

### Watchword for the Week

God, turn to me and be gracious to me, as is your custom towards those who love your name.

(Psalm 119:132)

(Moravian Daily Texts 2017)

### ORGAN PRELUDE

### WELCOME and CALL to WORSHIP

(from the Iona Abbey Justice and Peace Service)

O God, who created the heavens and stretched them out, **we praise you!**

You made the earth and all that lives here:

**We praise you!**

You give breath to all creatures and your Spirit to your people:

**We praise and thank you, O God!**

That the eyes of the blinded be opened, the poor hear good news, the captives be brought out of darkness, the wealth of the world serve the good of all, **your kingdom come, O God; your will be done!**

Let us sing God a new song.

**With joy let us honour our Maker.**

### Hymn 126 \*

*Let's sing to the Lord*

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

### PRAYER of APPROACH

(from the Iona Abbey Justice and Peace Service)

### WORDS of ASSURANCE

Creator of this world and all its people, we are glad that all things are held in your hands. You have not left us alone.

And we celebrate the work of your Spirit encouraging people the world over to work for justice and peace, to speak for the voiceless and always to anticipate that the best is yet to come.

**Blessed be your name. Amen.**

### CHILDREN'S TIME



**Hymn 83 \*** *I rejoiced when I heard them say*

### SHARING GOD'S PEACE

(Children may join the Kids' Church programme)

### SCRIPTURE READINGS

Genesis 29:15-28

OT p. 30

St. Matthew 13:31-35, 44-52

NT p. 20

People may stand for the Gospel reading.

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

**Hymn 360 \*1-3**

*Jesus Christ is waiting*

### SERMON

Rev. James Brown

**Hymn 188**

*Thou hidden love of God*

(Offerings are gathered and brought forward)

(Hymn of the Month, July 2017)

### DEDICATION / AFFIRMATION

(from the Iona Abbey Justice and Peace Service)

**We believe in God**

**in whom is power and compassion.**

**We believe in the Creator**

**who gave birth to the universe, set solar systems dancing in space, shaped molecules and mountains, and conceived beauty beyond our imagining.**

**God's power topples tyrants**

**and brings down walls of separation;**

**God's love embodies the tenderness**

**of a mother and father,**

**encouraging and caring for each of us.**

**We believe in Jesus, born in obscurity in an occupied land; a human being, vulnerable to hunger, thirst, persecution and grief.**

**He understood the power of love and confronted the powers of evil, spoke the truth with courage and clarity, forgave his enemies and changed lives. In his living, dying and rising again he showed love strong enough to save the world.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit**

**who sustains, comforts and empowers us, opens the scriptures, opens our minds, and illuminates earth's darkness. Amen.**

### NOTICES and PRAYERS for OTHERS

God of justice: **show yourself.**

The LORD'S PRAYER (Arabic prayer shawl)

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

(Please pray in your own preferred language / version.)



**Hymn 360 \*4-5**

*Jesus Christ is dancing*

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:**
  - Reader:** Robert Haworth
  - Organist:** Ingeborg Maiwald
- Most of today's **liturgy and prayers** are taken from the *Service for Justice and Peace* in the Iona Abbey Worship Book.
- Our **offering** during worship is our main source of income. **Please give generously.** Last Sunday's offering totalled € 180.80.
- 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 **The Caribbean: Antigua and Barbuda, the Bahamas, Barbados, Cuba, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Grenada, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago.** Link to prayers from: [www.ecc-bochum.de](http://www.ecc-bochum.de)
- The **International Presbytery prayer blog** contains prayers, meditations, and poems: [www.irenebom.com/prayer\\_matters](http://www.irenebom.com/prayer_matters) and it is updated regularly with new material. Theme of the month for July is "**Water**".
- Join the **das Vaterunser in 500 Sprachen und Dialekten** challenge! Talk to Michelle or visit: <http://www.reformation2017.de/>.
- Please switch all **mobile phones** off or to the mute mode / vibration signal during worship. Thank you.



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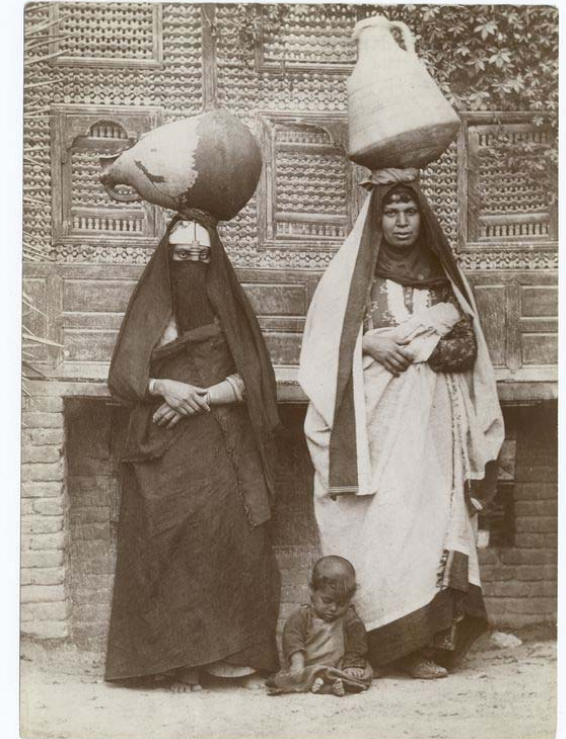
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English-speaking Christian Congregation  
Bochum, Germany

# 30 July 2017



Two Oriental women with child  
uncredited Photo, ca. 1920

**"Pax intransitibus, salus exeuntibus"**

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

**Worship every Sunday at 12.30**

**ECUMENICAL • INTERNATIONAL • ENGLISH-LANGUAGE**