

Watchword for the Week

God says, "I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak." (Ezekiel 34:16)

(Moravian Daily Texts 2017)

***Come, let us bow down in worship,
let us kneel before the Lord our Maker;
for he is our God and we are the people of
his pasture, the flock under his care.***

Lord, like a shepherd, you never stop searching for your people; your care for us anticipates our need. Before we recognised we needed your grace, in love Jesus gave his life for our forgiveness. ***We confess that we need your forgiveness, we confess our sins:***

You are the shepherd and we are your flock, but we admit the times we have tried to take your place and take control ourselves.

We admit that we have not always trusted your good news to be good for us. ***At times we have pleaded with you to care for us, but we have held back from caring for others and ignored the needs of others.***

Lord, have mercy upon us. Forgive us in the name of Jesus. ***Loving shepherd, teach us by the Holy Spirit to follow you in the days and places of the weeks ahead.***

Through Jesus Christ we pray, ***Amen.***

Hymn 462 1-3* *The King of Love...*

DECLARATION of FORGIVENESS

However long we wander, however far we stray, God's steadfastness endures forever. Sisters and brothers, be assured: in Jesus Christ we are forgiven. ***Thanks be to God. Amen.***

CHILDREN'S TIME

SHARING GOD'S PEACE

(Children may join the Kids' Church programme)

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24 *OT p. 837*

St. Matthew 25:31-46 *NT p. 38*
People may stand for the Gospel reading.

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

Hymn 279 * *Make way for Christ the King*

SERMON

Rev. James Brown

Hymn 474 1-3+5 *Hail to the Lord's Anointed*
(Offerings are gathered and brought forward)
(Tune: **Moville** – Hymn 450)

DEDICATION PRAYER (in unison)

In gratitude for the immeasurable gift of Jesus Christ, we bring out tithes and offerings to you, O God. Use us, and these gifts, to feed the hungry, clothe the naked, and honour your presence in all people; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS *See Notices overleaf*

PRAYERS for OTHERS

Sung response (Hymn 805):

Your Kingdom 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 283 * *The voice of God goes out*
(Tune: **Woodlands** – Hymn 622)

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

ORGAN POSTLUDE

ORGAN PRELUDE

WELCOME and CALL to WORSHIP

(Psalm 100 – New International Version Bible)

Shout for joy to the LORD, all the earth.

***Serve the LORD with gladness;
come before him with joyful songs.***

Know that the LORD is God.

It is he who made us, and we are his;

we are his people, the sheep of his pasture.

Enter his gates with thanksgiving

and his courts with praise;

give thanks to him and praise his name.

For the LORD is good

and his love endures for ever;

***his faithfulness continues
through all generations.***

Hymn 459 * *Crown him with many crowns*

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

PRAYER of APPROACH

Come, let us bow down in worship,

let us kneel before the Lord our Maker;

for he is our God and we are the people of

his pasture, the flock under his care.

Lord, we are here in this place to meet with you;

through the Holy Spirit lead us to encounter you

today, help us to know that you are God.

***Through the news headlines of today,
we declare with faith that you are God.***

Within our community and church,

we declare with faith that you are God.

***Amid the unresolved fears of our lives,
we declare with faith that you are God.***

We bring to you now the worship of our lives.

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:**
 - Duty elder:** Derick Fonjong
 - Reader:** Heinrich Ohlendorf
- Our **offering** during worship is our main source of income. **Please give generously.** Last Sunday's offering totalled € 296.50.
- After worship, please come to the **Church Halls** for our **Annual General Meeting**.
- The WCC **Ecumenical Prayer Cycle** this week focuses on **Burkina Faso, Chad, Mali, Mauritania** and **Niger**. Link to prayers from our ECC website at: www.ecc-bochum.de
- 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. Study booklets available from Pastor Jimmy
- **Advent and Christmas Dates:**
 - Saturday, 9 December** 6:00 pm
ECC Advent Concert with a difference
"Emmanuel: Celebrating Heaven's Child"
 - Sunday, 10 December** 12:30 pm
2nd of Advent Prayers for Healing
 - Sunday, 17 December** 12:30 pm
3rd of Advent Christmas Pageant
 - Sunday, 24 December** 19:30 pm
Christmas Eve (NB: no 12:30 worship)
 - Monday, 25 December** 12:30 pm
Christmas Day Quiet communion
- Please switch all **mobile phones** off or to the mute mode / vibration signal during worship. Thank you.



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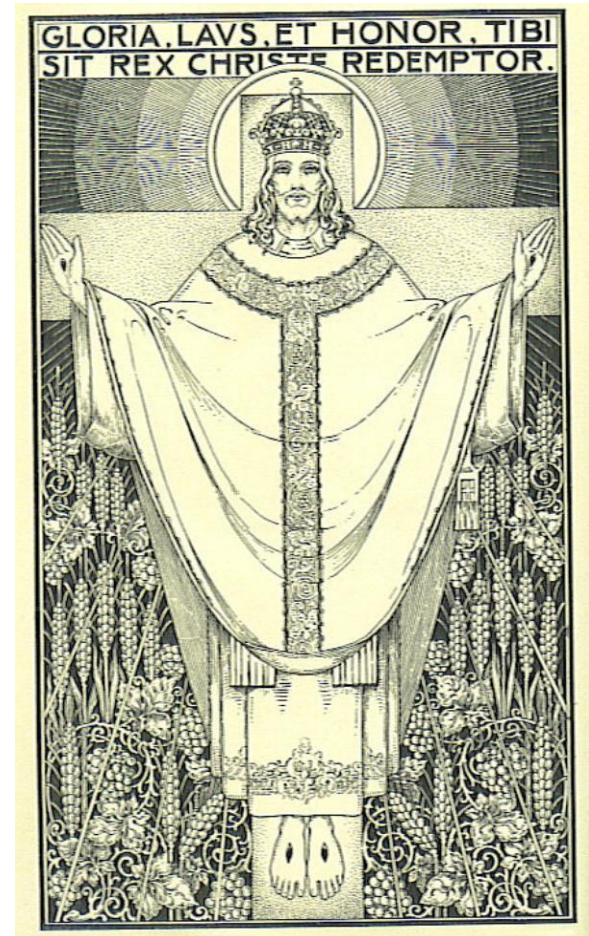
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English-speaking Christian Congregation
Bochum, Germany

26 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