

Watchword for the Week

Surely God's salvation is at hand for those who fear him, that his glory may dwell in our land.

(Psalm 85:9)

(Moravian Daily Texts 2015)

**Goodness is stronger than evil,
love is stronger than hate,
light is stronger than darkness,
truth is stronger than lies.**

Because you have promised to hear us,
and are able to change us,
and are willing to make our hearts your home,
we ask you to confront, control,
forgive and encourage us, as you know best.
Then let us cherish in our hearts
that which we proclaim with our lips:

**Goodness is stronger than evil,
love is stronger than hate,
light is stronger than darkness,
truth is stronger than lies.**

Lord, hear our prayer,
and change our lives
until we live out the grace of You,
who makes all things new. **Amen.**

ASSURANCE of PARDON

How we long to hang on to the past!
We get all tied up remembering,
keeping count, bearing grudges.
God doesn't. Your past is accepted.
Let it go. Live in the freedom God gives
to you each day. **Thanks be to God. Amen.**

CHILDREN'S TIME

*Thank you, Lord, for giving us life, (3x)
right where we are!*

*Halleluia, praise the Lord, (3x)
right where we are!*

*Thank you, Lord for giving us 1. ___ 2. ___ 3. ___ (3x)
right where we are!*

Halleluia, praise the Lord, (3x) right where we are!

SHARING GOD'S PEACE

(Children may go to Kids' Church in the halls next door)

Song *

Lord of the dance

(Robert Jakeman – guitar and tambourine)

Refrain: (congregation)

*Dance, then, wherever you may be,
I am the Lord of the Dance, said he,*

*and I'll lead you all, wherever you may be,
and I'll lead you all in the dance, said he.*

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Epistle: Ephesians 1:3-12 NT p. 240

Hymn 175 * *Praise, I will praise you, Lord*

Gospel: St. Matthew 5:38-48 NT p. 8

People may stand for the Gospel reading.

The Word of God. **Thanks be to God!**

Hymn 575 *Over my head, I hear music
(Hymn of the Month, July 2015)*

SERMON Rev. Dr. Robert Haworth

Hymn 182 * (eg 321) *Now thank we all our God
(Offerings are gathered and brought forward)*

AFFIRMATION of FAITH

(United Church of Christ Statement of Faith)

(eg 818, page 1248)

NOTICES and PRAYERS for OTHERS

Response: Holy God, scatter all darkness:

and bathe our world in your light.

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, for ever and ever. Amen.

Hymn 167 * *Guide me, O thou great Jehovah*

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

ORGAN POSTLUDE

ORGAN PRELUDE

WELCOME and CALL to WORSHIP

(Verses from Psalm 24)

Lift up your heads, O gates!

**and be lifted up, O ancient doors,
that the King of glory may come in!**

Who is the King of glory?

**The Lord, strong and mighty,
the Lord, mighty in battle!**

Lift up your heads, O gates!

**and be lifted up, O ancient doors,
that the King of glory may come in!**

Who is the King of glory?

**The Lord of hosts,
he is the King of glory!**

Hymn 160 * *Praise my soul the King*

People's Choice Hymns are marked with an asterisk (*)

PRAYER of APPROACH

Because you made the world,
and intended it to be a good place,
and called its people your children;
because, when things seemed at their worst,
you came in Christ to bring out the best in us;
so, gracious God, we gladly say:

**Goodness is stronger than evil,
love is stronger than hate,
light is stronger than darkness,
truth is stronger than lies.**

Because confusion can reign inside us,
despite our faith,
because anger, tension, bitterness, and envy
distort our vision,
because our minds sometimes worry
small things out of proportion,
because we do not always get it right,
we want to believe:

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:**
Preacher: Rev. Dr. Robert Haworth
Reader: Michelle Mizuno-Wiedner
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.
- **Ecumenical Prayer Cycle** for this week: **Costa Rica, El Salvador, Nicaragua and Panama.** For more information and prayer topics, please visit: www.ecc-bochum.de
- Please switch all **mobile phones** off or to the mute mode / vibration signal during worship. Thank you.



"We must develop and maintain the capacity to forgive. He who is devoid of the power to forgive is devoid of the power to love. There is some good in the worst of us and some evil in the best of us. When we discover this, we are less prone to hate our enemies."

Martin Luther King, Jr.



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English-speaking Christian Congregation
Bochum, Germany

12 July 2015



Seventh Sunday after
Pentecost

"Pax intrantibus, salus exeuntibus"

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

Worship every Sunday at 12.30