Watchword for the Week

There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. (Romans 8:1)

(Moravian Daily Texts 2014)

ORGAN PRELUDE

WELCOME and CALL to WORSHIP (from Psalm 119:105-112)

Your word is a lamp to guide me and a light for my path I will keep my solemn promise to obey your just instructions.

Accept my prayer of thanks, O Lord, and teach me your commands.

Even if my life may be in constant danger, I will not forget the precepts of your law.

Your commandments are my eternal possession; they are the joy of my heart. I have chosen to obey your laws as long as I shall live here on earth.

Hymn 185 * Come, children, join and sing People's Choice Hymns are marked with an asterisk (*) (Children may leave for Kids' Church)

OPENING PRAYER

Generous God, you sow the seeds of your word freely and widely, you do not check to see where they will fall you simply sow and allow the seeds to land.

Sometimes seeds fall on the hard path where there is no soil but the birds of the air are able to enjoy a feast.

Sometimes seeds fall on the rocky ground where there is only a little soil and the roots cannot go deep enough to allow the plant to reach its full potential.

Sometimes seeds fall on soil that already has other plants to sustain and the new plants are not able to share the soils precious resources and are hindered in their growth.

But sometimes seeds fall on empty soil where they are free to put down deep roots and to grow unhindered into their full leaf and flower.

We are so glad that you sow freely that you do not restrict your seeds to a particular place.

Help us to remember that we too must sow the seeds of your word freely.

Help us not to judge the soil or test it before sowing.

Help us to sow the seeds of love everywhere and anywhere, trusting that you will take care of the rest. **Amen.**

Hymn 262 * For the world and all its people (Hymn of the Month, July 2014)

ASSURANCE of PARDON

Hear the Word of Grace. Here is good news: Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners; to forgive us in our failure, to accept us as we are, to set us free from evil's power, and to make us what we are meant to be.

Thanks be to God. Amen.



CHILDREN'S TIME

SHARING GOD'S PEACE

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Romans 8:1-11

NT p. 195

St. Matthew 13:1-9 + 18-23

NT p. 19

People may stand for the Gospel reading.
The word of God: **Thanks be to God!**

Hymn 603 For your gift of God the Spirit

SERMON

Rev. James Brown

Hymn 153 * Great is thy faithfulness (Offerings are gathered and brought forward)

DEDICATION PRAYER

Gracious God, may we recognize all the gifts we've been given. May the gifts we freely offer be without expectation for anything in return. May you bless the work of these gifts this day and in the days ahead. Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS (See Notices overleaf)

PRAYERS for OTHERS

May your Kingdom come:

Your will be done on earth, O Lord.

⟨Sung response = Hymn 805⟩

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, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

Hymn 159

Lord, for the years

BLESSING and *Threefold Amen* (No. 819)

ORGAN POSTLUDE

Notices

> We welcome all visitors and first-time worshippers. Please sign our guest book including your postal or e-mail address if you wish to receive our church newsletter.

> Today's worship team:

Duty elder: Herold Dehling Reader: Astrid Puspita Christof Hilmer Organ:

- > Our **offering** during worship is our main source of income. Please give generously. Last Sunday's offering totalled € 145.89.
- > After worship you are invited to the Kirchencafé next door to the church for tea, coffee and continued fellowship.
- > This week's Ecumenical Prayer Cycle features Costa Rica, El Salvador, Nicaragua and Panama. Please follow the prayer link from www.ecc-bochum.de
- > Please switch all **mobile phones** off or to the mute mode / vibration signal during worship. Thank you.









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English-speaking Christian Congregation Bochum, Germany

13 July 2014



"Pax intrantibus, salus exeuntibus"

"On entering, peace - on departure, blessing" (Pauluskirche Bochum - Porch Inscription 1655)

Worship every Sunday at 12.30

ECUMENICAL · INTERNATIONAL · ENGLISH-LANGUAGE