Watchword for the Week

Forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

(Philippians 3:13-14)

(Moravian Daily Texts 2016)

ORGAN PRELUDE

WELCOME and OPENING RESPONSES (Psalm 126)

When the LORD brought us back to Jerusalem, it was like a dream!

How we laughed, how we sang for joy!

Then the other nations said about us, "The LORD did great things for them." Indeed he did great things for us; how happy we were!

LORD, make us prosperous again, just as the rain brings water back to dry riverbeds.

Let those who wept as they sowed their seed gather the harvest with joy! Those who wept as they went out carrying the seed will come back singing for joy as they bring in the harvest!

Hymn 157 * Sing of the Lord's goodness **People's Choice Hymns** are marked with an asterisk (*)

PRAYER of APPROACH (The Coventry Litany)



The Coventry Litany of Reconciliation we have been using in Lent centres on the words "Father, forgive", written in chalk by Provost Howard of Coventry, England, on the walls of the ruined Cathedral after the German *Luftwaffe* had bombed and destroyed the city on 14 November 1940. Even amidst the shock, Provost Howard insisted that Christ's command to love our enemies and to forgive one another remains of prime importance for Christian reconciliation and community.

CALL to PRAYER (Romans 3:23)

All have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God, and so, together, we pray:

LITANY of RECONCILIATION

The hatred which divides nation from nation, race from race, class from class, *Father, forgive.*

The covetous desires of people and nations to possess what is not their own, *Father, forgive.*

The greed which exploits the work of human hands and lays waste the earth, *Father, forgive.*

Our envy of the welfare and happiness of others, *Father, forgive.*

Our indifference to the plight of the imprisoned, the homeless, the refugee, *Father, forgive.*

The lust which dishonours the bodies of men, women and children, *Father, forgive.*

The pride which leads us to trust in ourselves and not in God, *Father, forgive*.

WORDS of ASSURANCE (Ephesians 4:32) In Christ, God has shown us the way out of our sin and our division: "Be kind to one another, tender-hearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you." *Thanks be to God. Amen.*

CHILDREN'S TIME

SHARING GOD'S PEACE

Hymn 204 * I am the Church! (Children may go to join the Kids' Church programme)

I am the Church! You are the Church! We are the Church together! All who follow Jesus, all around the world, yes, we're the Church together.

The Church is not a building; the Church is not a steeple; the Church is not a resting-place; the Church is a people!

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Isaiah 43:16-21

OT p. 707

St. John 12:1-8

NT p. 134

People may stand for the Gospel reading.
The word of God: **Thanks be to God!**

Hvmn 502 *

Take my life, Lord, let it be

SERMON Geeske Brinkmann (Faculty of Theology, Humboldt University Berlin)

Hymn 354 O Love, how deep, how broad (Hymn of the Month, February 2016) (Offerings are gathered and brought forward)

DEDICATION PRAYER (Iona Community)

We affirm a faith that takes us into action and into the streets, and so we commit ourselves to work for change and put ourselves on the line; to bear responsibility, take risks, live powerfully and face humiliation; to stand with those on the edge; to choose life and be used by the Spirit for God's new community of hope. Amen.

NOTICES and PRAYERS for OTHERS Response: Lord, 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 685

For everyone born, a place... (Hymn of the Month, March 2016)

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:

Preacher: Geeske Brinkmann **Duty Elder:** Derick Foniona Reader: Birait Könne 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.
- > The WCC Ecumenical Prayer Cycle this week focuses on Mvanmar and Thailand. More information at: www.ecc-bochum.de
- > Diary for the week ahead:

Wednesday, 16 March 6:00 pm **ECC Choir** practice in church

Holy Week Diary:

Sunday, 20 March (Palm Sunday)

12:30 pm Worship with Palm Procession

Thursday, 24 March (Maundy Thursday) 6:00 pm **Table Communion**

Friday, 25 March (Good Friday)

12:30 pm *Worship* with Holy Communion

Sunday, 27 March

12:30 pm **Worship** with Holy Communion

> Please switch all **mobile phones** off or to the mute mode / vibration signal during worship. Thank you.









Church address

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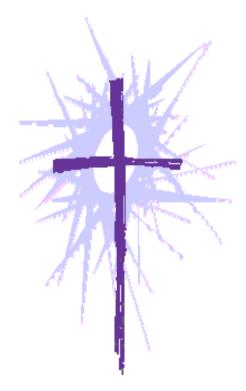
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English-speaking Christian Congregation Bochum. Germany

13 March 2016



Lent 5

"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