

Watchword for the Week

May the God of peace sanctify you entirely; and may your spirit and soul and body be kept sound and blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.
(1 Thessalonians 5:23)
(Moravian Daily Texts 2014)

ORGAN PRELUDE

WELCOME and CALL to WORSHIP
(Psalm 126)

When the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion,
we were like those who are in a dream.
**Then our mouth was filled with laughter,
and our tongue with shouts of joy;**
then it was said among the nations,
“The Lord has done great things for them.”
**The Lord has done great things for us,
and we rejoice.**

Restore our fortunes, O Lord,
like the watercourses in the Negeb.
**May those who sow in tears
reap with shouts of joy.**
Those who go out weeping,
bearing the seed for sowing,
**shall come home with shouts of joy,
carrying their sheaves.**

Hymn 512 * *To God be the glory!*
People's Choice Hymns are marked with an asterisk (*)
(Three Advent candles are carried into church lit)

OPENING PRAYER

Come, great spirit of joy,
and fill our hearts and minds today.
**Come, miraculous laughter,
and help us to rejoice.**

Come, enlivening comforter, and give us the
courage to proclaim and celebrate all that
sparks the divine flame within us.
**Come, wondrous light,
and lead us on this path toward new life.**

Come, for we are ready to hear your words and
feel your presence.
**Come, for we are your people,
longing to be renewed.**

A voice is crying in the wilderness – a
wilderness not just of stony and barren places,
but a wilderness of wrong, of short-sightedness,
of selfishness. A voice is proclaiming hope,
and light is coming to our world.

A voice is crying in the wilderness – a
wilderness not just of frantic lives and shattered
dreams, but a wilderness of wrong, of hatred, of
warfare. A voice is proclaiming peace,
and light is coming to our world.

A voice is crying in the wilderness – a
wilderness not just of darkness and despair, but
a wilderness of guilt, of fear, of self-doubt.
In the wilderness, a voice is proclaiming joy,
and light is coming to our world. Amen.

CHILDREN'S TIME

WORDS of ASSURANCE

God is in Christ, proclaiming good news to the
poor, healing the broken-hearted, announcing
release to captives, and freedom to all who are
imprisoned. The time has come when the Lord
will save his people. **Thanks be to God. Amen.**

SHARING GOD'S PEACE

Hymn 359 * *He came down...*
(Children may leave for Kids' Church in the halls next door)

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11 *OT p. 725 (726)*

Hymn 276 *Wait for the Lord, his day is near*
(Hymn of the Month, December 2014)

St. John 1:6-8, 19-28 *NT p. 117 (116)*
People may stand for the Gospel reading.

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

Hymn 277 * *Hark the glad sound!*

SERMON *Rev. James Brown*

Hymn 468 *Son of God, eternal Saviour*
(Offerings are gathered and brought forward)
(Hymn of the Month, November 2012)

DEDICATION PRAYER

**Holy God, teach us how to create a world
where all may seek their truest joy and none
are prevented from sharing theirs. Help us
not to fear, but to grasp on to the wings of
opportunity and allow your light to shine in
us and in the world. Amen.**

NOTICES and PRAYERS for OTHERS
Lord, in your mercy: **hear our prayer.**

**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 283

The voice of God goes out
(Tune Woodlands, No. 622)

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

ORGAN POSTLUDE



*“I can say that I never knew what joy was
like until I gave up pursuing happiness, or
cared to live until I chose to die. For these
two discoveries I am beholden to Jesus.”*

Malcolm Muggeridge (1903-1990)
English author and broadcaster

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:** Herold Dehling
 - Organ:** Ingeborg Maiwald
- Our **offering** during worship is our main source of income. **Please give generously.** Last Sunday's offering totalled € 116.07.
- After worship you are invited to the **Kirchencafé** next door to the church for tea, coffee and continued fellowship.
- **Diary for the week ahead:**
 - Wed. 17 Dec.:** *ECC Choir* 6 pm (Church)
 - Fri. 19 Dec.:** *Joyful Singers* 7 pm (Halls)
- **Advent and Christmas dates**
 - Sunday, 21 December** at 12:30 hrs:
Christmas Pageant (relive the Story).
 - Wednesday, 24 December** at 19:30 hrs:
Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion
 - Thursday, 25 December** at 12:30 hrs:
Christmas Day Communion
 - Sunday, 28 December** at 12:30 hrs:
1 after Christmas, Pastor Bob Haworth
 - Sunday, 4 January 2015** at 12:30 hrs:
Epiphany celebration / Covenant Sunday
- **Ecumenical Prayer Cycle** for this week: **Benin, Côte d'Ivoire, and Togo.** For details, follow the link from www.ecc-bochum.de
- Please switch all **mobile phones** off or to the mute mode / vibration signal during worship. Thank you.



Church address

Ev. Pauluskirche, Grabenstrasse 9, 44787 Bochum

Pastor Rev. James Brown (Church of Scotland)
Neustrasse 15, 44787 Bochum
Tel.: 0234 13365 E-mail: j.brown56@gmx.de

Pastor emeritus Rev Dr Robert Haworth
(United Church of Christ, USA)
Tel. 0234 62349212

Church Council

| | |
|----------------------------------|---------------|
| Maria Adouakou | 0234 5896042 |
| Herold Dehling (Secretary) | 0234 8935761 |
| Derick Fonjong (Asst. Secretary) | 0173 7374123 |
| Heike Hundekiker (Presbytery) | 0234 680824 |
| Justus Masa | 0162 8799736 |
| Michelle Mizuno-Wiedner | 0160 93805969 |
| Jimmimah Ujma | 02327 586955 |

Treasurer Ulrich Schwarz 0234 799695

Kids' Church Gundi Dehling 0234 8935761
Gloria Akwen 0201 7998351
Maria Adouakou 0234 5896042

Safeguarding Debbie Hubweber 0152 10370641

Readers' Rota Mary Otto 02366 37441

Organist Ingeborg Maiwald 0234 383395

Joyful Singers Debbie Hubweber 0152 10370641
Cynthia Ekokobe 0152 11428733

Website Marcel Adig adigsys@yahoo.com

Church Officer Wolfgang Rochowiak 0234 6404559

Bank Account "Englische Gemeinde"
IBAN: DE89 4305 0001 0001 4132 36
SWIFT-BIC: WELADED1BOC
(Sparkasse Bochum)

Website: www.ecc-bochum.de
E-mail: ecc-bochum@gmx.de

English-speaking Christian Congregation
Bochum, Germany

14 December 2014



John the Baptist Detail from the
Isenheim Altar by Matthias Grünewald

Advent 3

"Pax intransibus, salus exeuntibus"

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

Worship every Sunday at 12.30

ECUMENICAL • INTERNATIONAL • ENGLISH-LANGUAGE