

Watchword for the Week

By grace you have been saved through faith,
and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God.
(Ephesians 2:8)
(Moravian Daily Texts 2015)

May our joy and despair, loneliness and longings,
not remain hidden or divided from one another,
but inform each other and befriend each other,
and so may our souls be enlivened and strong.

God our life, our wholeness, our friend, lead us to that place within us where darkness and light, the mornings and evenings of the heart, may meet one another, know each other, and embrace. Amen.

CHILDREN'S TIME

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

PRAYER OF BLESSING
... me and us. **So we bless you.**

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Numbers 21:4-9 OT p. 152
St. John 3:14-21 NT p. 119
People may stand for the Gospel reading.

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

Hymn 393 *We turn to God* (Bonhoeffer)

SERMON Rev. James Brown

Hymn 347 *Unless a single grain of wheat*
(Offerings are gathered and brought forward)
(Hymn of the Month, March 2015)

DEDICATION PRAYER

Bless these gifts that we give today, for we lift our eyes and see there is much we can do to bring about wholeness and healing in our world. May they contribute in bringing light to dark places. Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYERS for OTHERS

Hear our prayers: **and let your kingdom come.**

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.

INVITATION and PRAYER

Look, Lord, on your children, who love your name and need your care. Let your hands be known in the touch of friends. **Lord, say the word and we shall be healed.**

*God to enfold you, Christ to uphold you,
Spirit to keep you in heaven's sight;
So may God grace you, heal and embrace you,
lead you through darkness into the light.*

If you wish to receive the prayer of blessing and the laying-on of hands, come to sit, stand or kneel in the sanctuary area. You may also share in pronouncing the prayer of blessing on others.

PRAYER for the LAYING-ON of HANDS
Spirit of the living God, present with us now, enter you, body, mind, and spirit, and heal you of all that harms you, in Jesus' name. Amen.

SHARING GOD'S PEACE

CLOSING PRAYER

Hymn 530 *One more step along the world*

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

ORGAN POSTLUDE

ORGAN PRELUDE

WELCOME and CALL to WORSHIP

O God, who created the heavens
and stretched them out, **we praise you.**
You fashioned the earth
and all that lives there: **we praise you.**
You give breath to the people upon it,
and Spirit to those who walk on it:
we praise and thank you, O God.

That the eyes of the blind be opened,
the broken-hearted be healed,
the poor hear the good news,
the captives be brought out of darkness:
**Your kingdom come, O Lord;
Your will be done.**

So shall we sing a new song, O Lord,
and praise your name for ever.

Hymn 518 * *Lift up your hearts!*
People's Choice Hymns are marked with an asterisk (*)

PRAYER OF APPROACH

Eternal God who desires our wholeness,
because life is difficult and love is not easy,
and doubt and struggle, suffering and failure
are inevitable for each and every one of us,
**help us to respect the darkness of our
painful feelings and make a bold place
for them in our lives.**

Help us to recognise that without them
we can have no true sense of life's great depth,
and that within them lies our capacity to love,
to create, and to make meaning.

**Help us also to welcome our yearnings
for joy and release, for flowers and the sun,
spaces to dream and the need to be loved.**

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: Heike Hundeiker
Reader: Eric Obimdi
Organ: Ingeborg Maiwald
- Our **offering** during worship is our main source of income. **Please give generously.**
- 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. 18 Mar.: *ECC Choir* 6 pm (Church)
Fri. 20 Mar.: *Joyful Singers* 7 pm (Halls)
- **Ecumenical Prayer Cycle** for this week: **Cambodia, Laos** and **Vietnam**. More information via: 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 Hundeiker (Presbytery)	0234 680824
Justus Masa	0162 8799736
Michelle Mizuno-Wiedner	0160 93805969
Jimmimah Ujma	02327 586955
Treasurer	Marcus Sarpong 0234 6238133
Kids' Church	Maria Adouakou 0234 5896042 Gundi Dehling 0234 8935761 Astrid Puspita 01578 5353498

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

15 March 2015



Lent 4

Iona Community liturgy
of prayers for healing

"Pax intrantibus, salus exeuntibus"

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

Worship every Sunday at 12.30