

**Watchword for the Week**

God has brought down the powerful from their thrones, and lifted up the lowly.

(Luke 1:52)

(Moravian Daily Texts 2021)

God has brought down the powerful from their thrones,  
**and lifted up the lowly;**

God has filled the hungry with good things,  
**and sent the rich away empty.**

God has helped God's servant Israel,  
**in remembrance of God's mercy,**

according to the promise made to our ancestors,  
**to Abraham and Sarah  
and to their descendants forever.**

PRAYERS of CONFESSION

**God, our Savior, we ask for your mercy.  
Though we have heard Mary's song,  
we still seek security in pride  
and power and possessions.  
Though we know your story,  
we resist the costs of following you.  
We pass by those considered lowly in this  
world. We turn away from hungry people  
who still wait to be filled.  
Forgive us, we pray.  
Help us to work for the justice you intend.  
Make us messengers of the peace you bring.  
As we wait for you, turn our apathy  
into acts of love and service.  
We pray in the name of Jesus Christ,  
Emmanuel. Amen.**

LIGHTING of the ADVENT CANDLES

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

SHARING GOD'S PEACE

SCRIPTURE READINGS 

Zechariah 9:9-10 *OT p. 919*

Matthew 21:1-11 *NT p. 30*

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

**Hymn 274** *Comfort, comfort now, my people*

SERMON

"Peaceful Revolution? Not without my donkey!"  
Malte Möring (Ruhr Uni)

**Hymn 278** *'Wake, awake! For night is flying'*

NOTICES

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 285** *The Angel Gabriel from heaven*

CLOSING RESPONSES

May the presence of God  
**bring joy into our lives.**

May the hope of this season  
**bring peace into our world.**

May this time of preparation  
**bring space to our lives.**

So that faith may grow and spread  
**this day and every day.**

BLESSING and **Threefold Amen** (No. 819)

ORGAN POSTLUDE

ORGAN PRELUDE

WELCOME and CALL to WORSHIP  
(Verses from Psalm 24)  
(Plain text = Leader; **bold italics** = All)

Lift up your heads, O gates!  
And be lifted up, O ancient doors!  
**That the Ruler of glory may come in.**

Who is the Ruler of glory?  
**God, strong and mighty,  
God, mighty in battle.**

Lift up your heads, O gates!  
And be lifted up, O ancient doors!  
**That the Ruler of glory may come in.**

Who is the Ruler of glory?  
**The Sovereign of hosts –  
God is the Ruler of glory.**

**Hymn 234** *'Tis winter now; the fallen snow*

The CANTICLE of MARY (Luke 1:46-55)

My soul magnifies the Sovereign,  
**and my spirit rejoices in my Saviour;**

for God has looked with favour  
on the lowliness of God's servant.  
**Surely, from now on all generations  
will call me blessed;**

for the Mighty One has done great things for me,  
**the Mighty One whose name is holy.**

God's mercy is for those who fear God,  
**from generation to generation.**

God has shown great strength;  
**and has scattered the proud  
in the thoughts of their hearts.**

# Notices

- **You are welcome here today.** *It's good you've come!* If you're a first-time worshipper, please feel free to 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:**
  - Preacher:** Malte Möring
  - Liturgist:** Anja Stuckenberg
  - Duty elder:** Dirk Erenkämper
  - Reader:** Dirk Erenkämper
  - 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 also help afterwards by clearing away cups and plates, washing dishes and tidying up. Thank-you!
- The WCC **Ecumenical Prayer Cycle** this week focuses on **China, Hong Kong and Macau**. Link to prayers and further information from [www.ecc-bochum.de](http://www.ecc-bochum.de)
- Worship on **Christmas Eve** will be at our usual slot of 7.30 p.m., but please arrive early! 2G rules apply so please bring vaccination passes or recovery certification and some form of ID for inspection. Advance registration is also highly recommended. Please register with Pastor Jimmy by phone (0234 13365) or by email to [ecc-bochum@gmx.de](mailto:ecc-bochum@gmx.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. Emmanuel Mote-Ndasah  
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Rev. Dr Anja Stuckenberg  
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Pastors can be contacted by e-mail (see below)

**Retired pastor** Rev Dr Robert Haworth (UCC, USA)

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English-speaking Christian Congregation  
Bochum, Germany

# 19 December 2021



## Advent 4

**"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