

### Watchword for the Week

Jesus says,  
"I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved,  
and will come in and go out and find pasture."  
(John 10:9)  
(Moravian Daily Texts 2017)

A sense of awe came over everyone. **And yet we are too often skeptical, reluctant to see God's presence in our everyday lives.** (Pause)

The believers were united and shared things. They would sell property and possessions and distribute them to those who were in need. **But how can we tell who is really in need? So many people want to rip us off. They might say they are in need, but I'm not so sure.** (Pause)

They praised God and demonstrated God's goodness to everyone. **But sometimes I'm tired and I don't want to live in a way that models God's goodness. I only want to focus on me.** (Pause)

Forgive us, God, when we are more concerned with ourselves than with our wider community. **Amen.**

### WORDS of ASSURANCE

Hear these words from scripture: "Though you were like straying sheep, you have now returned to the shepherd and guardian of your lives." Friends, know that in the presence of our Shepherd and Saviour Jesus the Christ, our sins are forgiven. **Thanks be to God. Amen.**

**Hymn 462** v. 4-6\* *In death's dark vale...*  
People's Choice Hymns are marked with an asterisk (\*)

### SCRIPTURE READINGS

Acts 2:42-47 *NT p. 150*

St. John 10:1-10 *NT p. 131*

*People may stand for the Gospel reading.*

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

**Hymn 414** *Come, you faithful, join the strain*  
(Hymn of the Month, May 2017)

SERMON *Rev. James Brown*

**Hymn 685** v. 1-3\* *A place at the table*  
(Offerings are gathered and brought forward)

The APOSTLES' CREED (No. 628)

### PRAYERS for OTHERS

The Lord is my Shepherd: **I shall not be in want.**

**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 189** \*

*Be still...*

### COMMUNION PRAYER

The Lord be with you, **and also with you.**  
Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**  
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

...in concert with the church in heaven and earth we join the song of your unending praise:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

### BREAKING of the BREAD

Jesus, Lamb of God: **have mercy on us.**  
Jesus, bearer of our sins: **have mercy on us.**  
Jesus, redeemer of the world: **grant us peace.**

### INVITATION

SHARING BREAD and CUP  
(please come forward for communion)

### SHARING GOD'S PEACE

### NOTICES and DISMISSAL

**Hymn 543** v. 1-3\* *Christ, be our light!*

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

### ORGAN POSTLUDE

### ORGAN PRELUDE

### WELCOME and CALL to WORSHIP

(Psalm 23 – The Living Bible translation)

Because the Lord is my Shepherd,  
**I have everything I need!**

He lets me rest in the meadow grass  
**and leads me beside the quiet streams.**

He restores my failing health.  
**He helps me do what honours him the most.**

Even when walking through the dark valley of death I will not be afraid,  
**for you are close beside me, guarding, guiding all the way.**

You provide delicious food for me in the presence of my enemies. **You have welcomed me as your guest; blessings overflow!**

Your goodness and unfailing kindness shall be with me all of my life, **and afterwards I will live with you forever in your home.**

**Hymn 462** v. 1-3\* *The King of Love...*  
(Children may join the Kids' Church programme)

### PRAYER (based on Acts 2:42-47)

We read of the early disciples gathering and doing things with glad and generous hearts.

Yet that is not always the case with us. I invite you to hear these passages of scripture, and to reflect on their challenge to how we live.

The believers devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching, to the community, to shared meals, and to prayers. **And yet when we disagree with others' teachings we put them down; we think they are wrong; we do not want to join them in a meal, or pray with them.** (Pause)

# 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. *Parents have the option of bringing their children forward to share the sacrament too.*
- **Today's worship team:**
  - Duty elder:** Herold Dehling
  - Reader:** Debbie Hubweber
  - Organ:** Ingeborg Maiwald
- Our **offering** during worship is our main source of income. **Please give generously.** Last Sunday's offering totalled € 226.05.
- The WCC **Ecumenical Prayer Cycle** this week focuses on **Sudan, South Sudan** and **Uganda**. Link from: [www.ecc-bochum.de](http://www.ecc-bochum.de)
- Join the **Reforma(c)tion 500** challenge to record **Das Vaterunser in 500 Sprachen und Dialekten**. Ask Michelle Mizuno-Wiedner or visit: <http://www.reformation2017.de/> and share the Lord's Prayer in your language with Pastor Jimmy for inclusion in worship.
- **What is the Bible?** Further sessions in our study group series **"Exploring the Bible"** (at 10:30 am in the cellar of the Church Halls) are **"The Authority of the Bible"** (14 May) and **"The Bible and Archaeology"** (21 May).
- 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

7 May 2017



"A Buncha Baa-Baa's" (detail)  
Kirsten Eden, 2014

Easter 4  
Holy Communion

**"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