

Watchword for the Week

The Lord, your God, is in your midst ...
he will rejoice over you with gladness,
he will renew you in His love,
he will exult over you with loud singing.
Zephaniah 3:17

SHARING GOD'S PEACE

LIGHTING of the ADVENT CANDLES

Hymn 284, 1-3+5 *Hope is a candle*
(Hymn of the Month, December 2021)

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Zephaniah 3:14-20 OT p. 911

Luke 3:7-18 NT p. 77

Reader: The word of the Lord:

All: **Thanks be to God!**

Hymn 472 *Come Thou long expected Jesus*

SERMON "Verdict Time"
Rev. Emmanuel Mote Ndasah

Hymn 200 *Ye servants of God*

INSTALLATION of COUNCIL MEMBERS

Leader: Grace, mercy, and peace to you
from Jesus Christ, the head of the
church in heaven and on earth.

All: **To God be glory in the church
and in Christ Jesus to all
generations, for ever and ever.
Amen.**

Leader: There are many kinds of spiritual
gifts, but the same Spirit gives them.

All: **There are different ways of serving,
but the same God is served.**

Leader: There are different abilities to
perform service, but the same God
gives ability to each of us
for our particular service.

All: **The Spirit's presence is shown
in some way in each person
for the good of all.**

Leader: Christ is like a single body,
which has many parts.

All: **All of us are Christ's body,
and each one is a part of it.**

PRESENTATION

COVENANT QUESTIONS

Members of this household of faith ...
... Will those who are able rise and
witness to the commitment we now make.

**We gather in celebration of the joy
that is ours to be partners with you
in the service of Jesus Christ.
We promise to love you, honour your
leadership, and assist you that together we
may be a faithful church of Jesus Christ.**

NOTICES

PRAYING for OURSELVES and OTHERS
Lord, hear our prayer:
And let our cry come to you.

The LORD'S PRAYER
(Use your language of preference)

**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, forever
and ever. Amen.**

Hymn 774 *Jesus name above all names*

BLESSING / CLOSING PRAYER

And now as we leave this place
may the Spirit of the living God be with us
in all that we think, all that we say
and all that we do.
**We ask this in the precious name of Jesus
Christ our Lord and our Saviour. Amen.**

ORGAN POSTLUDE

ORGAN PRELUDE

CALL to WORSHIP

[Women read even verses]

Leader: A promise of justice.

All: **Love is coming.**

Leader: Through a resetting of life.

All: **Love is coming.**

Leader: The world waits.

All: **Love is coming.**

Leader: Lord, we, your people, wait patiently,
hanging on for Advent love.

Lord, we bring you ourselves,

All: **we bring you our worship.**

Hymn 547 *What a friend we have in Jesus*

PRAYER of CONFESSION

Ever loving God, in this building and in our
homes we gather in praise, hope, and thanks;
the beloved children of you, our eternally giving
parent. We come seeking the wisdom to know
your desire for us, and to live as you have
instructed. We come asking for help, as we try
to live our lives in service of you and each other.

In a world of confusion and division, where the
right thing is not always the easy thing, we bring
before you our confessions of those things we
have done and failed to do. [Quiet reflection]
May we remain sure in your constant, loving,
forgiveness. In Christ Jesus we have prayed.

All: **Amen**

Let us now share the Peace with one another.
The Peace of our Lord be with you all.

Notices

- **All are welcome in this place.** *It's 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:** Eric Obimdi
 - Organ:** Hendrik Ziser
- The **offering basket** as you leave church is our congregation's main source of income. **Please give generously.**
- After worship, the **Kirchencafé** is open for tea, coffee and fellowship. Please help by clearing away cups and plates, washing dishes and tidying up afterwards. Thank-you!
- There is going to be a very brief rehearsal of **African freestyle singing** immediately after today's service. All interested are welcome to join in.
- The WCC **Ecumenical Prayer Cycle** this week focuses on **Cambodia, Laos** and **Vietnam**. Link to prayers and further information from www.ecc-bochum.de
- Please switch all **mobile phones** off or to the mute mode / vibration signal during worship. Thank you.



Church address

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Pastors Rev. James Brown (Church of Scotland)
Rev. Emmanuel Mote-Ndasah
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Rev. Dr Anja Stuckenberg
(Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, ELCA)
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English-speaking Christian Congregation
Bochum, Germany

12 December 2021



Advent 3

"Pax intransibus, salus exeuntibus"
"On entering, peace - on departure, blessing"
(Pauluskirche Bochum - Porch Inscription 1655)

Worship every Sunday at 12.30

ECUMENICAL • INTERNATIONAL • ENGLISH-LANGUAGE