

### Watchword for the Week

If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation:  
everything old has passed away;  
see, everything has become new!  
(2 Corinthians 5:17)  
(Moravian Daily Texts 2019)

### ORGAN PRELUDE

### WELCOME & CALL to WORSHIP

(from the Iona Abbey Service for Justice and Peace)

Just and merciful God,  
you speak through the prophets,  
challenging us to seek peace rooted in justice.  
**Help us to hear your urgent call.**

Loving God, in Jesus Christ  
you change our lives for good,  
challenging us to work for reconciliation.

**Help us to see your way of truth and love.**

With-us God,  
your Holy Spirit moves us to action,  
challenging us to live the Good News.  
**Help us to respond wholeheartedly,  
here and now – and to say Yes!  
Amen.**

**Hymn 153 \*** *Great is thy faithfulness*  
People's Choice Hymns are marked with an asterisk (\*)

### PRAYER of APPROACH

Over time, over space,  
over matter, over thought,  
you are God, in all and through all.

The noises of war are loud in your ears,  
as is the cry of a new-born child.

You share the excitement  
of those pioneering research as well as  
the last breaths of those nearing death.

And in Christ, all the pain and potential in the  
world are held together in the hope of healing.

**Be present to us here, gracious God, and let  
your Spirit open us to glimpse that fairer  
world which you intend for us and for all  
people. Amen.**

### WORDS of ASSURANCE

God our maker blesses us  
and wraps us round in love and tenderness.

Jesus our brother blesses us and asks us  
the questions that lead us to do justice.

The Holy Spirit blesses us and fills  
our lives with her courage and wisdom.

**Thanks be to God! Amen.**



### CHILDREN'S TIME

**Hymn 773 \*** *Jesus, we are here*

*Jesu, tawa pano; Jesu, tawa pano;  
Jesu, tawa pano, tawa pano, mu zita renyu.*

*Jesus, we are here; Jesus, we are here;  
Jesus, we are here, we are here for you.*

### SHARING GOD'S PEACE

(Children may join the Kids' Church programme)

*I welcome you in the name of the Lord. (2x)  
I can see in you the glory of the Lord;  
you are welcome in the name of the Lord!*

### SCRIPTURE READINGS

2 Corinthians 5:16-21 *NT p. 226*

**Hymn 779 \*** *Listen now for the Gospel*

St. Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32 *NT p. 99*

*People may stand for the Gospel reading.*

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

SERMON *Rev. James Brown*

**Hymn 555 \*** *Amazing grace!*  
(Offerings are gathered and brought forward)

### DEDICATION PRAYER

**May the God of Peace inspire us,  
may the God of Justice empower us,  
may the God of Hope encourage us  
to live the Good News. Amen.**

### NOTICES AND PRAYERS for OTHERS

Response: God of justice, **show yourself.**

### 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*

### CLOSING PRAYER

Creator of all, Saviour of all, Spirit in all,  
One God in perfect community,  
**stay with us now.**

Where there is apathy,  
**kindle the flame of your love.**

Where there is deceit,  
**confront every lie with your truth.**

Where there is hopelessness,  
**reveal deep wells of compassion.**

Where there is joy,  
**let your kindly protection be known.**

Where we hesitate to serve you,  
**make us restless until we change.**

For yours is the kingdom, the power  
and the glory for ever. **Amen.**

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

### ORGAN POSTLUDE

# Notices

- **“All are welcome in this place.”** *It's good you're here!* If you wish to be kept up-to-date with events via the **ECC News**, please add your name and postal or e-mail address to the book at the church entrance.
- **Today's worship team:**
  - Duty elder:** Justus Masa
  - Reader:** Heinrich Ohlendorf
  - Organ:** Christof Hilmer
- Our **offering** during worship is our main source of income. **Please give generously.** Last Sunday's offering totalled € 103.99.
- After worship, the **Kirchencafé** is open till 3 o'clock for our coffee hour with tea, coffee, (home baking) and continued fellowship.
- **Lenten Conversations:**
  - Session 5: Tuesday 2 April:**
  - Topic:** *Picking Corn* (Matthew 12:1-14)
  - Venue:** Dehling family, Uhlandstraße 60
  - All sessions begin at 19:30 hrs (7.30 p.m.)
- The WCC **Ecumenical Prayer Cycle** this week focuses on **The Balkans: Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Kosovo, Macedonia, Montenegro, Slovenia and Serbia.** Prayer link: [www.ecc-bochum.de](http://www.ecc-bochum.de)
- **Looking ahead**
  - Sun. 7 April:** Communion / Healing Prayers
  - Sun. 14 April:** Palm Sunday family worship
  - Thu. 18 Apr.:** Maundy Thursday communion
  - Fri. 19 April:** Good Friday communion
  - Sun. 21 April:** Easter Sunday family worship
- **African Singers!** Practice in the church hall after church to prepare for Palm Sunday
- Please switch all **mobile phones** off or to the mute mode / vibration signal during worship. Thank you.



## Church address

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English-speaking Christian Congregation  
Bochum, Germany

31 March 2019



Lent 4

**“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