

Watchword for the Week

Let those who fear the Lord say, "His steadfast love endures forever." (Psalm 118:4)

(Moravian Daily Texts 2016)

ORGAN PRELUDE

WELCOME and OPENING RESPONSES (Verses from Psalm 118)

Give thanks to the LORD, because he is good, and his love is eternal. Let the people of Israel say, "His love is eternal." **Let the priests of God say, "His love is eternal." Let all who worship him say, "His love is eternal."**

Open to me the gates of the Temple;
I will go in and give thanks to the LORD!

**This is the gate of the LORD;
only the righteous can come in.**

I praise you, LORD, because you heard me,
because you have given me victory. **The stone which the builders rejected as worthless turned out to be the most important of all.**

May God bless the one who comes in the name of the LORD! The LORD is God; he is good to us. **With branches in your hands, start the festival and march round the altar.**

You are my God, and I give you thanks;
I will proclaim your greatness.

Give thanks to the LORD, because he is good, and his love is eternal.

Hymn 185 * *Come, children, join and sing*
People's Choice Hymns are marked with an asterisk (*)

PRAYER of APPROACH

Love has burst through the gates of Jerusalem!
We welcome the obedient, humble, and sacrificial love of God into our lives on this Palm Sunday. **Fill our hearts with this love as we worship the one who taught us how to love one another.**

Loving God, we have journeyed through the long Season of Lent in the hopes of drawing

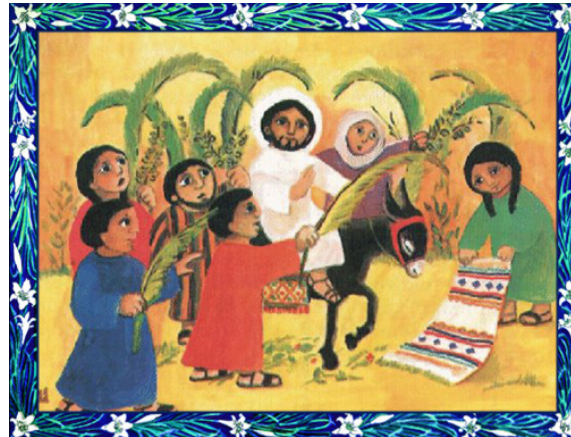
closer to you. Today, Jesus enters Jerusalem as a sovereign, but the week ahead will bring torture and trial. **God, we know there are times when we have betrayed you, denied you, and turned away from you.** We recall the times when we have behaved like the crowd that shouts their praise today, but will shout: "Crucify him" later this week. **We humbly ask your forgiveness. Amen.**

WORDS of ASSURANCE

In the powerful events of Jesus' passion and death, God demonstrates that there are no limits to the love God has for us, no matter what we do. Remember the examples of love that Jesus gives, and be free from your sins.

Thanks be to God. Amen.

CHILDREN'S TIME



Hymn 369 * *Here comes Jesus on a donkey*

SHARING GOD'S PEACE

(Children may go to join the Kids' Church programme)

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Philippians 2:5-11 *NT p. 248 (247)*

St. Luke 19:28-40 *NT p. 105*
People may stand for the Gospel reading.

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

Hymn 685 1+4+5 *For everyone born, a place...*
(Hymn of the Month, March 2016)

SERMON

Rev. James Brown

Hymn 364 * *All glory, laud, and honour*

PALM PROCESSION / OFFERING

Please bring your offerings and your "palm" leaves forward and place them in the altar space. New Bibles and hymnbooks are also brought forward.

DEDICATION PRAYER

Humble and loving God, we dedicate these offerings given out of gratitude to you:

May you bless all who come in your name.

We dedicate these Bibles to their use in worship, teaching the truth of your living Word:

May you bless all who come in your name.

We dedicate these hymnbooks, their pages full of songs, that they may help us to praise you with hearts full of songs of joy and adoration:

May you bless all who come in your name.

Hear us as we pray. **Amen.**

NOTICES and PRAYERS for OTHERS

Response: You are our God:

we welcome you.

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 365 * *Ride on! Ride on in majesty!*

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:** Jessica Thorpe
 - Organ:** Ingeborg Maiwald
- Our **offering** during worship is our main source of income. ***Please give generously.*** Last Sunday's offering totalled € 199.43.
- 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 **Cambodia, Laos** and **Vietnam**. More info at: www.ecc-bochum.de
- **Diary for the week ahead:**
 - Wednesday, 23 March**
5:30 pm **ECC Choir** practice in church
 - **Holy Week Diary:**
 - 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.



ECC



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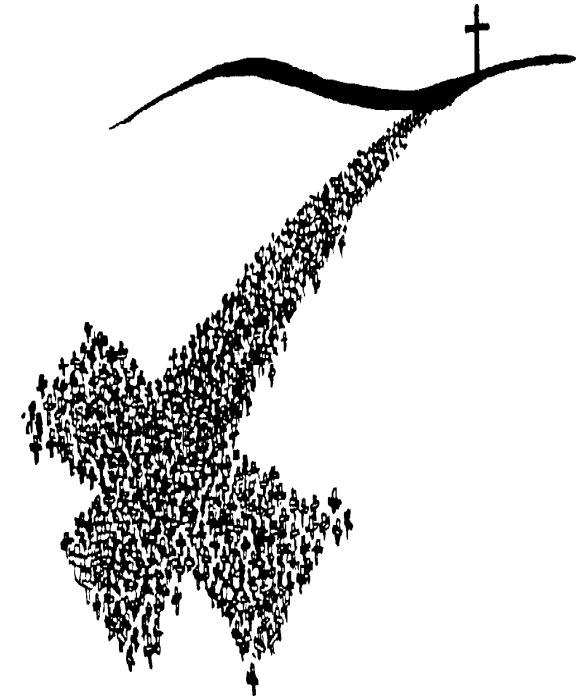
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English-speaking Christian Congregation
Bochum, Germany

20 March 2016



Palm Sunday

"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