

### Watchword for the Week

God has brought down the powerful from their thrones, and lifted up the lowly. (Luke 1:52)  
(Moravian Daily Texts 2018)

### ORGAN PRELUDE

### WELCOME & OPENING RESPONSES

Not in the mighty places of power,  
but in little Bethlehem,  
in a room out back:

**The Messiah is coming.**

Not born in nobility and wealth,  
but of Mary and Joseph,  
who pondered and planed wood:

**The Messiah is coming.**

Not announced by prophets, priests, and kings,  
but by two women,  
who were the first to know:

**The Messiah is coming.**

Nothing will be impossible for God,  
but when and where we least expect it,  
look among the straw and the stars:

**The Messiah is coming.**

**Hymn 282** \* 1-4 *Christmas is coming*

**People's Choice Hymns** are marked with an asterisk (\*)  
(Four Advent candles are carried into church lit)

### PRAYER of APPROACH

Restore us, O God.

**Let your face shine so that we may be saved!**

When we are far away,

**restore us to your presence.**

When we eat the bread of tears, **restore us  
so that we are filled with good things.**

When we are filled with pride and power,  
**restore us to humble simplicity.**

Restore us, O God.

**Let your face shine so that we may be saved!**

The flame of hope, the flame of peace,  
the flame of joy, and the flame of love shine today:  
we thank you for lighting up our lives, O God.

Your light shines in all kinds of darkness,  
and the darkness cannot put that light out.

Shine in our lives, we pray.

Lighten even the remotest dim corners  
of our secret, innermost being.

**Into our world's despair, send your hope;  
amidst our turmoil, bring your peace;  
to our sadness, give your vision of joy;  
banish all that is unloving with your love.  
In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.**

### ASSURANCE of GRACE

God sent his Son into the world – not to condemn  
the world, but that the world might be saved  
through him. **Thanks be to God! Amen.**

**Hymn 359** \* *He came down...*  
*that we may have ... hope / peace / joy / love*  
(Children may join the Kids' Church programme)

### SCRIPTURE READINGS

Micah 5:2-5a *OT p. 902 (901)*

**Choir** *See the little baby*

St. Luke 1:39-55 *NT p. 74*  
*People may stand for the Gospel reading.*

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

**Hymn 316** \* *Love came down at Christmas*

SERMON *Rev. James Brown*

**Hymn 502** \* *Take my life and let it be*  
(Offerings are gathered and brought forward)

### AFFIRMATION / DEDICATION PRAYER

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.  
Amen.**

### INFANT BLESSING / DEDICATION

Dario, son of Derick Ewang and Cynthia Ekokobe

**Procession** *Sing and rejoice*

St. Mark 10:13-16 *read by Cyniora Ekokobe*

### INTRODUCTION and PRAYER

Deuteronomy 6:4-7 *read by Derick Ewang*

Psalms 139:13-16 *read by Cynthia Ekokobe*

### BLESSING PRAYER and PROMISES

### PRAYERS for OTHERS (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.**

### SHARING GOD'S PEACE

**Choir** *African Noël*

### ANNOUNCEMENTS *See Notices overleaf*

**Hymn 530** \* *One more step along the world*

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.



JOIN THE TREND – BRING A FRIEND

- **Today's worship team:**  
**Duty elder:** Justus Masa  
**Reader:** Michelle Mizuno-Wiedner  
**Organist:** Ropudani Simanjuntak  
with joint congregational choirs
- 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 **Brunei, Malaysia** and **Singapore**. Link from [www.ecc-bochum.de](http://www.ecc-bochum.de)
- **Further dates to note:**  
**Monday, 24 December** (Christmas Eve)  
19:30 hrs **Candlelight Communion**  
**Tuesday, 25 December** (Christmas Day)  
12:30 hrs **Quiet Communion**  
**Sunday, 30 December 2018**  
12:30 hrs **From the old to the new**  
**Sunday, 6 January 2019** (Epiphany)  
12:30 hrs **Communion / Covenant**  
**Saturday, 19 January** (Upstairs Hall)  
18:00 hrs **"Big Sing" with John Bell**  
(Iona Community, Scotland)
- Please switch all **mobile phones** off or to the mute mode / vibration signal during worship. Thank you.



## Church address

Ev. Pauluskirche, Grabenstrasse 9, 44787 Bochum

**Pastor** Rev. James Brown (Church of Scotland)  
Neustrasse 15, 44787 Bochum  
Tel.: 0234 13365 E-mail: [j.brown56\(at\)gmx.de](mailto:j.brown56(at)gmx.de)

**Retired pastor** Rev Dr Robert Haworth  
Tel. 0234 62349212 (United Church of Christ, USA)

## Church Council

Maria Adouakou	0234 5896042
Herold Dehling (Secretary)	0234 8935761
Derick Fonjong (Asst. Secretary)	0173 7374123
Debbie Hubweber	0152 24817149
Heike Hundeiker (Presbytery)	0234 680824
Justus Masa	0162 8799736
Michelle Mizuno-Wiedner	0160 93805969
Sone Nkumbe (Youth Rep.)	0152 14218110
Eric Chinasa Obimdi	0162 3930041

**Choir Leader** Ropudani Simanjuntak 0176 80780770

**Church Officer** Wolfgang Rochowiak 0234 6404559

**Kids' Church** Maria Adouakou 0234 5896042  
Gundi Dehling 0234 8935761

**Readers' Rota** Mary Otto 02366 37441

**Refugee advice** Heinrich Ohlendorf 0234 4526299

**Safeguarding** Claudia Lischke-Arzt 0234 97669882

**Treasurer** Marcus Sarpong 0234 6238133

**Webmaster** Marcel Adig [adigsys\(at\)yahoo.com](mailto:adigsys(at)yahoo.com)

**Bank Account** "Englische Gemeinde"  
**IBAN:** DE89 4305 0001 0001 4132 36  
**SWIFT-BIC:** WELADED1BOC (Sparkasse Bochum)

**Website:** [www.ecc-bochum.de](http://www.ecc-bochum.de)

**E-mail:** [ecc-bochum\(at\)gmx.de](mailto:ecc-bochum(at)gmx.de)

**Facebook** ECC.Bochum **Twitter / Instagram:** ecc\_bo

English-speaking Christian Congregation  
Bochum, Germany

# 23 December 2018



## Advent 4

## Child Dedication

**"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