

HARVARD

The Memorial Church



ORDER OF WORSHIP

The First Sunday of Spring Term

Sunday, January 29, 2017

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

ORDER OF WORSHIP

PRELUDE

Ostinato et Fughetta (1963)

Páll Ísólffsson (1893–1974)

HYMN

No. 1, stanzas 1 & 4, “All People That on Earth Do Dwell”
The congregation standing

Old Hundredth

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. 345, “Morning Glory, Starlit Sky”

Memorial Church

GREETING

THE PEACE

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

OFFERTORY

The offering collected goes directly to fund the Memorial Church Grants Committee's recipient organizations and their important work in our local communities. Checks can be written to the Memorial Church with the memo line "Grants Committee." Ushers will begin collection from the back of the church.

Psalm 15 *Domine, quis habitabit?* *Edward John Hopkins (1818–1901)*
Sung by the choir

Lord, who shall dwell in thy tabernacle?
 or who shall rest upon thy holy hill?
Even he that leadeth an uncorrupt life,
 and doeth the thing which is right, and speaketh the truth from his heart.
He that hath used no deceit in his tongue, nor done evil to his neighbor,
 and hath not slandered his neighbor.
He that setteth not by himself, but is lowly in his own eyes,
 and maketh much of them that fear the Lord.
He that sweareth unto his neighbor, and disappointeth him not,
 though it were to his own hindrance.
He that hath not given his money upon usury,
 nor taken reward against the innocent.
Whoso doeth these things
 shall never fall.

DOXOLOGY

Sung by the congregation, standing

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

FIRST LESSON

Micah 6:1–8

Pew Bible, page 819 (OT)

ANTHEM

Great Is the Lord, Op. 67 (1910–12)

Edward Elgar (1857–1934)

Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised in the city of our God, in the mountain of his holiness;
Beautiful in elevation—the joy of the whole earth—is mount Zion,

on the sides of the north, the city of the great king.

God hath made himself known in her palaces for a refuge.

For lo! The kings assembled themselves, they passed by together;

They saw, then were they amazed; they were dismayed, they hastened away;

Trembling took hold of them there—pain, as of a woman in travail,

As with the east wind that breaketh the ships of Tarshish.

As we have heard, so have we seen in the city of the Lord of hosts, in the city of our God:

God will establish it forever.

We have thought on thy loving-kindness, O God, in the midst of thy temple:

As is thy name, O God, so is thy praise unto the ends of the earth;

thy right hand is full of righteousness.

Let mount Zion be glad, let the daughters of Judah rejoice, because of thy judgments;

Walk about Zion and go round about her, tell the towers thereof,

Mark ye well her bulwarks, consider her palaces, that ye may tell it to the generation following.

For this God is our God forever and ever; he will be our guide even unto death. Amen.

Psalm 48 (KJV alt.)

SECOND LESSON

Matthew 5:1–12

Pew Bible, pages 3–4 (NT)

PRAYER HYMN

The congregation seated



Day by day, dear Lord, of thee three things I pray: to



see thee more clear - ly, love thee more dear - ly,



fol - low thee more near - ly, day by__ day.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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.

Following the Lord's Prayer, the Prayer Hymn is repeated.

ANTHEM

Heyr, himna smiður (1973)

Heyr, himna smiður,
Hvers skáldið biður,
Komi mjúk til mín
Miskunnin þín.
Því heit eg á þig,
Þú hefur skaptan mig,
Eg er þrællinn þinn,
Þú ert drottinn minn.
Guð, heit eg á þig,
Að græðir mig,
Minnst, mildingur, mín,
Mest þurfum þín.
Ryð þú, röðla gramur,
Ríklyndur og framur,
Hölds hverri sorg
Úr hjartaborg.
Gæt, mildingur, mín,
Mest þurfum þín
Helzt hverja stund
Á hölda grund.
Set, meyjjar mögur,
Máls efni fögur,
Öll er hjálp af þér,
Í hjarta mér.

Dorkell Sigurbjörnsson (1938–2013)

*Hear, smith of heavens.
The poet seeketh.
In thy still small voice
Mayest thou show grace.
As I call on thee,
Thou my creator.
I am thy servant,
Thou art my true Lord.
God, I call on thee;
For thee to heal me.
Bid me, prince of peace,
Thou my supreme need.
Ever I need thee,
Generous and great,
O'er all human woe,
City of thy heart.
Guard me, my savior.
Ever I need thee,
Through ev'ry moment
In this world so wide.
Virgin-born, send me
Noble motives now.
Aid cometh from thee,
To my deepest heart.*

Kolbeinn Tumason (ca. 1171–1208); Anonymous English translation

SERMON

In Search of a Miracle

Text: “Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.”

Matthew 5:10

HYMN

No. 25, “When in Our Music God Is Glorified”

Engelberg

The congregation standing

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

“Allegro maestoso” from Sonata No. 1 in G major (1895)

Edward Elgar

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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sunday, January 29, 2017

WELCOME

Today is the First Sunday of Spring Term. The preacher is Professor Jonathan L. Walton, Plummer Professor of Christian Morals and Pusey Minister in the Memorial Church. The service is led by the Reverend Alanna C. Sullivan, Ministry Fellow in the Memorial Church. The first lesson is read by Krista Anderson '19. The second lesson is read by Karen-Alexandra Nogues '18. The music is provided by the Harvard University Choir, under the direction of Edward E. Jones, Gund University Organist and Choirmaster, and Thomas M. Sheehan, Associate University Organist and Choirmaster. The testimony before the offering is given by Chloe Do '15, HLS '19.

WELCOME TABLE

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!

CHURCH SCHOOL

Next Sunday, February 5, Church School will resume for the Spring Term. The Church School offers Christian education classes for children of ages three through twelve. Classes are held on the ground level of the Memorial Church during Sunday services and emphasize biblical themes and scripture. The confirmation class will also meet during this time. At the conclusion of the worship service, parents are asked to promptly pick up their children. To register, please visit the Church School for Children page on our website. Contact Church School Director Westley (Wes) Conn (westley_conn@harvard.edu) to register for this class, or for more information about Church School programs.

FAITH & LIFE FORUM

The Faith and Life Forum will resume for the Spring Term next Sunday, February 5. It meets at 9:30 a.m. on Sunday mornings in the Pusey Room, with coffee service at 9 a.m. The Forum explores matters of faith and public life. This term, we will explore the theme of "Faith & Uncertainty." For the full list of readings and speakers, please visit memorialchurch.harvard.edu/faith-life-forum

THE OFFICE OF COMPLINE

A service of Compline, which combines candlelight, plainsong, polyphony, prayer, scripture, and silence, will be held this Thursday evening, February 2, at 10:00 p.m. in Appleton Chapel. Music is provided by the Harvard University Choir. All are welcome.

CHORAL EVENSONG

Next Sunday, February 5, at 4:00 p.m. in Appleton Chapel, the Harvard University Choir will sing the service of Choral Evensong under the direction of Barry Rose, formerly of Guildford Cathedral; St. Paul's Cathedral, London; and St. Albans Cathedral.

MUSIC NOTES

Sir Edward Elgar was born near Worcester in the west of England and first made a living as a freelance musician, teacher, and conductor. His breakthrough as a composer came with the *Imperial March* (1897), and his reputation solidified with the *Enigma Variations* (1899) and *The Dream of Gerontius* (1900). Public recognition soon followed: he composed music for the coronation of King Edward VII in 1902 and was awarded a knighthood in 1904 and a baronetcy in 1931. Much of the music for which Elgar is remembered today was written before the outbreak of the Great War: the war of 1914–18 deeply affected the composer and diminished his creative inspiration and energy. He would write little for the rest of his life, and few notable works, with the exception of the melancholic Cello Concerto of 1918–19.

Great Is the Lord is a setting of Psalm 48 and was first performed in Westminster Abbey in July 1912. The work opens with a grand statement from the tenors and basses which leads into an ethereal answer from the upper voices, followed by a combination of both themes. There is an abrupt change of mood for the section beginning “For, lo! The kings assembled themselves” which leads into a passage of quasi-recitative at the words “As we have heard.” Elgar sets the text “We have thought on Thy loving-kindness” as a lyrical baritone solo, which is followed by an undulating passage at the words “Let mount Zion be glad” before the return of the opening material heralding the work’s majestic conclusion.

One week ago today, the Harvard University Choir sang the morning service in the Hallgrímskirkja in Reykjavík, Iceland, the culmination of its incredible tour of that city. Our choristers were graciously hosted by the students of the choir of Hamrahlíð College, and the power of communal music-making came to the fore when both choirs joined in the singing of the beautiful Icelandic hymn, “Heyr himna smíður.” It was a powerful moment of cultural exchange, and this haunting piece soon became a favorite of all our singers.

Páll Ísólfsson was the organist at the Catholic Cathedral in Reykjavík for nearly 30 years. His *Ostinato and Fughetta*, written in a style derivative of the late German Romantic, is today’s prelude. Elgar’s Sonata for Organ was the result of a commission from Hugh Blair, organist of Worcester Cathedral, for a work to be performed at a convention of visiting American organists in 1895. Elgar delivered the work to Blair only 3 days before the occasion, leading to an apparently underwhelming, and rather inaccurate, world premiere. Today’s postlude is the sonata’s opening movement, which juxtaposes a grand, sweeping first subject with a calm, lyrical second theme, and features a development section full of intricate counterpoint.

LISTEN TO SUNDAY WORSHIP AND MORNING PRAYERS

Sunday services are broadcast on Harvard's radio station, WHRB 95.3 FM in term; a live stream of the service is available at *wbrb.org*. Recordings of Sunday Worship Services and Sunday Sermons are available on our website, *memorialchurch.harvard.edu*, during the week following the service. Sunday Sermons and Morning Prayers are also available on SoundCloud at *http://bit.ly/sundaysermons* and *http://bit.ly/morningprayers* respectively, and on iTunes—search “Harvard Memorial Church” from your iTunes app.

STAY CONNECTED TO THE MEMORIAL CHURCH

E-mail: 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*

Like us on Facebook: *facebook.com/harvardmemorialchurch*

Follow us on Twitter: *twitter.com/memchurch*

and **Instagram:** *instagram.com/memchurch*

Watch us on YouTube: *youtube.com/memchurchharvard*

USHERING AND READING SIGN-UP

Ushers and lesson readers play a vital role in worship services for the Memorial Church. If you are interested in ushering or reading, please add your name and e-mail to the sign-up sheet at the Welcome Table. We would love to have you join us!

NEXT SUNDAY'S SERVICE

Next Sunday is the Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany. The preacher will be Professor Jonathan L. Walton, Plummer Professor of Christian Morals and Pusey Minister in the Memorial Church.

*For more information on upcoming services and events:
memorialchurch.harvard.edu • facebook.com/harvardmemorialchurch • twitter.com/memchurch
To subscribe to the Memorial Church e-mail list, visit our website: memorialchurch.harvard.edu*