

Watchword for the Week

I will proclaim your name to my brothers and sisters,
in the midst of the congregation I will praise you.

(Hebrews 2:12)

(Moravian Daily Texts 2018)

our images portray only glimpses of your grandeur; our music will never embody the breadth of your emotion; and our worship will always fall short of singing your full glory.

Yet may we never cease trying to offer our thanks and praise for all of the great things that you have done, and continue to do through and despite us. Thank you, God.

We confess that, when feelings of despair, sadness, and fear overwhelm us, it is hard to stop and reflect on your goodness.

Forgive us for the ways we attempt to flee the messy range of our emotions. Help us to offer our gratitude to you at all times. Amen.

Hymn 258 *When the hungry who have nothing*
(Hymn of the Month, October 2018)

ASSURANCE of FORGIVENESS

Do not fear, O children of God, be glad and rejoice. No matter our age we are still growing in the faith. We are still learning the cost and joy of discipleship, and we are still discovering the mystery of God; who has, who is and who will do great things in, with, and through us.

Thanks be to God. Amen.

Choir Anthem

Singing altogether

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Joel 2:21-27

OT p. 885 (884)

St. Matthew 6:25-33

NT p. 10

People may stand for the Gospel reading.

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

Hymn 233 * *Come, you thankful people, come*

SERMON

Rev. James Brown

OFFERING PROCESSION

Processional song options:

516 * *We are marching in the light of God*

359 * *He came down that we may have love*

805 * *Your will be done on earth, O Lord*

761 * *Glory to God, glory to God*

65 * *Jubilate, everybody*

Please come forward during the singing – place your offerings of money in the basket at the steps and lay your harvest gifts on or beside the tables on either side of the altar.

PRAYERS for OTHERS

Your kingdom come, **your will be done.**

COMMUNION PRAYER

The Lord be with you, **and also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Therefore we gladly join our voices to the song of the Church on earth and in heaven:

Hymn 769 *

Holy, holy, holy

And now, lest we believe...

... until we conform to the shape of him whose food we now share. **Amen.**

The LORD'S PRAYER

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

English words: **Hymn 652**, Second Form (b)

BREAKING the BREAD

Jesus, firstborn of Mary, **have mercy on us.**

Jesus, Saviour of the world, **have mercy on us.**

Jesus, monarch of heaven, **grant us peace.**

INVITATION and COMMUNION

Choir Anthem

I've got peace like a river

SHARING GOD'S PEACE

CLOSING PRAYERS

Hymn 229 *

We plough the fields

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

ORGAN POSTLUDE

ORGAN PRELUDE

WELCOME and CALL to WORSHIP

(Psalm 126 – New Revised Standard Version)

When the LORD restored the fortunes of Zion,
we were like those who dream.

**Then our mouth was filled with laughter,
and our tongue with shouts of joy.**

The it was said among the nations,
"The LORD has done great things for them."

**The LORD has done great things for us,
and we rejoiced.**

Restore our fortunes, O LORD,
like the watercourses in the Negeb.

**May those who sow in tears
reap with shouts of joy.**

Those who go out weeping,
bearing the seed for sowing,
**shall come home with shouts of joy,
carrying their sheaves.**

Hymn 623 * *Here in this place / Gather us in*

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

(Children may join the Kids' Church programme)

PRAYER of APPROACH

In times of trouble, **we give thanks.**

In times of peace, **we give thanks.**

In times of doubt, **we give thanks.**

In times of certainty, **we give thanks.**

In times of sowing, **we give thanks.**

In times of harvest, **we give thanks.**

At all times,

it is right to give our thanks and praise.

Holy God, our words cannot describe the immeasurable beauty of your creation;

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 we celebrate **Holy Communion** – you are **invited to share** in this sacrament, including your children if you so wish.
- **Today's worship team:**
 - Duty elder:** Michelle Mizuno-Wiedner
 - Reader:** Eric Chinasa Obimdi
 - Organist:** Ropudani Simanjuntak
- Our **offering** during worship is our main source of income. **Please give generously.**
- As is our custom, the **auction of harvest gifts** will begin after the organ postlude. You are invited to remain seated and to take part in this fun(d)-raising continuation of our harvest thanksgiving celebrations.
- After worship, the **Kirchencafé** is open for tea, coffee, and continued fellowship.
- The WCC **Ecumenical Prayer Cycle** this week focuses on **Afghanistan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Mongolia, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan**, and **Uzbekistan**. Link to prayers and information from www.ecc-bochum.de
- **Donations** (tax deductible) for the church renovation may be made by bank transfer to "Evangelische Kirchengemeinde Bochum", **IBAN: DE57 4305 0001 0001 3021 65**. Please specify "Renovierung Pauluskirche".
- 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

7 October 2018



Harvest Thanks Holy Communion

"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