

Watchword for the Week

For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. (1 Corinthians 1:18)

(Moravian Daily Texts 2017)

ORGAN PRELUDE

WELCOME and CALL to WORSHIP
(Psalm 15)

LORD, who may enter your Temple?

Who may worship on Zion, your sacred hill?

Those who obey God in everything

and always do what is right,

**whose words are true and sincere,
and who do not slander others.**

They do no wrong to their friends
nor spread rumours about their neighbours.

**They despise those whom God rejects,
but honour those who obey the LORD.**

They always do what they promise,
no matter how much it may cost.

**They make loans without charging interest
and cannot be bribed
to testify against the innocent.**

Whoever does these things
will always be secure. **Amen.**

Hymn 175 * *Praise, I will praise you, Lord*
People's Choice Hymns are marked with an asterisk (*)

OPENING PRAYER

We are blessed when we hunger for justice
and thirst for reconciliation. **Our souls
are nourished by God's hope and grace.**

We are blessed when we grieve
over the brokenness of the world,
**choosing, as God does, to be with
those who are weak and powerless.**

We are blessed when we become God's fools,
**willing to do what is right and good,
not what is easy.**

If we want to truly live in God's presence, we
must live as God's faithful people.

Thanks be to God, who calls us all to action.

We pray for those who argue for justice.

May their words find shape and life!

We give thanks for those
who turn words into action.

Thanks be to God, who calls us all to action.

We pray for those whose words save live.

May their words find shape and life!

We give thanks for those who listen.

Thanks be to God, who calls us all to action.

We pray for those who can change the lives of
those who are most under threat.

May their words find shape and life!

We pray for those who are
standing up against injustice.

Thanks be to God, who calls us all to action.

O God, you turn things upside down,
calling the wise to embrace your folly.

**Open us to the vision of your reign on Earth,
and strengthen us to do our part.**

Hymn 97 *Oh God, you search me*
(Hymn of the Month, February 2017)

WORDS of ASSURANCE

What has God done to us? **Shown mercy!**

What has God done for us? **Forgiven us!**

This is the good news for us. We will not boast,
for it is not our doing. **We will give thanks to
God for such grace and hope. Amen.**

Choruses *

*I have a Father who will never ever fail me. (2x)
Jesus is my Saviour; He will never ever fail me.
Rock of Ages never ever fail.*

*He's a miracle-working God. (2x)
He's the Alpha and Omega.
He's a miracle-working God.*

CHILDREN'S TIME

Hymn 351 *Jesus' hands were kind hands*

SHARING GOD'S PEACE

(Children may join the Kids' Church programme)

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Micah 6:1-8 *OT p. 902 (901)*

1 Corinthians 1:18-31 *NT p. 206*

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

Hymn 341 * *Blest are they, the poor in spirit*

SERMON *Rev. James Brown*

Hymn 502 * *Take my life, Lord, let it be*
(Offerings are gathered and brought forward)

DEDICATION PRAYER

**Gracious Lord, we did not come towards you
– you came first to us and lived among us,
speaking, including, welcoming, protesting,
teaching, challenging, sharing, dying, rising.
You are so much more than your words; you
are Word made Flesh. Make us more like
you; make our words live through the
actions of our lives. For you are for us the
Word of Life and the Bread of Life. Amen.**

NOTICES and PRAYERS for OTHERS

**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 514 * *Onward, Christian soldiers!*

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:** Jimmimah Ujma
 - Organ:** Ingeborg Maiwald
- Our **offering** during worship is our main source of income. **Please give generously.** Last Sunday's offering totalled € 190.80.
- **Covenant pledges:** complete a **pledge card** and put it in the offering basket today (last opportunity) to covenant giving for 2017.
- 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 **Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway** and **Sweden**. Follow the link from our website: 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

29 January 2017



Roman graffiti (Palatine Hill, ca. 125 AD)
Greek text: Alexamenos sebethe theon
(Alexamenos praying to [his] God)

4 after Epiphany

"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