

Watchword for the Week

Lay aside immaturity, and live,
and walk in the way of insight. (Proverbs 9:6)
(Moravian Daily Texts 2015)

ORGAN PRELUDE

WELCOME and CALL to WORSHIP (Verses from Psalm 111)

With all my heart I will thank the LORD
in the assembly of his people.

How wonderful are the things the LORD does!

All who are delighted with them
want to understand them.

***All God does is full of honour and majesty;
his righteousness is eternal.***

In all he does, God is faithful and just;
all his commands are dependable.

***They last for all time; they were given
in truth and righteousness.***

He set his people free and made an eternal
covenant with them. ***Holy and mighty is he!***

The way to become wise is to honour the LORD;
he gives sound judgement to all who obey his
commands. ***He is to be praised for ever!***

Hymn 465 *

Be thou my Vision

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

PRAYER of APPROACH

God of love and grace,
to come together as a church family,
as a fellowship of believers,
as a community of seekers;
to sing songs, to listen to ancient stories,
to ponder reflections, to sit in silence
seems so foolish, so odd, so unusual to so
many people in this day and in our land.

God of hope and healing, to come to you and
acknowledge that we are but children;
to dedicate our lives to you and your son;
to ask you how we can serve the kingdom of
heaven within the economy of grace
seems so peculiar, so quaint in an era
when the 'I' trumps the 'we',

when idols overshadow icons, when the
consumer replaces the compassionate.

God, if following Christ is foolish in this
generation, help us to be ex-centric,
help us to be those outside the centres
of presumed knowledge and power,
following instead a path of apparent folly,
which is in fact the wisdom of the ages,
the insight of eternity, the awareness of love.

Bless us, God,
with the wisdom that flows from you.

Bless us God, ***with the wisdom
that is Christ's love and compassion.***

Bless us God, ***with the wisdom discerned as
we follow the promptings of the Spirit,***
that in our feeble, human frame,
with our yearning hearts and enquiring minds,
we may hear you speaking to us,
and we may in our hearts and in our souls
join you at the banquet of eternal life
which is laid before us in worship,
which is laid before us in your creation,
which is laid before us so beautifully and
transparently in the life, death and resurrection
of Christ our Lord. ***Thanks be to God. Amen.***

Hymn 65 *

Jubilate, everybody!

CHILDREN'S TIME

SHARING GOD'S PEACE

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

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Ephesians 5:15-20 *NT p. 244*

St. John 6:51-58 *NT p. 125*

People may stand for the Gospel reading.

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

Hymn 672

*Father, we thank you
(Hymn of the Month, August 2015)*

SERMON

Rev. James Brown

Hymn 604

Holy wisdom, lamp of learning

(Offerings are gathered and brought forward)

DEDICATION PRAYER

***We rejoice, God, that because Jesus lives,
we too can live.***

***We rejoice that the Spirit fills our lives. We
show your love in words and music, raising
our hearts and voices in praise.***

***God, we give you our offerings and our
praise, through Jesus Christ. Amen.***

NOTICES and PRAYERS for OTHERS

Response: God, send your Spirit:

Renew the life of the earth.

***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 83 *

I rejoiced when I heard / Shalom

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:**
 - Door duty:** Tamsin Kostrewa
 - Duty elder:** Heike Hundeiker
 - Reader:** Debbie Hubweber
 - Organ:** Ingeborg Maiwald
- Our **offering** during worship is our main source of income. ***Please give generously.*** Last Sunday's offering totalled € 361.52.
- 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 is for ***the Pacific Islands*** and the French Overseas Territories of ***New Caledonia (Kanaky)*** and ***French Polynesia (Tahiti)***. Info and prayers at: www.ecc-bochum.de
- **Diary for the week ahead:**
 - Wed. 19 Aug.:** ***ECC Choir*** 6 pm (Church)
 - Fri. 21 Aug.:** ***Joyful Singers*** 7 pm (Halls)
 - Sat. 22 Aug.:** ***Gemeindefest*** noon - 6 pm
 - Sun. 23 Aug.:** ***Joint Family Worship*** 11 am
- **More dates** – note these in your diaries!
 - Sunday, 6 September** at 12:00 noon
Bochumer Musiksommer: ecumenical open-air worship at the Kuhhirten statue stage.
 - Sunday, 4 October** at 12:30 hrs
Harvest Thanksgiving with Gift Auction.
- Please switch all **mobile phones** off or to the mute mode / vibration signal during worship. Thank you.



ECC



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English-speaking Christian Congregation
Bochum, Germany

16 August 2015



"Sophia, Mother Wisdom"

Manuscript illumination by
Hildegard of Bingen (1098-1179)

"Pax intrantibus, salus exeuntibus"

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

Worship every Sunday at 12.30