Watchword for the Week

For to me, living is Christ and dying is gain. (Philippians 1:21)

(Moravian Daily Texts 2017)

ORGAN PRELUDE

WORDS of WELCOME

CALL to WORSHIP (based on Psalm 105)

God breathed life into human beings made in the divine image.

We remember, and we give God the glory!

God called to a runaway shepherd, Moses, to lead the chosen people out of slavery.

We remember, and we give God the glory!

God, like a pillar of clouds, led the people through the sea to freedom. *We remember, and we give God the glory!*

God caused a rock in the wilderness to flow like a river.

We remember, and we give God the glory!

God gives us a way when there seems no way. *We remember, and so we worship this day.*

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

(France)

PRAYER of APPROACH

O God, turn our faces, our voices, and our lives toward you, so we might know goodness, receive what we most need, and share the gifts of life with others.

God, when we grow afraid of what lies ahead, we want to go back to the old ways instead of seeking your new way with us. (Silence)

Forgive us and open us to you.

Our hands are open to receive your gifts.

When we don't see the signs of hope we expect, we complain, we turn to other things, and we blame each other. (Silence)

Forgive us and open us to you.

Our hands are open to receive your gifts.

When we do have enough, we want even more and, by wanting more, often others have less than enough. (Silence)

Forgive us and open us to you.

Our hands are open to receive your gifts.

When we work so hard to get something, we forget your goodness and think our lives are what we've done, have, or achieve. (Silence)

Forgive us and open us to you.

Our hands are open to receive your gifts.

Hymn 776 * *Kyrie eleison* (Ukraine)

WORDS of AFFIRMATION

God is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. Trust in God's forgiveness and power to transform our regret to mercy. **Thanks be to God. Amen.**

Hymn 769 * Holy, holy, holy (Argentina)

CHILDREN'S TIME

Hymn 798 * The peace of the earth (Guatemala)

SHARING GOD'S PEACE

(Children may join the Kids' Church programme)

SCRIPTURE READINGS 🛄

Exodus 16:1-15

OT p. 72

Hymn 779 *

Listen now for the Gospel (Zimbabwe)

St. Luke 16:1-13

NT p. 100

People may stand for the Gospel reading.

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

Hymn 176 Let's sing unto the Lord (**Hymn of the Month,** September 2017) (Mexico)

SERMON

Rev. Anitra Kitts (Presbyterian Church, USA)

Choruses *

(Cameroon)

(Please bring your offerings forward to the steps)

He came down that we may have love (3x) Hallelujah for evermore. (Hymn 359)

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

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

DEDICATION PRAYER (in unison)

(Divine Services Book, Presbyterian Church in Cameroon)

O God, you do not need to be enriched with any of our gifts which we bring, yet you love a cheerful giver; receive these our offerings which we present before you, and with them ourselves as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to you; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord. Amen.

NOTICES and PRAYERS for OTHERS

<u>Sung response</u> (Hymn 805) (South Africa)

We pray that your kingdom may come:

Your will be done on earth, O Lord!

The LORD'S PRAYER

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

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, the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

Hymn 167 * Guide me, O thou great Jehovah (Wales)

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:

Preacher: Rev. Anitra Kitts,

Presbyterian Church, USA

Duty elder: Herold Dehling Reader: **Bob Haworth** Organist: Ingeborg Maiwald

- > Our offering during worship is our main source of income. Please give generously. Last Sunday's offering totalled €329.70.
- > After worship, you are invited to the Kirchencafé next door to the church for tea, coffee and continued fellowship.
- ➤ Bible Study Session #3: Equipped for the Journey in the new series "Discipleship: The Journey of Faith" is on Tuesday, 26 **September** at 19:30 hrs (7:30 p.m.) in the Dehling family home, Uhlandstr. 60, behind the Mining Museum. All are welcome!
- > Our **Harvest Thanks** worship (with the now traditional auction of harvest gifts) is next Sunday, 1 October at 12:30 hrs. Invitation letters are still available from Derick Fonjong.
- > The WCC Ecumenical Prayer Cycle this week focuses on the Belarus, Moldava, Russia and Ukraine. Link to details of prayer petitions via: 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

24 September 2017



"The Shrewd Manager" Anonymous Arab painting of the parable in Luke 16:1-13

"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