

HARVARD

The Memorial Church



ORDER OF WORSHIP

Sixth Sunday after the Epiphany

February 14, 2021

11 am

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

ORDER OF WORSHIP

PRELUDE

Allein Gott in der Höh sei Ehr', BWV 662

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

HYMN

No. 1, st. 1 & 4, "All People That on Earth Do Dwell"

Old Hundredth

See end of worship bulletin. The congregation stands and sings.

CALL TO WORSHIP

from Psalm 36 & Isaiah 2

Minister: Your steadfast love, O Lord, extends to the heavens,
your faithfulness to the clouds.

People: Your righteousness is like the mighty mountains,
your judgments are like the great deep.

Minister: How precious is your steadfast love, O God!
All people may take refuge in the shadow of your wings.

People: For with you is the fountain of life;
in your light we see light.

Minister: Come, let us set out in the light of the Lord!

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. 12, "The God of Abraham Praise"

Leoni

See end of worship bulletin. The congregation stands and sings.

GREETING & THE PEACE

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." Give online at <https://memorialchurch.harvard.edu/donate>.

O Pray for the Peace of Jerusalem (1941)

Herbert Howells (1892–1983)

O pray for the peace of Jerusalem.
They shall prosper that love thee.
Peace be within thy walls
And plenteousness within thy palaces.

Psalm 122:6,7

DOXOLOGY

The congregation stands and sings.
Praise God, from whom all blessings flow.
Praise God, all people here below.
Praise God above, ye heavenly host.
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost.
Amen.

FIRST LESSON

Quran 19: 1–15

ANTHEM

Faire Is the Heaven (1925)

William Henry Harris (1883–1973)

Faire is the heaven, where happy soules have place
In full enjoyment of felicitie,
Whence they doe still behold the glorious face
Of the Divine Eternall Majestic;
Yet farre more faire be those bright Cherubins,
Which all with golden wings are overdight,
And those eternall burning Seraphins,
Which from their faces dart out fiery light;
Yet fairer than they both, and much more bright,
Be th' Angels and Archangels, which attend
On God's owne Person, without rest or end.
These then in faire each other farre excelling,
As to the Highest they approach more neare,
Yet is that Highest farre beyond all telling,
Fairer than all the rest which there appear,
Though all their beauties joynd together were;
How then can mortall tongue hope to expresse
The image of such endlesse perfectnesse?

Edmund Spenser (1552–1599)

SECOND LESSON

Quran 19: 16–34

PRAYER HYMN

The congregation remains 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, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

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

SERMON

A Reminder about Hope, Grace, and Deliverance: An Islamic Perspective

Text: "This is an account of your Lord's grace..."

Quran 19:1

HYMN

No. 226, "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling"

See end of worship bulletin. The congregation stands and sings.

Hyfrydol

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Allein Gott in der Höh sei Ehr', BWV 663

Johann Sebastian Bach

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, February 14, 2021

WELCOME

Today is the Sixth Sunday after the Epiphany. The preacher is Imam Dr. Khalil Abdur-Rashid, Muslim Chaplain to Harvard University. The service is led by Professor Stephanie Paulsell, Interim Pusey Minister in the Memorial Church, Susan Shallcross Swartz Professor of the Practice of Christian Studies, Harvard Divinity School; the Reverend Alanna C. Sullivan, Associate Minister in the Memorial Church; and the Reverend Westley P. Conn, Ministry Fellow in the Memorial Church. You will also hear the voices of some of the family members and friends with whom we are sheltering and for whose help with the liturgy we are most grateful. The first lesson is read by Elizabeth Propst '22, Student Advisory Board, Student Deacon. The second lesson is read by Alden Fossett '21, Student Advisory Board, Student Deacon. The music for this Sunday's service is provided by Edward Elwyn Jones, Gund University Organist and Choirmaster. The offertory and anthem are taken from archival recordings of the Harvard University Choir. The prelude and postlude this morning were recorded on the organ at First-Plymouth Church in Lincoln, Nebraska this past week by David von Behren, Assistant University Organist and Choirmaster.

MUSIC NOTES

Herbert Howells was born in Gloucestershire, England, and studied with Charles Stanford and Charles Wood at the Royal College of Music. He was the most important English composer of the generation to succeed Elgar, Vaughan Williams, and Holst, and his contribution to the renaissance of English choral music in the twentieth century is unparalleled. A creative burst of compositional energy (apparently while Howells and his family were snowed in) at the start of 1941 led to the creation of some of the composer's most famous works, including *O Pray for the Peace of Jerusalem*, a gentle meditation on the word "peace."

Sir William Harris studied at the Royal College of Music under Charles Wood and Sir Walford Davies: he became Walford Davies's assistant at London's Temple Church before becoming organist of New College, Oxford, in 1919. In 1923 he was appointed Professor of organ and harmony at the Royal College of Music, and in 1933 became organist of St. George's Chapel, Windsor, where he remained until 1961. His most famous anthem, the double-choir motet *Faire Is the Heaven*, was written in 1925 for the choir of New College, Oxford, and sets words by the English poet Edmund Spenser.

Chorale preludes—liturgical compositions based on an existing melody—figure prominently in Bach's oeuvre, and his collection of Leipzig preludes (known informally as the "Great Eighteen") shows his mastery of this compositional form at its zenith. Today's prelude and postlude are highly embellished works based on the famous chorale "Allein Gott, in der Höh sei Ehr," which is a German translation of the text of the *Gloria* from the Mass Ordinary.

INSTAGRAM LIVE

Join us on Instagram Live for a brief reflection on a practice on Thursdays at 7:00pm! Be sure to follow us @memchurch!

PRACTICING HOPE READING GROUP

You are warmly invited to join the Practicing Hope Book Group, which meets once a month, on Wednesdays, 7:00–8:00pm. This semester, we'll continue reading and discussing books about practicing hope: on March 10, we'll discuss Philip Hallie's *Lest Innocent Blood Be Shed*; and we'll conclude on April 14 (Selected reading: TBA). To register, please visit the Calendar on our website.

DAILY NEWSLETTER

Our daily newsletter is back! We will share the meditations, music, spiritual practices, and prayers of our far-flung community. This is also the way to receive the most up to date information about the communal and worship life of the Memorial Church. If you would like to receive our newsletter, please subscribe on our website.

MEMCAFÉ

Held virtually on Wednesday mornings from 9:30–10:15am from February 3 to April 28. Sit down at your computer or mobile device with your morning coffee and gather with us over Zoom. Each week as we check in with one another, we invite you to share a 1-2 sentence quote that has been grounding for you. Everyone is welcome! To register, please visit the Calendar on our website.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

The Church School offers Christian education classes for children ages three through sixteen. All classes are held on Sundays in the Fall and Spring Terms from 10:00–10:45am. To register and learn more, please visit the Church School for Children page on our website.

The Faith and Life Forum seeks to enrich our spirituality by promoting religious literacy and cultural competency. The Forum is held Sunday mornings during the Fall and Spring Terms from 9:30–10:30am. The Forum will continue next Sunday, February 21 with Peter Blair, Assistant Professor, Harvard School of Education. To participate, please visit the Faith and Life Forum page on our website.

Contact Ministry Fellow, Rev. Westley (Wes) Conn (westley_conn@harvard.edu) to learn more about opportunities for faith formation.

WORSHIP

Sunday services are broadcast on Harvard's radio station, WHRB 95.3 FM in term; a live stream of the service is available at *whrb.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*

NEXT SUNDAY'S SERVICE

Next Sunday is the First Sunday in Lent. The preacher will be Professor Stephanie Paulsell, Interim Pusey Minister in the Memorial Church, Susan Shallcross Swartz Professor of the Practice of Christian Studies, Harvard Divinity School.

All People That on Earth Do Dwell

1

para. of Psalm 100
William Kethe, 1561, alt.

OLD HUNDREDTH LM
Genevan Psalter, 1551

1 All peo - ple that on earth do dwell, sing
2 Know that the Lord is God in - deed; with -
3 O en - ter then his gates with praise, ap -
4 For why? The Lord our God is good, his

to the Lord with cheer - ful voice; him serve with mirth, his
out our aid he did us make; we are his folk, he
proach with joy his courts un - to; praise, laud, and bless his
mer - cy is for - ev - er sure; his truth at all times

praise forth tell, come ye be - fore him and re - joice.
doth us feed, and for his sheep he doth us take.
name al - ways, for it is seem - ly so to do.
firm - ly stood, and shall from age to age en - dure.

יגדל אלהים חי וישמחה

attrib. Daniel ben Judah (c.1400)

trans. Max Landsberg and Newton M. Mann, 1885, alt.

LEONI 66 84 D

Jewish melody

adapt. Meyer Lyon, c. 1770

1 The God of A-braham praise, all prais - ed be his name, who
 2 His spir - it flow - eth free, high surg - ing where it will; in
 3 He hath e - ter - nal life im - plant - ed in the soul; his

was, and is, and is to be, for aye the same! The
 proph - et's word he spoke of old; he speak - eth still. Es -
 love shall be our strength and stay, while a - ges roll. Praise

one e - ter - nal God, ere aught that now ap - pears; the
 tab - lished is his law, and change - less it shall stand, deep
 to the liv - ing God! All prais - ed be his name, who

first, the last: be - yond all thought his time - less years!
 writ up - on the hu - man heart, on sea, or land.
 was, and is, and is to be, for aye the same!

*Charles Wesley, 1747, alt.*HYFRYDOL 87 87 D
Rowland Huw Prichard, 1830

1 Love di - vine, all loves ex - cel - ling, joy of heaven, to
2 Breathe, O breathe thy lov - ing Spir - it in - to ev - ery
3 Come, Al - mighty - y, to de - liv - er, let us all thy
4 Fin - ish, then, thy new cre - a - tion; pure and spot - less

earth come down, fix in us thy hum - ble dwell - ing,
trou - bled breast; let us all in thee in - her - it,
life re - ceive; sud - den - ly re - turn, and nev - er,
let us be; let us see thy great sal - va - tion

all thy faith - ful mer - cies crown; Je - sus, thou art
let us find thy prom - ised rest; take a - way the
nev - er more thy tem - ples leave. Thee we would be
per - fect - ly re - stored in thee, changed from glo - ry

all com - pas - sion, pure, un - bound - ed love thou art;
love of sin - ning, Al - pha and O - me - ga be;
al - ways bless - ing, serve thee as thy hosts a - bove,
in - to glo - ry, till in heaven we take our place,

vis - it us with thy sal - va - tion,
end of faith, as its be - gin - ning,
pray, and praise thee with - out ceas - ing,
till we cast our crowns be - fore thee,

en - ter ev - ery trem - bling heart.
set our hearts at lib - er - ty.
glo - ry in thy per - fect love.
lost in won - der, love, and praise.