

Watchword for the Week

I will recount the gracious deeds of the Lord,
the praiseworthy acts of the Lord,
because of all that the Lord has done for us.
(Isaiah 63:7)

(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

(Psalm 148 – The Message translation)

Hallelujah! Praise GOD from heaven,
praise him from the mountaintops;

**Praise him, all you his angels,
praise him, all you his warriors;**

Praise him, sun and moon,
praise him, you morning stars;

**Praise him, high heaven,
praise him, heavenly rain clouds;**

Praise, oh let them praise the name of GOD –
he spoke the word, and there they were!

**He set them in place from all time to eternity;
he gave his orders, and that's that!**

Praise GOD from earth, you sea-dragons,
you fathomless ocean deeps;

**Fire and hail, snow and ice,
hurricanes obeying his orders;**

Mountains and all hills,
apple orchards and cedar forests;

**Wild beasts and herds of cattle,
snakes, and birds in flight;**

Earth's kings and all races,
leaders and important people;

**Robust men and women in their prime,
and yes, graybeards and little children.**

Let them praise the name of GOD –
it's the only Name worth praising.

His radiance exceeds anything in earth and sky;
he's built a monument – **his very own people!**

Praise from all who love GOD!
Israel's children, intimate friends of GOD.
Hallelujah!

Hymn 105 *

Glory to God above

People's Choice Hymns are marked with an asterisk (*)

PRAYER of APPROACH

Hymn 313

See! In yonder manger low

CHILDREN'S TIME

SHARING GOD'S PEACE

(Children may join the Kids' Church programme)

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Isaiah 63:7-9

OT p. 726 (728)

St. Matthew 2:13-23

NT p. 5 (4)

People may stand for the Gospel reading.

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

Hymn 570 *When the storms of life are raging*

SERMON

Rev. James Brown

Hymn 237 *

Look forward in faith

OFFERING *Offerings are gathered*

DOXOLOGY (Hymn 807*)

Offerings are brought forward

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise him, all creatures here below;
praise him above, ye heavenly hosts,
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.**

DEDICATION PRAYER

**As part of creation's endless song of praise,
O God, may these offerings
express our joy and hope for the living.**

**Open us and use us in the ways of your
generous love. Amen.**

PRAYERS for OTHERS

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.**

Hymn 530 * *One more step along the world I go*

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

ORGAN POSTLUDE

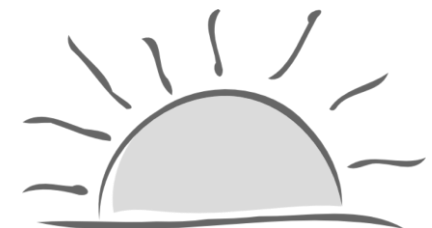
New Year's Morning (excerpt)

Helen Hunt Jackson (1830-1885)

*Always a night from old to new!
Night and the healing balm of sleep!
Each morn is New Year's morn come true,
Morn of a festival to keep.*

*All nights are sacred nights to make
Confession and resolve and prayer;
All days are sacred days to wake
New gladness in the sunny air.*

*Only a night from old to new;
Only a sleep from night to morn.
The new is but the old come true;
Each sunrise sees a new year born.*



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:** Debbie Hubweber
 - Reader:** Justus Masa
 - 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 **Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon** and **Palestine**. Link to prayers and information from www.ecc-bochum.de
- **Looking ahead:**
 - Sunday, 5 January 2020**
12.30 Epiphany | Covenant Day
reflecting on gifts of time, talent, money
 - Sunday, 19 January 2020**
12.30 "How My Hope Survived"
Women's stories of flight and displacement. Exhibition in church with Pastor Eva-Maria Ranft as guest.
 - Sunday, 26 January 2020**
12.30 Christian Unity Sunday
Pastor Mike Kwang-Yul Lee (Düsseldorf) as guest, Chair: International Church Convention Rhineland-Westphalia
- Contributions for **Mulleriyawa Ward 8**, the International Presbytery project for 2019 can still be made by bank transfer (see insert) or given in person to Marcus Sarpong.
- Please switch all **mobile phones** off or to the mute mode / vibration signal during worship. Thank you.



ECC



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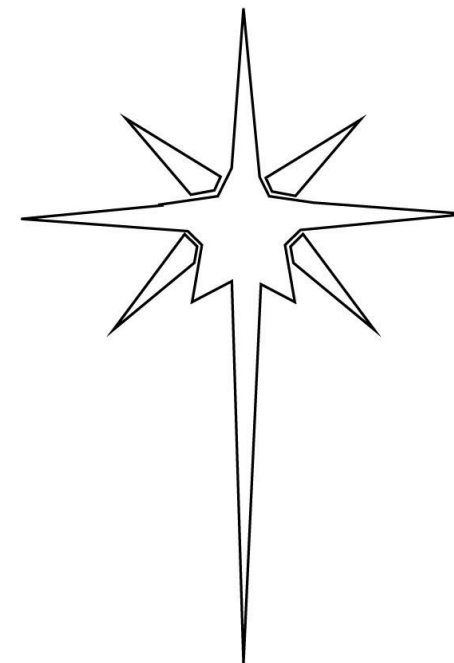
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English-speaking Christian Congregation
Bochum, Germany

29 December 2019



First Sunday after Christmas

"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