Order of Worship

The Fourth Sunday in Lent
Holy Communion

Sunday, March 6, 2016
Order of Worship

Prelude
Passacaglia in C Minor, BWV 582
Johann Sebastian Bach (1685–1750)

Hymn
No. 146, “Jesus, Who This Our Lententide”
Rockingham
The congregation standing

Call to Worship
Minister:
Be glad in our God and rejoice, O righteous ones.
Shout for joy, all you upright in heart

All:
Happy are those whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered.
Therefore, we worship our God and rejoice.

Minister:
In Christ, we become as a new creation.
Everything old has passed away.
See how God makes things new.

All:
Happy are those whose transgression is forgiven and whose lives become new.
Through our worship, we praise God who makes us new. Amen.

Hymn
No. 141, “The Glory of These Forty Days”
Erhalt uns, Herr
The congregation standing

Confession
In unison:
Merciful and gracious God, we bow before your unending compassion, the measure of our falling short. We have not loved as you command. We have not spoken truly. We have not cared for creation, including ourselves, according to your will. Help us to know the mind of Christ, that in all thoughts, words, and deeds, our lives might come to honor you. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

The Peace
All are invited to join in the singing of Hymn No. 27, stanza 1.

Greetings
Children now join their teachers in the Church School.

At the Offertory
Kyrie, Gott heiliger Geist, BWV 674 (1738)
Johann Sebastian Bach (1685–1750)
Here an offering is received for the work of the Church within and beyond the University. Ushers will begin the collection from the back of the Church forward.
O God beyond all praising, we worship you today and sing the love amazing that songs cannot repay; for we can only wonder at every gift you send, at blessings without number and mercies without end: we lift our hearts before you and wait upon your word, we honor and adore you, our great and mighty Lord.

Music: THAXTED, Gustav Holst, 1921, alt.
Text: Michael Perry; © by Jubilate Hymns, Ltd. (admin. by Hope Publishing Co., Carol Stream, IL 60188).

FIRST LESSON
Genesis 17:1–5, 15–22  Pew Bible, page 12 (OT)

KYRIE from Missa “Bell’Amifitrit’ altera” (ca. 1580)  Orlande de Lassus (1532–1594)
Kyrie eleison.  Lord, have mercy.
Christe eleison.  Christ, have mercy.
Kyrie eleison.  Lord, have mercy.

SECOND LESSON
Hebrews 11:8–12  Pew Bible, page 199 (NT)

HYMN
No. 144, “Now Let Us All with One Accord”  Gonfalon Royal

SERMON
Devotion to the Dream

HYMN
No. 70, “Thou, Who at Thy First Eucharist Didst Pray”  Song 1
The congregation standing
THE PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Minister: The Lord be with you.
People: And also with you.
Minister: Lift up your hearts.
People: We lift them to the Lord.
Minister: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

The minister continues:

It is truly right, good, and joyful to give you thanks, all holy God, source of life and fountain of mercy. You have filled us and all creation with your blessing and fed us with your constant love; you have redeemed us in Jesus Christ and knit us into one body. Through your Spirit you replenish us and call us to the fullness of life. Therefore, joining with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, we lift our voices as we sing:

SANCTUS AND BENEDICTUS

The congregation may be seated.

The minister continues with the Eucharistic prayer.

THE LORD’S PRAYER

Sung by the choir

THE INVITATION TO COMMUNION

The minister says:


AT THE COMMUNION

Communicants will proceed to the foot of the chancel steps at the direction of the ushers and will return to their seats by the side aisles. Grape juice is in the outer cup and wine is in the inner cup. At the giving of the bread and the cup, the people respond with “Amen.”
AGNUS DEI from *Missa “Bell’Amifitr’ altera”*
Orlande de Lassus

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi: miserere nobis.
Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi: miserere nobis.
Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi: dona nobis pacem.

*Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us.*
*Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us*
*Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: grant us peace.*

ANTHEM

*Ave verum corpus* (1605)  
*William Byrd (ca. 1540–1623)*

*Ave verum corpus, natum*  
Hail the true body, born
*De Maria Virgine,*  
Of the Virgin Mary,
*Vere passum, immolatum*  
You who truly suffered and were sacrificed
*In cruce pro homine:*  
On the cross for the sake of man:
*Cuius latus perforatum,*  
From whose pierced flank
*Unda fluxit sanguine.*  
Flowed water and blood.
*Esto nobis praegustatum*  
Be a foretaste for us
*In mortis examine:*  
In the trial of death.
*O dulcis! O pie!*  
O sweet, O merciful,
*O Iesu, fili Mariae,*  
O Jesus, Son of Mary,
*Miserere mei.*  
Have mercy on me.
*Amen.*  
*Amen.*

HYMN

No. 65, “Let Us Break Bread Together”  
*Let Us Break Bread*
*The congregation standing*

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Kyrie, Gott heiliger Geist, BWV 671 (1735)  
*Johann Sebastian Bach*

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**OUR MISSION**

*The Memorial Church of Harvard University is a space of grace in the center of the Yard, rooted in the good news of Jesus Christ. Affectionately known as “MemChurch,” we pursue partnerships within and beyond Harvard, empowering community members to serve the world as well-informed, compassionate, moral citizens. Through worship and ministry outreach, MemChurch aims to promote justice and mercy by confronting life’s challenges, differences, and our own imperfections with courage, empathy, and an ethic of love. By doing so, the Memorial Church seeks to educate minds, expand hearts, and enrich lives.*
Today is the Fourth Sunday in Lent. The preacher is the Reverend Dr. M. Craig Barnes, President and Professor of Pastoral Ministry, Princeton Theological Seminary. The service is led by the Reverend Dr. Lucy A. Forster-Smith, Sedgwick Chaplain to the University and Senior Minister in the Memorial Church; the Reverend Alanna Copenhaver, Ministry Fellow in the Memorial Church; and seminarians Katherine Blaisdell MDiv III, Danny Ballon MTS II, and Patrick Jackson MDiv II. The first lesson is read by Katherine Blaisdell MDiv III. The second lesson is read by Kevon Edmondson '18. The liturgy is adapted from Worship Ways, “The Righteousness of God: Service Prayers for the Fourth Sunday of Lent” by Cari Jackson, ucc.org.

Listening devices are available to help the hearing impaired participate in the service; please ask an usher for assistance. Following the service, the congregation is invited to a reception in the Memorial Room.

The flowers in the chancel are given to the glory of God and in thanksgiving for the marriage of Rebecca and David.

Want to learn about the Memorial Church? Stop by the Welcome Table to learn more about our array of events, programs, and ministries. Questions are encouraged!

Prayer request cards are available in the pew card holders or in the church lobby. We are honored to pray for your specific needs. Please place prayer requests in the offering plate during worship services or drop in the prayer request box in the church lobby.

Please join Lucy Forster-Smith for a Lenten Study Series exploring Barbara Brown Taylor’s An Altar in the World: A Geography of Faith. The study series will conclude this Tuesday evening, March 8, at 7:00 p.m. in the Pusey Room.

The Memorial Church holds a Grief Support Group for students each Term. Students, both graduate and undergraduate, who have lost parents, partners, friends, siblings, grandparents, or others close to them are welcome. If you are interested in being a part of the Grief Support Group, please contact Alanna Copenhaver at alanna_copenhaver@harvard.edu or 617-496-1426. We will meet in a confidential setting at the Memorial Church this Wednesday afternoon, March 9, from 4:00–6:00 p.m.

Harvard will be on Spring Recess starting on Saturday, March 12. Church School will not be held on Sunday, March 13, and there will be no services of Morning Prayers from March 14 through March 19. Church School will resume on Sunday, March 20, and Morning Prayers will resume on Monday, March 21.

MORNING PRAYERS SPEAKERS: MARCH 7 – 12, 8:45 A.M.
Monday: Emma Woo ’17; Tuesday: Amy Cuddy; Wednesday: David Holland; Thursday: Sahar Shahid MDiv II; Friday: Steve Marley; Saturday: No Service—Spring Recess.

Following each service of Morning Prayers on Wednesdays, free coffee and snacks will be available at MemCafé from 9:00–10:15 a.m. on the steps of the church across from Widener Library. All are welcome!
FAITH & LIFE FORUM
The Faith & Life Forum seeks to deepen our devotional lives by promoting religious literacy and cultural competency concerning communities of faith. Held every Sunday morning during the Term, the presentations take place in the Pusey Room of the Memorial Church from 9:30–10:30 a.m., but all are invited to gather for coffee and conversation at 9:00 a.m. The next Faith & Life Forum will be held on Sunday, March 13; Robert Randolph will give the presentation.

CHURCH SCHOOL FOR CHILDREN
The Church School offers Christian education classes for children of ages three through twelve. Classes are held in the Buttrick Room during Sunday services and emphasize biblical themes and scripture. At the conclusion of the worship service, parents are asked to pick up their children in the Buttrick Room promptly. Contact Church School Director, Westley (Wes) Conn, at westley_conn@harvard.edu for more information.

HOLY WEEK & EASTER
Morning Prayers Ecumenical Reflections on Holy Week: Monday, March 21–Saturday, March 26, 8:45–9:00 a.m., Appleton Chapel. Harvard Chaplains from a variety of Christian faiths will reflect upon Lent and Holy Week.

Holy Week Musical Meditation: Tuesday, March 22, 8:00 p.m., The Memorial Church Sanctuary. Featuring the Harvard University Choir performing The Crucifixion by John Stainer.

Organ Recital: Wednesday, March 23, 7:30 p.m. Thomas Sheehan, Associate University Organist and Choirmaster performs works by Bach, Ridout, and de Maleingreau.

Maundy Thursday: March 24, 8:00 p.m., Appleton Chapel. Service of Holy Communion featuring the Harvard University Choral Fellows.

Good Friday: March 25, 12:00–2:00 p.m, The Memorial Church Sanctuary. Meditations upon the Seven Words from the Cross

Easter Day: Sunday, March 27. 8:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m. Both Easter services will be the same; however, you may wish to consider attending the 8:00 a.m. service to more easily find seating and parking. Church School will also be available for both services.

On Easter Day the Church School will be hosting an Easter egg hunt at 9:30 a.m. between our two worship services in Tercentenary Lawn.

WILLIAM BELDEN NOBLE LECTURE
On Monday, April 4, at 7:00 p.m., American essayist and novelist Marilynne Robinson will deliver the 2016 Noble Lecture, with an introduction by Matthew Potts, Assistant Professor of Ministry Studies, Harvard Divinity School. The lecture will be held in the Memorial Church Sanctuary; a reception and book signing will immediately follow in the Memorial Room. The event is free and open to the public; doors will open at 6:15 p.m. This event is cosponsored by the Memorial Church and Harvard Book Store.

Additionally, join us for a special Faith & Life Forum on Sunday, April 3, at 9:30 a.m., with Michelle C. Sanchez, Assistant Professor of Theology, Harvard Divinity School, who will speak on the relationship of Marilynne Robinson’s writing and John Calvin.
MUSIC NOTES

This morning’s Kyrie and Agnus Dei are by the prolific Flemish composer Orlande de Lassus, who composed over sixty settings of the mass ordinary. Lassus was a truly cosmopolitan composer: he spent his early life in Italy and Belgium, followed by an appointment as Maestro di cappella to the Duke of Bavaria in Munich. The beautiful double-choir Missa “Bell’Amfitrit’ altera” was probably composed around 1580, and is based loosely on a popular song by the same title: the opening phrase of this song appears at the start of each movement.

William Byrd’s exquisite motet “Ave verum Corpus” is taken from the Gradualia of 1605: the simplicity of the setting encourages quiet reflection upon this most familiar of communion texts.

The Passacaglia in C Minor is one of Johann Sebastian Bach’s most important works for the organ, and one that stands alone in that composer’s oeuvre. Passacaglia form — in which a bass ostinato is subjected to continuous variations — was a popular compositional idiom of the baroque era, and Bach’s C-minor passacaglia soon became the best-known example, which served as a model for many later composers. The eight-bar ostinato appears in the bass for the first eight and last five variations; in the ninth through fifteenth variations it becomes highly ornamented and is frequently concealed. The work is crowned by a double fugue that grows out of the last variation.

The postlude is taken from Bach’s monumental keyboard study, Clavierübung: four publications of the composer’s keyboard music, the third of which is devoted to organ music. Kyrie, Gott heiliger Geist, is written in a deliberately archaic style — one that Bach often refers to in his liturgical settings; the plainsong (cantus firmus) is adapted from an early Lutheran hymnbook and is heard in long notes in the pedals.

SUNDAY SERMONS AND MORNING PRAYERS SERVICES

ON HARVARD’S ITUNES U

Sunday sermons and weekly Morning Prayers services are available on Harvard’s iTunes U in the “Religion & Spirituality” channel. From your iTunes software, search “Harvard Memorial Church” to listen on your iPod, iPhone, iPad, Mac, or PC.

STAY CONNECTED TO THE MEMORIAL CHURCH

E-mail List: Join our e-mail list and stay up-to-date with all the happenings in the Memorial Church. To sign up, visit our website at memorialchurch.harvard.edu.

Facebook: Like us on Facebook: facebook.com/memorialchurch.

Twitter: Follow us on Twitter: twitter.com/MemChurch.

REMEMBER: DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME BEGINS

Please remember to set your clocks ahead by one hour on Saturday night, March 12.

NEXT SUNDAY’S SERVICE

Next Sunday is the Fifth Sunday in Lent. The preacher will be Dr. John Silvanus Wilson Jr., President, Morehouse College.

For more information on upcoming services and events: memorialchurch.harvard.edu • facebook.com/memorialchurch • twitter.com/memchurch

To subscribe to the Memorial Church e-mail list, visit our website: memorialchurch.harvard.edu.