick von Freude und Jubel.**

These words are spoken in the tense moments in the life of Jesus before his betrayal, arrest, trials and crucifixion, and yet they are words which shine with optimism and total faith in the final outcomes of his mission.

**It is a moment of infinite assurance and total reassurance.  
Es ist ein Augenblick von unendliche Zusicherung und volle Beruhigung**

Jesus prays proleptically. He prays in the present time, in the full knowledge of the terrible trials that will come to himself and his disciples in the course of the centuries, but also in the yet fuller knowledge that the victory has already been won and that all shall be well and all shall be well and all manner of things shall be well.

The intimacy between Jesus and his Father comes from their infinite connectedness with the Holy Spirit in the Godhead. This is something we will hear about again on Trinity Sunday. It is the cause for our own intimacy with God, our own rejoicing at the victory of Jesus Christ on the cross, the ground for our assurance of forgiveness, and in this faith we confide our prayers to God.

Jesus prays to his Father.

We can pray to the same Father in the same Spirit.