

Watchword for the Week

Blessed be the Lord God of Israel, for he has looked favourably on his people and redeemed them.

(Luke 1:68)

(Moravian Daily Texts 2018)

faithfulness to the people of God through the ages ...

that you will free us from all that weighs us down;
that you will open us up to worship without fear;
that you will call us righteous again;
that you will accept us,
and hold us close, once more.

So we bless you for all you give us now:
for forgiveness and freedom;
for release and redemption;
for salvation and security;
for hope and holiness;
for discovery and direction ...
for all of our days. **Amen.**

ASSURANCE of GRACE

In the tender compassion of our God, a new dawn shall break upon us, to shine on those who dwell in darkness and to guide our feet into the way of peace. **Thanks be to God! Amen.**

CHILDREN'S TIME

Hymn 359 * *He came down*
... that we may have hope... peace...

SHARING GOD'S PEACE

(Children may join the Kids' Church programme)

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Malachi 3:1-4 *OT p. 927 (926)*

St. Luke 1:67-79 *NT p. 75 (74)*
People may stand for the Gospel reading.

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

Hymn 477 * *Lo, he comes with clouds*

SERMON *Rev. James Brown*

Hymn 528 * *Make me a channel of your peace*
(Offerings are gathered and brought forward)

PRAYERS for OTHERS

Hear our prayer, **and let your kingdom come.**

The LORD'S PRAYER Hymn 652, second form (b)
(Please pray in your own preferred language / version.)

INVITATION and PRAYER

CHORUSES 773*, 784, 801*

- *Jesus, we are here (3x), we are here for you.*
- *Come light, light of God, give light to creation, enlighten our hearts and remain with your world.*
- *Ubi caritas et amor, ubi caritas, Deus ibi est.*

*As we sing, those who wish prayer for themselves or others are invited to form a **circle of prayer** standing around the seating area.*

PRAYER for the LAYING-ON of HANDS

Spirit of the living God, present with us now, enfold you, body, mind, and spirit, and heal you of all that harms you, in Jesus' name. Amen.

CLOSING RESPONSES

In the midst of hunger and war,
we celebrate the promise of plenty and peace.

In the midst of oppression and tyranny,
we celebrate the promise of service and freedom.

In the midst of doubt and despair,
we celebrate the promise of faith and hope.

In the midst of fear and betrayal,
we celebrate the promise of joy and loyalty.

In the midst of hatred and death,
we celebrate the promise of love and life.

In the midst of sin and decay,
we celebrate the promise of salvation and renewal.

In the midst of death on every side,
we celebrate the promise of the living Christ.

Hymn 274 * *Comfort, comfort now my people*

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. And remember over the coming weeks to:



JOIN THE TREND – BRING A FRIEND

- **Today's worship team:**
Duty elder: Herold Dehling
Reader: Heinrich Ohlendorf
Organist: Ropudani Simanjuntak
- Our **offering** during worship is our main source of income. **Please give generously.**
- After worship, the **Kirchencafé** is open for tea, coffee, and continued fellowship.
- The WCC **Ecumenical Prayer Cycle** this week focuses on **Cambodia, Laos** and **Vietnam**. Link from www.ecc-bochum.de
- **Further dates to note:**
Sunday, 16 December (Advent 3) 12:30 hrs
Christmas Pageant / ad hoc Nativity Play
Sunday, 23 December (Advent 4) 12:30 hrs
Ceremony of Carols / Infant Dedication
Monday, 24 December (Christmas Eve)
19:30 hrs **Candlelight Communion**
Tuesday, 25 December (Christmas Day)
12:30 hrs **Quiet Communion**
Sunday, 30 December (Last Sunday 2018)
12:30 hrs **From the old I travel to the new**
- 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

9 December 2018



Advent 2

Prayers for Healing

"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