

Watchword for the Week

God, turn to me and be gracious to me, as is your custom towards those who love your name.

(Psalm 119:132)

(Moravian Daily Texts 2014)

We confess that we have not always lived up to our good intentions. We are broken people with broken promises. Forgive us, dear God, for the ways in which we have failed one another, and the ways in which we have failed your kingdom and you. Amen.

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

ASSURANCE of PARDON

Hear the good news: God forgives us again and again. We have second chances and third chances and fourth chances... to keep trying to get it right – and to live up to our good intentions. Even though we sometimes fail God, God never fails us; ***Thanks be to God. Amen.***

CHILDREN'S TIME

SHARING GOD'S PEACE

(Children may gather at the large table for Kids' Church)

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Romans 8:26-39 NT p. 196 (195)

St. Matthew 13:31-33 + 44-52 NT p. 20
People may stand for the Gospel reading.

The word of God: ***Thanks be to God!***

Hymn 641 * *Seek ye first the kingdom of God*

SERMON Rev. James Brown

Hymn (PH 348) *My faith looks up to thee*
(Offerings are gathered and brought forward)

*My faith looks up to thee,
Thou Lamb of Calvary, Saviour Divine!
Now hear me while I pray; take all my guilt away;
Oh, let me from this day be wholly thine.*

*May thy rich grace impart
Strength to my fainting heart, my zeal inspire;
As thou hast died for me, oh may my love to thee
Pure, warm and changeless be, a living fire.*

*While life's dark maze I tread,
And griefs around me spread, be thou my guide;
Bid darkness turn to day; wipe sorrow's tears away,
Nor let me ever stray from thee aside.*

*When ends life's transient dream, When
death's cold, sullen stream shall o'er me roll,
Blest Saviour, then, in love, fear and distrust
remove; Oh bear me safe above,
A ransomed soul.*

DEDICATION PRAYER

Giving and Gracious God, you shower us with gifts of love, of grace, and of life itself. Now, with gratitude, we offer you back humble gifts; we offer you our whole selves. We pray that you will bless all of our gifts, and that you will show use them and us for your continued ministry in creation. 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 468 *Son of God, eternal Saviour*
(Hymn of the Month, November 2012)

BLESSING and ***Threefold Amen*** (No. 819)

ORGAN POSTLUDE

ORGAN PRELUDE

WELCOME and CALL to WORSHIP

(from Psalm 105)

Give thanks to the LORD, proclaim his greatness; tell the nations what he has done.

***Sing praise to the LORD;
tell of the wonderful things he has done.***

Be glad that we belong to him;
let all who worship him rejoice.

***Go to the LORD for help;
and worship him continually.***

The LORD is our God;
his commands are for all the world.

***He will keep his covenant for ever,
his promises for a thousand generations.***

Hymn 257 * *Singing, we gladly worship*
People's Choice Hymns are marked with an asterisk (*)

OPENING PRAYER

God, your kingdom is among us all
in surprising places, hidden in the everyday,
small but precious, above us and below us.
Your kingdom is here and we gather as part of it
to worship and adore you, O God.

***We become before you, ready to praise you
and ready to open our eyes, our hearts and
minds to the values of the Kingdom.***

The Kingdom is real, it is here and it is waiting to
welcome all for it is inclusive in its depth, it is for
the whole of humanity.

Gracious God, we are people of good intentions.
We have good intentions to love one another;
good intentions to be a kingdom community
together, to honour our words and promises, to
always honour you, to follow in your Way.

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:** Ulrich Schwarz
 - Reader:** Renate Schwarz
 - Organ:** Katharina Zentgraf
- Our **offering** during worship is our main source of income. ***Please give generously.*** Last Sunday's offering totalled € 110.27.
- 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 ***The Caribbean: Antigua and Barbuda, the Bahamas, Barbados, Cuba, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Grenada, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago.*** Prayer link at www.ecc-bochum.de
- Please switch all **mobile phones** off or to the mute mode / vibration signal during worship. Thank you.



*Son of the carpenter,
enable all people with vision,
courage, confidence and skills;
may they live productive lives
with their self-worth and dignity enhanced;
may they be useful citizens of their country,
and living stones in the house of God;
unite us all in you, the chief cornerstone,
Jesus Christ our Lord.*

(Pray from the Caribbean)



ECC



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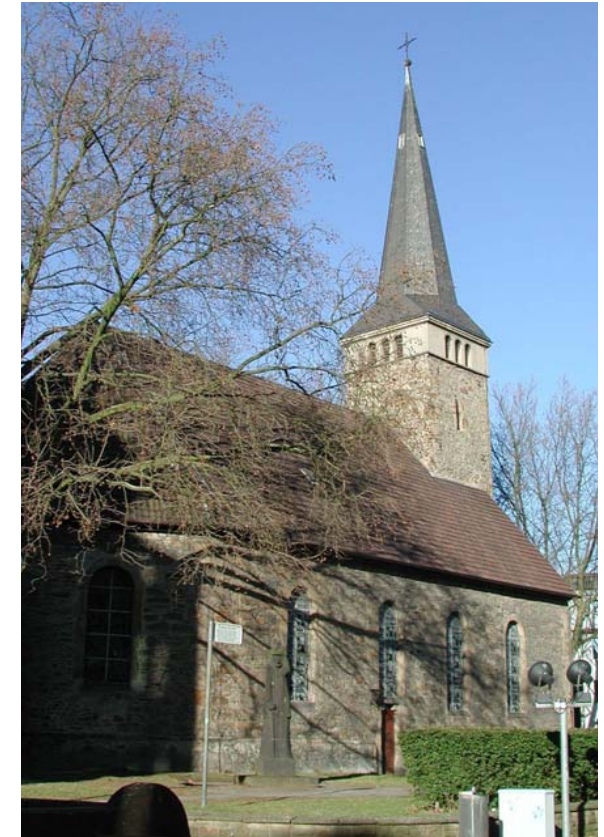
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English-speaking Christian Congregation
Bochum, Germany

27 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