Watchword for the Week

Jesus says, "Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom." (Luke 12:32)

(Moravian Daily Texts 2019)

ORGAN PRELUDE

ENTRY of the BIBLE Please stand if able to

WELCOME and CALL to WORSHIP

O God, who called all life into being, the earth, sea and sky are yours.

Your presence is all around us, every atom is full of your energy.

Your spirit enlivens all who walk the earth. With her we yearn for justice to be done, for creation to be freed from bondage, for the hungry to be fed, for captives to be released, for your kingdom of peace to come to earth.

Hymn 105

Glory to God above!

People's Choice Hymns are marked with an asterisk (*) (Hymn of the Month, January 2019)

PRAYER of APPROACH

O God of promise, creator of the cosmos, you are the first light breaking through the void, and the final light we shall eternally enjoy. *Help us to bathe in your light,* and to always be responding.

O God of forgiveness, we so often place our own comforts above compassion for others. Forgive us, we pray, for dishonouring the call to love our neighbour,

for dishonouring the call to love our neighbour, without condition or expectation.

Help us to bathe in your light, and to always be responding.

O God of hope, equip us this day to go forth glorifying your wonderous name. Clothe us in your love, dressed for action, and eager to receive you.

Help us to bathe in your light, and to always be responding.

O God of love, open our eyes to your presence among us, that we may hear your word, be transformed by it, and follow your righteousness through Jesus Christ our Lord, *Amen*.

Hymn 493 *

It's me, it's me, O Lord

WORDS of AFFIRMATION

God is merciful and kind, though our sins are like scarlet, they become like snow. Be at peace, for your sins are washed clean by the goodness of God. *Amen.*

CHILDREN'S TIME



SHARING GOD'S PEACE

(Children may join the Kids' Church programme)

SCRIPTURE READINGS 🕮

Isaiah 1:1, 10-20 *OT p. 670 (669)*

Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16 NT p. 284 (282)

The word of God: Thanks be to God!

Hymn 263 God of freedom, God of justice (Hymn of the Month, August 2019)

SERMON

Rev James Brown

Hymn 720 * There is a longing in our hearts (Offerings are gathered and brought forward)

AFFIRMATION of FAITH

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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS See Notices overleaf

PRAYERS for OTHERS
O God of hope, *increase our faith.*

The LORD'S PRAYER Hymn 652 Second Form (b) (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 237 *

Look forward in faith

BLESSING and *Threefold Amen* (No. 819) Please remain standing as the Bible is removed

ORGAN POSTLUDE

Notices

- > "All are welcome in this place." Good you're here! Please add your name and post or e-mail address to the book at the back of church to receive details of upcoming events.
- > Today's worship team:

Duty elder: Derick Fonjong Liturgy: Jade Ableitner Eric Obimdi Reader: James Brown Sermon: Nicole Hartmann Organ:

- > Our offering during worship is our main source of income. Please give generously.
- > After worship, the **Kirchencafé** is open till 3 o'clock for tea, coffee and fellowship.
- > The WCC Ecumenical Prayer Cycle this week focuses on the Burkina Faso, Chad, Mali, Mauritania and Niger. Link to prayers and information from www.ecc-bochum.de
- > The **ECC Choir** resumes on Wednesday, 4 September at 6 p.m. New singers welcome!
- > Musiksommer worship on 8 September is ecumenical and open-air at the Kuhhirten (Cowherd) Monument and begins at 11 a.m.!
- > The next Sensible Shoes Book Club for women session is Thursday 12 September from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. in the Kirchencafé.
- > 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

11 August 2019



Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

"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