

### Watchword for the Week

Choose life so that you and your descendants may live, loving the Lord your God, obeying him, and holding fast to him. (Deuteronomy 30:19-20)

(Moravian Daily Texts 2017)

**Have mercy on us, God who is everywhere. May we set aside our squabbling natures to be united in common worship, common service, and a common purpose, as we follow Jesus the Christ. Amen.**

St. Matthew 5:33-37

NT p. 8

**Hymn 97** v. 4-5 *Although your Spirit is upon me*

SERMON

Rev. James Brown

**Hymn 527** \*

*Lord, make us servants  
(Offerings are gathered and brought forward)*

### WORDS of ASSURANCE

God's forgiveness dwells in our hearts; Christ's love fills us; Spirit's peace guides our steps.

**We are forgiven. Our feet are set on the journey. Walking in faith and hope with our God, we will be servants to the world. Thanks be to God. Amen.**

### DEDICATION PRAYER

**We pray, Lord, that we may together offer help, hope and encouragement to one another and to those in need. Lord, may you continue to encounter and to confront us along the pathways of life, that our faith may be strengthened and transformed making us worthy of your blessing and ready in your service. Amen.**

### CHILDREN'S TIME

**Hymn 530** \* *One more step along the world*



**Chorus** \*

*Dependable, reliable God  
Dependable, reliable God. (2x)  
I will do as you say; you are worthy to be  
praise, dependable, reliable God.*

### NOTICES and PRAYERS for OTHERS

Response: Show us the way of life;  
**and help us to walk in it.**

The LORD'S PRAYER (German)

English words at: **Hymn 652**, Second Form (b)

**Vater unser im Himmel, geheiligt werde dein Name. Dein Reich komme. Dein Wille geschehe, wie im Himmel, so auf Erden. Unser tägliches Brot gib uns heute. Und vergib uns unsere Schuld, wie auch wir vergeben unsern Schuldigern. Und führe uns nicht in Versuchung, sondern erlöse uns von dem Bösen. Denn dein ist das Reich und die Kraft und die Herrlichkeit in Ewigkeit. Amen.**

**Hymn 264** \*

*Judge Eternal*

BLESSING and **Threefold Amen** (No. 819)

ORGAN POSTLUDE

### ORGAN PRELUDE

### WELCOME and CALL to WORSHIP

(Psalm 119:1-8)

Happy are those whose lives are faultless, who live according to the law of the LORD.

**Happy are those who follow his commands, who obey him with all their heart.**

They never do wrong;

**they walk in the LORD's ways.**

Lord, you have given us your laws and told us to obey them faithfully.

**How I hope that I shall be faithful in keeping your instructions.**

If I pay attention to all your commands, then I will not be put to shame.

**As I learn your righteous judgements, I will praise you with a pure heart.**

I will obey your laws; never abandon me!

**I will obey your laws; never abandon me!**

**Hymn 153** \*

*Great is thy faithfulness*

People's Choice Hymns are marked with an asterisk (\*)

### PRAYER of CONFESSION

With every choice we make, we show how faithful we are to God's hopes for us. Yet, despite the mistakes we make, the false steps we take, God remains forgiving and gracious. Let us come to our God, speaking honestly about our lives, as we pray, saying:

**So often we make the wrong choices, God of our lives! There are times when we look at others through the prism of prejudice, distorting who they really are. We can let our anger feed us with bitterness and hurt. We toss about harmful words like snowballs on a winter's day. We insult those around us, neglecting to lift them up.**

### SHARING GOD'S PEACE

*(Children may join the Kids' Church programme)*

### GOSPEL READING

*Please stand for the Gospel reading and hymn.*

**Hymn 97** v. 1

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

St. Matthew 5:21-26

NT p. 8 (7)

**Hymn 97** v. 2

*You know my resting*

St. Matthew 5:27-32

NT p. 8

**Hymn 97** v. 3

*Before a word is on my tongue*

# 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:** Eric Obimdi
  - Reader:** Tamsin Kostrzewa
  - Organ:** Ingeborg Maiwald
- Our **offering** during worship is our main source of income. **Please give generously.** Last Sunday's offering totalled € 120.90.
- 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 **Belgium, Luxembourg** and the **Netherlands**. Further details via the link from our website: [www.ecc-bochum.de](http://www.ecc-bochum.de)
- The ECC has joined the **Reformation 500** challenge to record **Das Vaterunser in 500 Sprachen und Dialekten**. More info from Michelle Mizuno-Wiedner or on the website: <http://www.reformation2017.de/>
- **What is the Bible?** Our next study group series **"Exploring the Bible"** begins on **Sunday, 5 March**. Please place orders for course books priced € 15 with Pastor Jimmy.
- Please switch all **mobile phones** off or to the mute mode / vibration signal during worship. Thank you.



## Church address

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English-speaking Christian Congregation  
Bochum, Germany

# 12 February 2017



Churches Advertising Network (UK)  
Easter Poster Design, 1999

# 6 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