

Watchword for the Week

“Change your life. God's kingdom is here.”
(Matthew 3:2)
(Moravian Daily Texts 2019)

ORGAN PRELUDE

Please stand as the Bible and the Advent candles are brought in procession into the worship space.

WELCOME and CALL to WORSHIP
(based on Isaiah 11:1-10)

A fresh start from an old root.
A new shoot from an old trunk.
A spoken hope from the silence of heaven.
On the stump of hopelessness
a branch shall grow.

In the middle of winter
a branch shall grow.


In the cold of the season
a branch shall grow.

In the hearts of God's people
a branch shall grow.

Gathered here in our longing for peace,
and in our hope for God's better world,
we await the One who sets free the word of life
in this season, for this time, in us now.
Let us worship in hope and peace.

Hymn 472 * *Come, thou long-expected Jesus*
People's Choice Hymns are marked with an asterisk (*)

PRAYER of APPROACH

SCRIPTURE READING #1 
Isaiah 11:1-10 *OT p. 680 (679)*

PRAYER of INVOCATION

Come Holy Spirit,
you have placed yearning in our hearts,
now bring healing to body, mind and spirit.
Bless the heads that bow,
the hands that touch,

the hearts that hope.
Bring healing; bring peace.

INVITATION to the LAYING ON of HANDS

*If you wish to receive the prayer of blessing and the **laying-on of hands**, come to kneel, stand or sit in the sanctuary area while the following hymn is being sung. You may also share in pronouncing the prayer of blessing on others if you wish.*

Hymn 543 * *Christ, be our light!*

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.

*After receiving the prayer of blessing, you are invited to **light a candle** from one of the Advent candles on the tables next to the pillars and place it in the sand box there. Today's Advent candles symbolise **Hope and Peace**.*

SCRIPTURE READING #2 

St. Matthew 3:1-12 *NT p. 5*
Those who wish may stand for the Gospel reading.
The word of God: **Thanks be to God!**

Hymn 241 * *Isaiah the prophet has written*
(Children may join the Kids' Church programme)

SERMON *Rev. James Brown*

Hymn 359 * *He came down*

Hymn 788 *Know that God is good*

Hymn 516 * *We are marching in the light of God*

*As we sing these choruses, you are invited to **bring offerings forward**: Put 'regular' offerings in the middle basket and donations for Ward 8 of Mulleriyawa Hospital in the baskets on the tables to the right and left beside the two pillars.*

DEDICATION PRAYER

Creator God,
source of life and love, hope and peace,
you have given us life;
we give our lives to you.
You have surrounded us with love,
drawing us to love you in return.
When all seems dark and hopeless,
you give us a beautiful vision
of our world and all its creatures
living in perfect harmony.
As we bring these token gifts of money,
we commit ourselves to living, loving,
hoping and working for peace,
in Jesus' name.
Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS *See Notices overleaf*

PRAYERS for OTHERS

Response: Lord, 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.

SHARING GOD'S PEACE

Hymn 749 * *Soon and very soon*

BLESSING and *Threefold Amen* (No. 819)
Please remain standing until the Bible is carried out.

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
 - Reader:** Heinrich Ohlendorf
 - 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 WCC **Ecumenical Prayer Cycle** this week focuses on **Cambodia, Laos** and **Vietnam**. Link from www.ecc-bochum.de
- **Looking ahead:**
 - Wednesday, 11 December**
*Please note: **No** choir practice next week*
 - Sunday, 15 December**
10.30 *Lectio Divina #6*, Youth Clubroom
final session on the Prophet Isaiah
 - 12.30 *Christmas Pageant*, Pauluskirche
 - Sunday, 22 December**
12.30 *'God IS With Us'*, Pauluskirche
 - Tuesday, 24 December**
19.30 *Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion*, Pauluskirche
 - Wednesday, 25 December**
12.30 *Christmas Day*, Gift-themed family worship | Communion, Pauluskirche
- Please support our **Advent Appeal** for donations of packed biscuits, cookies, chocolates or cakes giving some Christmas cheer to clients of our local Bahnhof Mission.
- 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

8 December 2019



Advent 2

Prayers for Healing

“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