

HARVARD

The Memorial Church



ORDER OF WORSHIP

The First Sunday of Advent

Sunday, November 30, 2014

PLEASE SILENCE ALL ELECTRONIC DEVICES UPON ENTERING
THE SANCTUARY OF THE MEMORIAL CHURCH.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

PRELUDE

Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland, BWV 659

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685–1750)

HYMN

No. 91, “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

Veni Emmanuel

Sung by all, the congregation standing

CALL TO WORSHIP

Minister: We gather to celebrate the God who is present among us.

People: The Lord our God is our strength and song, and is even now our salvation.

Minister: We gather to celebrate with all the world that the Lord is God.

People: With joy we gather around God’s fountain of grace
to be refreshed and renewed.

Minister: We gather to celebrate with songs of praise
for the Lord our God’s eternal presence
is forever with us and all peoples.

People: We sing with joy:
We come to worship our Mighty God!
Praise God’s holy name!

INVOCATION

CONFESSION

In unison:

Eternal God, in whom we live and move and have our being, whose face is hidden from us by our sin, and whose mercy we forget: Cleanse us from all offenses, and deliver us from proud thoughts and vain desires; that humbly we may draw near to thee, confessing our faults, confiding in thy grace, and finding in thee our refuge and our strength, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

HYMN

No. 99, “Hark, a Thrilling Voice Is Sounding”

Merton

The congregation standing

GREETINGS

Children now join their teachers in the Church School.

THE PEACE

All are invited to join in the singing of Hymn No. 27, verse 1.

AT THE OFFERTORY

Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland

Dieterich Buxtehude (1637–1707)

Here an offering is received for the work of the Church within and beyond the University. Usbers will begin the collection from the back of the Church forward. All money collected in the offering this morning will be donated to Epiphany School.

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow,
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

PSALTER

Psalm 80:1–7, 16–18

Pew Bible, page 503 (OT)

To be read responsively; the congregation standing

GLORIA PATRI

See Hymn No. 371

FIRST LESSON

I Corinthians 1:3–9

Pew Bible, page 145 (NT)

ANTHEM

Schenectady

Nehemiah Shumway (1761–1843)

From all that dwell below the skies,
Let the Creator's praise arise.
Let the Redeemer's name be sung,
Through every land by every tongue.

*Eternal are thy mercies Lord;
Eternal truth attends thy word.
Thy praise shall sound from shore to shore,
Till suns shall rise and set no more.*

With all my powers of heart and tongue
I'll praise my Maker in my song
Angels shall hear the notes I raise,
Approve the song and join the praise.

SECOND LESSON

Mark 13:24–37

Pew Bible, page 44 (NT)

ANTHEM

The Appletree

Jeremiah Ingalls (1764–1838)

The tree of life my soul has seen, laden with fruit and always green
The trees of nature fruitless be compared with Christ the apple tree.

His beauty does all things excel, by faith I know but ne'er can tell
The glory which I now can see in Jesus Christ the apple tree.

For happiness I long have sought, and pleasure dearly I have bought
I missed of all but now I see 'tis found in Christ the apple tree.

I'm weary with my former toil, here I will sit and rest awhile
Under the shadow I will be with Jesus Christ the apple tree.

This fruit does make my soul to thrive, it keeps my dying faith alive
Which makes my soul in haste to be with Jesus Christ the apple tree.

*Traditional American
From the collection of Joshua Smith, 1784*

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Minister: The Lord be with you.
People: And also with you.
Minister: Let us pray.
Lord, show us your love and mercy;
People: For we put our trust in you.
Minister: In you, Lord, is our hope;
People: And we shall never hope in vain.

Each time the minister says "Lord, in your mercy," the congregation will respond with "Hear our prayer."

THE LORD'S PRAYER

In unison:

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.

THE GRACE

The Grace of Our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all. Amen.

HYMN

No. 102, "Savior of the Nations, Come" *Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland*
The congregation standing

SERMON

HYMN

No. 276, "Go Forth for God" *Magda*
The congregation standing

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland, BWV 661 *Johann Sebastian Bach*

Today is the First Sunday of Advent. The preacher this morning is the Reverend John H. Finley IV, Co-Founder and Head of Epiphany School, Dorchester, MA. The service is led by the Reverend Dr. Lucy A. Forster-Smith, Sedgwick Chaplain to the University and Senior Minister in the Memorial Church, Harvard University; Ministry Fellow Alanna Copenhaver; and Seminarian David Hysong MDiv III. The first lesson is read by Tara Benedict. The second lesson is read by David Foster. The First Candle of the Advent Wreath is lit by the Samuel family.

For more information on upcoming services and events, please visit our website at www.memorialchurch.harvard.edu. You can also find us on Facebook (www.facebook.com/memorialchurch) and Twitter (twitter.com/MemChurch).

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sunday, November 30, 2014

WELCOME

Today is the First Sunday of Advent. The preacher this morning is the Reverend John H. Finley IV, Co-Founder and Head of Epiphany School, Dorchester, MA. The service is led by the Reverend Dr. Lucy A. Forster-Smith, Sedgwick Chaplain to the University and Senior Minister in the Memorial Church, Harvard University; Ministry Fellow Alanna Copenhaver; and Seminarian David Hysong MDiv III. The first lesson is read by Tara Benedict. The second lesson is read by David Foster. The First Candle of the Advent Wreath is lit by the Samuel family.

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.

MORNING PRAYERS SPEAKERS: DECEMBER 1–6, 8:45 A.M.

Monday: Maria Dominguez Gray; Tuesday: Emily Click; Wednesday: Whitney Barth; Thursday: Sarah Bracke; Friday: Charles Stang; Saturday: Santiago Pardo '16

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!

COMPLINE

A service of Compline, which combines candlelight, plainsong, polyphony, prayer, scripture, and silence, will be held on Thursday evening, December 4, at 10:00 p.m. Music is provided by the Harvard University Choir. All are welcome.

HOLIDAY GIVING

Please help us collect gifts and donations for two worthy causes this holiday season. Donation boxes will be placed at the back of the church starting Sunday, November 30; we will also accept donations throughout the week in the boxes located downstairs in the Church's reception office.

Phillips Brooks House Holiday Gift Drive: We will be collecting presents this holiday season for children in Boston and Cambridge. Place items such as books, toys, art supplies, board games, and sports equipment in the boxes provided. Gifts should be new and unwrapped. Donations accepted through Sunday, December 14.

Harvard Real Estate Holiday Gift Drive for Rosie's Place: Rosie's Place goal is to distribute \$25 gift cards and a toiletry gift set (full size lotion, body spray and body wash) to women who visit Rosie's Place for services during the holiday season. All donations should be new and unwrapped. Most-needed items: \$25 gift cards (Stop & Shop, Old Navy, Walgreens, Payless, Bed, Bath & Beyond, CVS, etc.); full-size toiletries; lotion and body spray gift sets; comforters, blankets, and sheets; movie passes; make-up or beauty products; and sets of scarves, hats, and gloves. Donations accepted through Wednesday, December 10.

THE 105TH ANNUAL CHRISTMAS CAROL SERVICES

The 105th Annual Carol Services will be held in the church on Sunday, December 14 at 5:00 p.m., and on Monday, December 15 at 8:00 p.m. Doors open one hour before each service. Admission is free; an offering for charity is collected. The Sunday, December 14 carol service will be broadcast live on WHRB Radio (95.3 FM, www.wbrb.org). The broadcast begins with the organ prelude at 4:30 p.m. It will also be re-broadcast on Sunday, December 21 at 3:30 p.m.

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE

On Christmas Eve, Wednesday, December 24 at 5:00 p.m., a service will be held to celebrate the Nativity of Our Lord with hymns and Holy Communion. Professor Jonathan L. Walton will preach. Singers are welcome to join in the community choir for the Christmas Eve service; rehearsal is before the service at 3:30 p.m.

MUSIC NOTES

To celebrate the Sunday following Thanksgiving Day, the Harvard University Choir presents two songs of praise from the early American sacred repertoire. Nehemiah Shumway and Jeremiah Ingalls were important members of a group of self-taught composers active in New England during the period 1770–1820. They created an indigenous sacred repertoire readily accessible to all, which became instantly popular amid the explosion of religious fervor at that time.

To welcome in the new liturgical year, today's organ music comprises three settings of the Advent hymn, "Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland" ("Savior of the nations, come"). Two of the works come from Bach's collection of large-scale chorale preludes known as the *Great Eighteen*; the third is from the pen of one of Bach's great mentors, Dieterich Buxtehude. The prelude and offertory are plaintive in mood with florid elaborations of the melody in the treble, while the postlude is a lively toccata which presents the chorale melody in the pedals.

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 before the 11:00 a.m. worship service, the presentations take place in the Pusey Room of the Memorial Church from 9:30–10:30 a.m., but you are invited to gather for coffee and conversation at 9:00 a.m. The next Faith & Life Forum will be held on Sunday, December 7. Theresa S. Betancourt, Associate Professor of Child Health and Human Rights, Department of Global Health and Population; Director, Research Program on Children and Global Adversity, François-Xavier Bagnoud Center for Health and Human Rights, Harvard School of Public Health, will give the presentation. Please note that next week will be the last Faith & Life Forum of the Fall Term.

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 www.memorialchurch.harvard.edu.

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

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

NEXT SUNDAY'S SERVICE

Next Sunday is the Second Sunday of Advent and Holy Communion. The preacher will be Professor Jonathan L. Walton, Plummer Professor of Christian Morals and Pusey Minister in the Memorial Church, Harvard University.

For more information on upcoming services and events:

www.memorialchurch.harvard.edu • www.facebook.com/memorialchurch • twitter.com/memchurch

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