

Watchword for the Week

God says, "I will establish my covenant between me and you, and your offspring after you throughout their generations."

(Genesis 17:7)

(Moravian Daily Texts 2018)

Give us words that heal, build up, create, empower, and nurture one another.

God, as we worship today, open our hearts to those around us. May we see your faithfulness in each age and stage of our neighbours as we remember the promises you made to all generations – past, present, and future.

Remind us that just as you gave Sarai and Abram new names, you give each of us a new name – Forgiven.

May we live into that name through the forgiveness of your son Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Hymn 357 * *This is my will, my new command*
(Hymn of the Month, February 2018)

DECLARATION of FORGIVENESS

God knows our names; God knows us inside and out. We follow generations of those who have followed God and followed Christ. And we know the truth of the ages – Christ who forgave those who came before also offers us that grace and forgives us. **Thanks be to God! Amen.**

CHILDREN'S TIME

Hymn 564 * *Jesus loves me! This I know*

SHARING GOD'S PEACE

(Children may join the Kids' Church programme)

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16 OT p. 16

St. Mark 8:31-38 NT p. 57

People may stand for the Gospel reading.

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

YOUTH PRESENTATION

SERMON

Rev. James Brown

Hymn 162 *The God of Abraham praise*
(Offerings are gathered and brought forward)

DEDICATION PRAYER

God, you are the Alpha and the Omega; the beginning and the end; and all that comes in between. Today, we give thanks for those who came before and gave their gifts so that we could have mission, ministry, and a physical place to worship today. Bless the gifts that we offer to you so we will continue to build on the foundation laid by previous generations, and can serve those who follow. Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS (See Notices overleaf)

Chorus *

All over the world

*All over the world the Spirit is moving,
all over the world as the prophet said it would be;
all over the world there's a mighty revelation
of the glory of the Lord, as the waters cover the sea.*

*Deep down in my heart the Spirit is moving,
deep down in my heart as the prophet said it would be;
deep down in my heart there's a mighty revelation
of the glory of the Lord, as the waters cover the sea.*

PRAYERS for OTHERS

Response: Holy God, **hear our prayer.**

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 530 * *One more step along the world*

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

ORGAN POSTLUDE

ORGAN PRELUDE

WELCOME and CALL to WORSHIP

Come, friends, and hear once again what God has done for us.

God has been faithful through our days.

We come at different ages and stages, different generations,
and we serve and worship together.

God remembers all of us, from the baby entering the world to the people living in their twilight years.

God keeps God's promises, no matter how young, no matter how old we may be.

Come and open your hearts to the God who will love and care for you through your entire life.

We come to worship God.

Hymn 198 * *Let us build a house*
People's Choice Hymns are marked with an asterisk (*)

PRAYER of APPROACH

God, you know each of us by name: the names we were given at birth, the names we are called by others, and the names we call ourselves.

Sometimes, we use names as a way to make quick judgments about strangers.

We use names to validate our prejudices before we enter into relationship with others.

Sometimes, we call each other names to bully, to destroy, or to put others down.

Holy one, help us. Help us to believe the truth about ourselves when we are called names.

Guide us away from snap judgments and prejudices towards real relationships.

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:** Herold Dehling
 - Reader:** Michelle Mizuno-Wiedner
 - Music:** Nicole Brämer (Organ)
ECC Youth Group (Choir)
- Our **offering** during worship is our main source of income. **Please give generously.** Last Sunday's offering totalled € 118.10.
- After worship, the **Kirchencafé** is open for tea, coffee and continued fellowship.
- **Azire Partnership** pledge letters to assist our partners' multi-purpose hall project are available from Derick Fonjong of the Council.
- The WCC **Ecumenical Prayer Cycle** this week focuses on **France** and **Germany**. Link to prayers from: www.ecc-bochum.de
- You are also invited to **pray this week** for:
 - ♦ **St. Andrew's Church, Gibraltar**, their Minister Rev Ewen Maclean, currently Moderator of the International Presbytery, and their Presbytery Elder, David Ross (<http://www.scotskirkgibraltar.com/>)
 - ♦ **Azire Presbyterian Church**, Bamenda, Cameroon, especially their Pastor Simon Mokoko, the Session, CMF, CWF, youth, the many choirs, the huge Sunday School, and the ongoing multipurpose hall project
- 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

25 February 2018



Lent 2

"Pax intransibus, salus exeuntibus"

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

Worship every Sunday at 12.30

ECUMENICAL • INTERNATIONAL • ENGLISH-LANGUAGE