

Watchword for the Week

Sing praises to the Lord, O you his faithful ones,
and give thanks to his holy name.

(Psalm 30:4)

(Moravian Daily Texts 2016)

Despite the glory of Christ's Good News in our lives, we know that so often we resist your calling to us. ***Too readily we go our own ways, and ignore your better path for our lives. So, gracious God, we come before you now, seeking your forgiveness.***

For all that you have given us, ***we thank you.***
For all the times when we have not done as you wish, ***we are truly sorry.***

When we feel empty,
fill us with life fresh and new.

When we haven't lived as you have directed us,
help us make our paths straight.

When we have not spoken out against injustice,
enable us to speak for all who have been silenced. Renew us with your love. Amen.

WORDS of ASSURANCE

For all our failings and stumblings, God is faithful and true. God forgives us, renews us, gives us life afresh and new directions for our journey. ***Thanks be to God! Amen!***

CHILDREN'S TIME

*Spirit of God in the clear running water,
Blowing to greatness the trees on the hill –
Spirit of God in the finger of morning,
Fill the earth, bring it to birth, and blow where
You will. Blow, blow, blow till I be
but breath of the Spirit blowing in me!*

(Children may join the Kids' Church programme)

SCRIPTURE READINGS

I Kings 17:8-16 OT p. 353 (351)

St. Luke 7:11-17 NT p. 84

People may stand for the Gospel reading.

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

Hymn 257 * Singing, we gladly worship

SERMON Rev. Dr. Robert Haworth
(United Church of Christ, USA)

Hymn 673 * Let us talents and tongues employ
(Offerings are gathered and brought forward)

AFFIRMATION of FAITH United Church of Canada

We are not alone. We live in God's world.

We believe in God:

***who has created and is creating,
who has come in Jesus, the Word made
flesh, to reconcile and make new;
who works in us and others by the Spirit.***

We trust in God.

***We are called to be the Church,
to celebrate God's presence,
to love and serve others,
to seek justice and resist evil,
to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,
our judge and our hope.***

***In life, in death, in life beyond death,
God is with us. We are not alone.***

Thanks be to God. Amen.

COMMUNION PRAYER

God be with you. ***And also with you.***

Lift up your hearts. ***We lift them to God.***

Let us give thanks to God most high.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Holy God, our loving creator... with the faithful in every place and time, we praise with joy your holy name:

Hymn 769* Holy, holy, holy

Consecrate, therefore, by your Holy Spirit... and we may continue faithful in all things. ***In the strength Christ gives us, we offer ourselves to you, eternal God, and give thanks that you have called us to serve you. Amen.***

BREAKING of BREAD

Jesus, Lamb of God, ***have mercy upon us.***

Jesus, bearer of our sins, ***have mercy upon us.***

Jesus, redeemer of the world, ***grant us peace.***

Let us pray as Christ our Saviour has taught us:

The Lord's Prayer (No. 652, Version 2b)

SHARING the ELEMENTS

(Please come forward for Communion.)

PASSING GOD'S PEACE

PRAYER of APPROACH

God of time and God of seasons,
***we come before you today,
marveling at your love and grace.***

You create our good earth with all its riches;
***you make each one of us in your likeness;
you grant us freedom and hold out to us
your wisdom, so that our lives may be led by
your divine guidance.***

We thank you for clothing us in our humanity:
***with minds to think for ourselves;
with arms to reach out to others;
with feet to walk your way of truth and peace.***

Hymn 160 * Praise, my soul, the King
People's Choice Hymns are marked with an asterisk (*)

NOTICES and PRAYERS for OTHERS

Response: O God, work in us:
inspiring both will and deed.

Hymn 175 * Praise, I will praise you, Lord

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 we celebrate **Holy Communion** – you are **invited to share** in this sacrament, including your children if you so wish.
- **Today's worship team:**
Duty elder: Herold Dehling
Reader: Wolfgang Rochowiak
Organ: Ingeborg Maiwald
- Our **offering** during worship is our main source of income. **Please give generously.** Last Sunday's offerings totalled: €416.31 (Worship: €259.73; Concert: €156.58).
- 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 **Lesotho, Namibia, South Africa** and **Swaziland**.
- **Exploring faith** sessions at 10:30 a.m. on Sunday mornings in the youth cellar: **"Pray like a gourmet"** Dates: 12, 19, and 26 June.
- Please switch all **mobile phones** off or to the mute mode / vibration signal during worship. Thank you.



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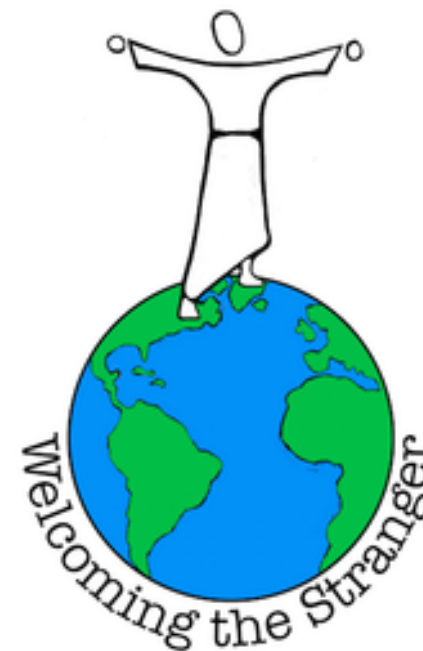
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English-speaking Christian Congregation
Bochum, Germany

5 June 2016



Holy Communion

"Pax intransibus, salus exeuntibus"

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

Worship every Sunday at 12.30

ECUMENICAL • INTERNATIONAL • ENGLISH-LANGUAGE