

Watchword for the Week

So teach us, O God, to count our days
that we may gain a wise heart. (Psalm 90:12)
(Moravian Daily Texts 2017)

ORGAN PRELUDE

WELCOME and CALL to WORSHIP

The world belongs to God,
the earth and all those who dwell in it.

How good and pleasant it is
to live together in harmony.

Love and Faith come together
Justice and Peace meet each other.

If the disciples of Jesus remain silent
these stones would cry aloud.

God, open my lips
so that my mouth shall proclaim your glory.

Hymn 473 *Thy kingdom come*
People's Choice Hymns are marked with an asterisk (*)

PRAYER of APPROACH

Glory be to you, O God,
Father of mercy, giver of life and hope:
We rejoice in your love and mercy.

Glory be to you, O God,
Saviour and Christ, giver of freedom and peace:
We rejoice in your love and mercy.

Glory be to you, O God,
Holy compassion, Spirit of glory and grace:
We rejoice in your love and mercy. Amen.

CHILDREN'S TIME

RESPONSIVE PRAYER

By means of this water, O God,
cool our hands and our bodies
from the heat of the sun
Christ, have mercy.

By means of this water
take away the heat from our hearts,
God, have mercy.

By the means of this water
comfort our wounded feelings,
and remove the fury of yesterday.
Christ, have mercy.

Cleanse us of genuine
as well as malicious accusations
God, have mercy.

Cleanse us of the blemish,
which our misdeeds have caused to remain.
Christ, have mercy.

Remove all traces of suspicion.
God, have mercy.

By means of this water,
grant us a new beginning
so that we may become a new community.
Christ, have mercy.

By means of this water
fill our hearts with a pure spirit
Christ, have mercy.

By the means of this water,
make us ready for reconciliation with you
and with one another as well. Amen.

SHARING GOD'S PEACE

(Children may join the Kids' Church programme)

SCRIPTURE READINGS

1 Thessalonians 5:1-11 *NT p. 259 (258)*

St. Matthew 25:14-30 *NT p. 37*

People may stand for the Gospel reading.

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

Hymn 727 *In the bulb there is a flower*

SERMON *Kirsten Schönewolf*

Hymn 83 * *I rejoiced when I heard them say*
(Offerings are gathered and brought forward)

DEDICATION PRAYER (in unison)

**Lord, what we have, we offer:
our time, our commitment, our resources.
But, most of all, we offer ourselves.
Help us to be used in your work,
to encourage each other in giving and
serving, and to extend your kingdom.
Amen.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS *See Notices overleaf*

PRAYERS for OTHERS

Response: Hear our cries, O Lord;
come quickly to our aid.

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 749 * *Soon and very soon*
(Hymn of the Month, November 2017)

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:** Kirsten Schönewolf
 - Duty elder:** Michelle Mizuno-Wiedner
 - Reader:** Dirk Erlenkämper
- Our **offering** during worship is our main source of income. **Please give generously.** Last Sunday's offering totalled € 183.45.
- After worship, welcome to the **Kirchencafé** for tea, coffee, and continued fellowship.
- The WCC **Ecumenical Prayer Cycle** this week focuses on **Cameroon, the Central African Republic, and Equatorial Guinea.** Link to prayers from: www.ecc-bochum.de
- Our **Annual General Meeting** is next **Sunday 26 November** after worship. Inform Pastor Jimmy of topics you wish to discuss.
- A 4-week **Advent Bible Study** begins on **Tuesday, 28 November** at 7.30 p.m. Open fire, tea & talk at the Dehlings, Umlandstr. 60.
- **Advent 2017 Dates:**
 - Saturday, 9 December** 6:00 pm
ECC Advent Concert with a difference
 - Sunday, 10 December** 12:30 pm
2nd of Advent Prayers for Healing
 - Sunday, 24 December** 19:30 pm
Christmas Eve (NB: no 12:30 worship)
- 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

19 November 2017



"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