

Watchword for the Week

The Lord lifts up those who are bowed down;
the Lord loves the righteous.
(Psalm 146:8)
(Moravian Daily Texts 2015)

ORGAN PRELUDE

WELCOME and CALL to WORSHIP (Psalm 127)

Unless the LORD builds the house,
they labour in vain who build it.

**Unless the LORD watches over the city,
the sentries stand guard in vain.**

It is in vain to work so hard for a one's bread,
getting up early and going to bed late.

**For the LORD provides for those he loves
while they are asleep.**

Children are a gift from the LORD;
and the fruit of the womb is a blessing.

**The children of one's youth
are like arrows in a soldier's hand.**

Happy is the one who has many such arrows.

**Such a one will not be put to shame
when contending with enemies at the gate.**

Hymn 184 * *Sing to the Lord a joyful song*
People's Choice Hymns are marked with an asterisk (*)

PRAYER of ADORATION and CONFESSION

God of hope,
lead all who are vulnerable
to places of sanctuary
where life may be sustained
and hope may be found.

**Bind us together in love
as a community of your people,
and strengthen us to serve you
in all we say and do.**

O God, sometimes we cannot help but notice
those who give large gifts.
We want to treat them with deference;
we want to give them places of prominence.

There are times, too, when we scoff at those
who are not able to do as much or give as
much, making them feel as if their contributions
are somehow less in your sight.

Forgive us, God, when we are more concerned
with the size of the gift than with the size of the
heart that has offered it. Help us find ways to be
affirming of the gifts of others, and to seek ways
in which we can value all people.

In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

ASSURANCE of FORGIVENESS

When we turn to God in honest confession,
God smiles upon us. God dusts us off,
forgives us, and invites us to set yesterday aside
and embark into a new tomorrow.

Thanks be to God. Amen.

CHILDREN'S TIME



Hymn 174 *God of great and God of small*

SHARING GOD'S PEACE

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

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Ruth 3:1-5 + 4:13-17 OT p. 262 (261)

St. Mark 12:37b-44 NT p. 64

People may stand for the Gospel reading.

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

Hymn 502 *

Take my life, Lord

SERMON

Rev. James Brown

Hymn 709 *

The right hand of God
(Hymn of the Month, November 2015)
(Offerings are gathered)

Hymn 807 *

Doxology

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, you heavenly hosts;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.**

(Offerings are brought forward)

DEDICATION PRAYER

**You have trusted us with so much. You have
blessed us with immeasurable gifts. Not only
do we bring our offerings to the table, we
also bring our whole lives, asking that you
would sanctify us and our gifts for the work
of you Holy Kingdom. The world seeks light
amidst the shadows. Jesus calls us to shine
in the darkness. May we in our lives be
examples of God's love. Amen.**

NOTICES and PRAYERS for OTHERS
God, 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, for ever and ever. Amen.**

Hymn 489

Come down, O Love Divine

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:**
 - Duty elder:** Justus Masa
 - Reader:** Belinda Leppkes-Obi
 - Organ:** Ingeborg Maiwald
- Our **offering** during worship is our main source of income. ***Please give generously.*** Last Sunday's offering totalled € 329.56.
- After worship, you are invited to the **Kirchencafé** next door to the church for refreshments and continued fellowship.
- **Diary for the week ahead:**
 - Wed. 11 Nov.: ECC Choir** 6 pm (Church)
 - Fri. 13 Nov.: Joyful Singers** 7 pm (Halls)
- **Exploring Faith** – talking openly about aspects of the Christian faith over a “second breakfast” before worship (10:30 to 12:00, youth cellar). Next session: **15 November**.
- **Annual General Meeting** – a review and celebration of our congregation's life and plans for the year ahead: **Sunday, 22 November** after worship in the church hall.
- **Ecumenical Prayer Cycle** this week is for the Indian Ocean islands: **Republic of Congo, Gabon, Sao Tomé and Príncipe**. Info and prayers at: www.ecc-bochum.de
- Please switch all **mobile phones** off or to the mute mode / vibration signal during worship. Thank you.



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English-speaking Christian Congregation
Bochum, Germany

8 November 2015



“Pax intrantibus, salus exeuntibus”

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

Worship every Sunday at 12.30