

HARVARD

The Memorial Church



ORDER OF WORSHIP

The First Sunday in Lent

Sunday, February 18, 2018

11 a.m.

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

ORDER OF WORSHIP

PRELUDE

“Prélude” from *Suite*, Op. 5 (1932)

Maurice Duruflé (1902–1986)

HYMN

No. 146, “Jesus, Who This Our Lententide”

Rockingham

The congregation standing

CALL TO WORSHIP

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; you save humans and animals alike, O Lord.

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

People: We feast on the abundance of your house, and you give them drink from the river of your delights.

Minister: For with you is the fountain of life.

People: In your light we see light.

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. 141, “The Glory of These Forty Days”

Erhalt uns, Herr

The congregation standing

GREETING AND 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 front of the church.

Psalm 25:1-9

Ad te, Domine, levavi

Tone I.7

Antiphon: Lead me forth in thy truth, O Lord, and learn me.

Unto thee, O Lord, will I lift up my soul; my God, I have put my trust in thee:

O let me not be confounded, neither let mine enemies triumph over me.

For all they that hope in thee shall not be ashamed;

but such as transgress without a cause shall be put to confusion.

Show me thy ways, O Lord,

and teach me thy paths.

Lead me forth in thy truth, and learn me:

for thou art the God of my salvation; in thee hath been my hope all the day long.

Call to remembrance, O Lord, thy tender mercies,

and thy loving-kindnesses, which have been ever of old.

O remember not the sins and offences of my youth;

but according to thy mercy think thou upon me, O Lord, for thy goodness.

Gracious and righteous is the Lord;

therefore, will he teach sinners in the way.

Them that are meek shall he guide in judgment;

and such as are gentle, them shall he learn his way.

All the paths of the Lord are mercy and truth,

unto such as keep his covenant and his testimonies.

DOXOLOGY

Sung by the congregation, standing

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;

Praise him, all creatures here below;

Praise him above, ye heavenly host;

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

FIRST LESSON

Genesis 9:8-17

Pew Bible, page 7 (OT)

ANTHEM

Lord, We Beseech Thee

Adrian Batten (ca. 1591–ca. 1637)

Lord, we beseech thee, give ear unto our prayers, and by thy gracious visitation lighten the darkness of our hearts, by our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

Collect for the Third Sunday of Advent, The Book of Common Prayer, 1549, alt.

SECOND LESSON

Mark 1:9–15

Pew Bible, page 30 (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, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

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

ANTHEM

Lord, for Thy Tender Mercy's Sake

Richard Farrant (ca. 1525–1580)

Lord, for thy tender mercy's sake, lay not our sins to our charge, but forgive that is past, and give us grace to amend our sinful lives. To decline from sin and incline to virtue, that we may walk in a perfect heart before thee, now and evermore. Amen.

after Lidley's Prayers, 1566

SERMON

The Self-Righteous Remnant

Text: "God said, 'This is the sign of the covenant that I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for all future generations.'" *Genesis 9:12*

HYMN

No. 307, "If Thou But Suffer God to Guide Thee"

Wer nur den lieben Gott

The congregation standing

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Kyrie, Gott heiliger Geist, BWV 671 (1738)

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685–1750)

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 18, 2018

WELCOME

Today is the First Sunday in Lent. The preacher is the Reverend Alanna C. Sullivan, Associate Minister in the Memorial Church. The service is led by Professor Jonathan L. Walton, Plummer Professor of Christian Morals and Pusey Minister in the Memorial Church; and Jane Moran MDiv III and Michael Robinson MDiv III, Seminarians in the Memorial Church. The first lesson is read by David Hojah G3. The second lesson is read by Maggie Beazer '20. 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.

A crying room is available for young children and infants in the lower level of the church. Parents and their children are welcome to use the respite space during worship, complete with an audio broadcast of the service.

Listening devices are available to help the hearing impaired participate in the service; please ask an usher for assistance.

FAITH FORMATION

The Church School offers Christian education classes for children of ages three through fifteen. New this year is our Teen Class. All classes are held during Sunday services in the Fall and Spring Terms. To register or learn more, please visit the Church School for Children page on our website. All families are kindly asked to register their children.

For adults in the MemChurch community, the Faith and Life forum seeks to enrich our spirituality by promoting religious literacy and cultural competency. These programs are held Sunday mornings during the Fall and Spring Terms in the Buttrick Room from 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. Speakers include scholars, pastors, and other public figures whose work enhances our awareness of the pivotal role religion plays across space and time. The Forum will continue next Sunday, February 25, with David Kyuman Kim, Professor of Religious Studies and American Studies, Connecticut College. Contact Ministry Fellow, Westley (Wes) Conn (westley_conn@harvard.edu) for more information about faith formation at MemChurch.

MORNING PRAYERS

Monday: No Morning Prayers—President's Day; Tuesday: Michelle Odonkor '18
Wednesday: Sienna Leis '00; Thursday: Emily Click; Friday: Sana Saeed MDiv III

MUSIC NOTES

For the first Sunday in Lent the Harvard University Choir offers two penitential anthems from sixteenth-century England. Adrian Batten is thought to have been a chorister at Winchester Cathedral—his name is still legible today, carved into the wall of its chantry—before serving in both Westminster Abbey and St. Paul’s Cathedral, London. *Lord, We Beseech Thee* is a direct, homophonic setting whose clarity of texture makes the text immediately comprehensible.

Richard Farrant was a Gentleman of the Chapel Royal and subsequently organist of St. George’s Chapel, Windsor. *Lord, for Thy Tender Mercy’s Sake* is often attributed to both Farrant and John Hilton: one proposal is that the main anthem is by Farrant, and the beautiful—but stylistically rather incongruous—”Amen” section is by Hilton.

The prelude is the first movement of Maurice Duruflé’s *Suite*. This foreboding movement features an inexorable plodding bassline and is written in the extremely dark and heavy key of E-flat minor. It also contains the modal harmonic progressions and plainchant-like melodies that characterize the vast majority of his works.

The postlude is taken from Bach’s monumental keyboard study, *Clavierübung*: four publications of 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.

TAIZÉ SERVICE

A contemplative Taizé-styled prayer service will be held this Thursday at 9 p.m. in Appleton Chapel for Harvard students and the community. Based on the worship of the ecumenical Christian monastic community in Taizé, France, this service consists of chants, music, candlelight, and meditation.

ORGAN RECITAL

There will be an organ recital next Sunday, February 25, at 4 p.m., played by Janet Hunt, Director of Music, St. John’s Seminary, Brighton, MA, featuring music by Mozart, J. S. Bach, Augustinus Franz Kropfreiter, and Widor. Admission is free.

CHURCH OPERA

On Sunday, March 4, at 4 p.m., the Harvard University Choir will present Jonathan Dove’s church opera *Tobias and the Angel* (1999), with a libretto by David Lan, featuring professional soloists and orchestra. Admission is free.

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 *wrb.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.

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*

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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 Second Sunday in Lent. The preacher will be Professor David Kyuman Kim, Professor of Religious Studies and American Studies, Connecticut College.

For more information on upcoming services and events:

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