Watchword for the Week

Jesus says, "Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away." (Luke 21:33) (Moravian Daily Texts 2015)

ORGAN PRELUDE

WELCOME and CALL to WORSHIP (Verses from Psalm 25)

To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul.

My God, I put my trust in you;

let me not be put to shame,

nor let my enemies triumph over me.

Show me your ways, O LORD, and teach me your paths.

Lead me in your truth and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation; in you I have trusted all the day long.

Remember, O Lord, your compassion and love, for they are everlasting;

Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions; remember me according to your steadfast love and for the sake of your goodness, O Lord.

You lead the lowly in justice and teach the lowly your way.

All your paths, O Lord, are steadfast love and faithfulness to those who keep your covenant and your testimonies.

Hymn 273 * O come, O come, Emmanuel **People's Choice Hymns** are marked with an asterisk (*) (The first Advent candle is carried into church lit)

PRAYERS OF LIGHT AND CONFESSION

In the times when we tremble, the Light is with us.

In the times when we fail to hear, the Light is with us.

In the times when we dare not look, *the Light is with us.*

In our worship, in our lives, the Light is with us.

Today we light a candle... a candle of hope as we enter this season of preparation and waiting. May we prepare for the coming of the light, by seeing the light in those around us.

Show us your light as we prepare to welcome you, as we dare to hope for a new way of living and being – of living and being as children of light.

Lord Jesus Christ, come into our hearts as light: Make plain what is hidden in the shadow, and give us such joy in receiving you that we long to be rid of all that keeps us from you.

(Silence)

For the widening gulf between those in comfort and those who are poor, Come Jesus, forgive us.

Come Jesus, forgive and change us.

For the carelessness that treats our world as if there is no tomorrow, Come Jesus, forgive us,

Come Jesus, forgive and change us.

For the suspicion of what is different that sets human against human, Come Jesus, forgive us,

Come Jesus, forgive and change us.

For the embarrassment at speaking out that silences the Good News, Come Jesus, forgive us,

Come Jesus, forgive and change us.

WORDS of ASSURANCE

Forgiven and changed, our Lord Jesus makes us people of the light, shining until in his glorious presence darkness is driven away forever.

Thanks be to God. Amen.

CHILDREN'S TIME

SHARING GOD'S PEACE

(Children may leave for Kids' Church in the halls next door)

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Jeremiah 33:14-16

OT p. 770 (771)

St. Luke 21:25-36

NT p. 109 (108)

People may stand for the Gospel reading.

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

Hymn 280

Alleluia! Hurry, the Lord is near (Hymn of the Month, December 2015)

SERMON

Rev. James Brown

Hymn 543 *

Christ be our light!

(Offerings are gathered and brought forward)

DEDICATION PRAYER

We offer these gifts, O God, in the hope that they might help make your promises come true. As we give these gifts, we recommit ourselves to exploring ways to live the love and justice of Christ's coming every day throughout the year, and not just in this season. Help us to live your love. Amen.

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

Hymn *

God will take care of you

God will take care of you still to the end; Oh, what a Father, Redeemer, and Friend! Jesus will answer whenever you call; He will take care of you: trust Him for all!

BLESSING (G. S. and Jasmine Samuel)

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 167 * Guide me, O thou great Jehovah

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: Derick Fonjong Reader: Naomi Uima Organ: Ingeborg Maiwald

- > Our offering during worship is our main source of income. Please give generously. Last Sunday's offering totalled € 161.81.
- > 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. 2 Dec.: ECC Choir 6 pm (Church) Fri. 4 Dec.: Joyful Singers 7 pm (Halls)

Sun. 6 Dec.: Exploring Faith 10.30 am (Halls – downstairs in the "Jugend" cellar)

- > Advent reflections in German "Atemholen - Advent(s)Gestalten" weekdays at 4:30 pm.
- > Advent dates note these in your diaries! Sunday, 6 December at 12:30 hrs: Worship with Iona-style prayers for healing.

Saturday, 12 December at 18:00 hrs: Annual ECC Sing-along Concert.

Sunday, 20 December at 12:30 hrs: Christmas Pageant (relive the Story).

- > Ecumenical Prayer Cycle for this week: Liberia and Sierra Leone. For details, follow the prayer link from 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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Church Council

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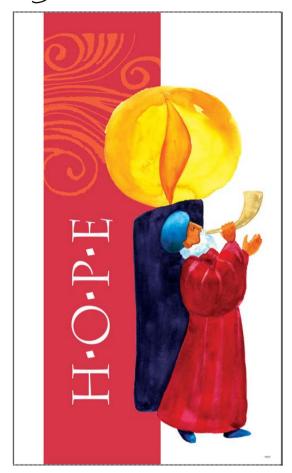
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Website: www.ecc-bochum.de E-mail: ecc-bochum(at)gmx.de

English-speaking Christian Congregation Bochum, Germany

29 November 2015



Advent 1

"Pax intrantibus, salus exeuntibus"

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

Worship every Sunday at 12.30

ECUMENICAL · INTERNATIONAL · ENGLISH-LANGUAGE