#### Watchword for the Week

The sacrifice acceptable to God is a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise. (Psalm 51:17) (Moravian Daily Texts 2019)

# ORGAN PRELUDE

As is the tradition in many churches, please stand if you are able to as the Bible is carried into church.

WELCOME and CALL to WORSHIP (Verses from Psalm 148)

Praise the LORD! *Praise the LORD!* 

Praise the LORD from heaven, you that live in the heights above. *Praise him, all his angels, all his heavenly armies.* 

Praise him, sun and moon; praise him, shining stars. *Praise him, highest heavens, and the waters above the sky.* 

Praise the LORD from the earth, sea monsters and all ocean depths; *lightning and hail, snow and clouds, strong winds that obey his command.* 

Praise him, hills and mountains, fruit trees and forests; *all animals, tame and wild, reptiles and birds.* 

Praise him, kings and all people, young and old, men and women; Let them all praise the name of the LORD! His glory is above earth and heaven.

Praise the LORD! Praise the LORD!

Hymn 175 \* Praise, I will praise you, Lord People's Choice Hymns are marked with an asterisk (\*)

# PRAYER of APPROACH

Creator God, we are awed by the creation you have made – the plants and animals that you have placed within this world.

In this time of worship, may we be aware of the gifts of flora and fauna to Creation, and all created things.

God of hawk and puffin, of koala and panda, of moose and squirrel, of tiger and cobra; God of pansy and daffodil, gum tree and redwood, of mountain meadows and rainforest jungles: we are in awe of all you have done for us.

You created a world of plants and animals that can live in such wondrous harmony; yet too often we exploit one another, we devastate, and we leave things in ruin. *Forgive us and guide us in the restoration of the harmony you intended. Amen.* 

### WORDS of ASSURANCE

We do not change the world by worrying about it, but by dedicating ourselves and our actions to doing God's will. When we fail, God forgives us, and asks us to try again. Know that ours is the God of perpetual second chances! *Thanks be to God. Amen.* 

# CHILDREN'S TIME

Hymn 232 v. 1-2, 5-6 Pears and apples... (Hymn of the Month, September 2019)

SHARING GOD'S PEACE (Children may join the Kids' Church programme)

# SCRIPTURE READINGS

Psalm 51	OT p. 566
St. Luke 15:1-10 People may stand for the Gospel reading.	NT p. 99
The word of God: Thanks be to God	

Hymn 55

There is a redeemer

SERMON

"The lost and found"

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

### DEDICATION PRAYER

Holy One, as first you gave to us, so now we give to you. Take our gifts and use them to support, maintain, and bring about the harmony you so keenly desire for all our world. Amen.

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS See Notices overleaf

Hymn 97 \*

O God, you search me

PRAYERS for OTHERS God, in your mercy, *hear our prayer.* 

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 113 \* God the Father of Creation

BLESSING and *Threefold Amen* (No. 819) *Please remain standing while 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:	Justus Masa
Reader:	Eric Obimdi
Sermon:	Jade Ableitner
Liturgy:	James Brown
Organ:	Hendrik Ziser

- 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 Azire Partnership Committee will meet in the lower café after today's worship. The meeting is open for anyone to attend.
- The WCC Ecumenical Prayer Cycle this week focuses on Argentina, Paraguay and Uruguay. Link from www.ecc-bochum.de
- Worship in September has a Creation theme celebrating creation and its diversity: 15 September: Flora and Fauna Sunday 22 September: Storm Sunday 29 September: Cosmos Sunday 6 October: Harvest Thanks Celebration
- Next ECC Choir practice is on Wednesday, 18 September at 6 p.m. in the church (not in the halls). New singers always welcome!
- The next Sensible Shoes Book Club for women session is *Thursday 17 October* 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.





#### **Church address**

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English-speaking Christian Congregation Bochum, Germany



Adam Naming the Animals (Manuscript illustration, England ca. 1250) Source: Getty Museum (Public Domain)

**"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