#### 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 mercv.* 

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)

NT p. 37

St. Matthew 25:14-30

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 Schönewolff

**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 Schönewolff 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, Uhlandstr. 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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#### Church address

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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**