ORDER OF WORSHIP

Last Sunday before Lent
Junior Family Weekend

Sunday, February 23, 2020
11 am
ORDER OF WORSHIP

PRELUDE
Elegy (1944)  George Thalben-Ball (1896–1987)

HYMN
No. 1, st. 1 & 4, “All People That on Earth Do Dwell”  Old Hundredth

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. 3, “Let the Whole Creation Cry”  Llanfair

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 back of the church.

Psalm 99  Dominus regnavit  
Chant by Eric Ware (1908–1972)
The Lord is King, be the people never so impatient;
    he sitteth between the Cherubim, be the earth never so unquiet.
The Lord is great in Sion, and high above all people.
They shall give thanks unto thy Name,
    which is great, wonderful, and holy.
The King’s power loveth judgment; thou hast prepared equity,
    thou hast executed judgment and righteousness in Jacob.
O magnify the Lord our God, and fall down before his footstool; for he is holy.
Moses and Aaron among his priests, and Samuel
    among such as call upon his Name: these called upon the Lord,and he heard them.
He spake unto them out of the cloudy pillar; for they kept his testimonies,
    and the law that he gave them.
Thou hearest them, O Lord our God; thou forgavest them, O God, though thou
didst punish their wicked doings.
O magnify the Lord our God, and worship him upon his holy hill; for the Lord our
    God is holy.

DOXOLOGY
Sung by the congregation, standing
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
Numbers 13:25–33  Pew Bible, pages 122–123 (OT)
ANTHEM
Glorious and Powerful God (1910)  
Charles Wood (1866–1926)

Glorious and powerful God, we understand thy dwelling is on high, above the starry sky. Thou dwell’st not in stone temples made with hand; but in the flesh hearts of the sons of men to dwell is thy delight, near hand, though out of sight. We give of thine own hand, thy acceptation is very life and blood, to all actions good. Whenever here or hence our supplication, from pure and with unfeigned hearts, to thee ascends, be present with thy grace, shew us thy loving face. Oh! down on us full showers of mercy send, let thy love’s burning beams dry up all our sin’s streams. Arise, O Lord, and come into thy rest. Both now and evermore thy name be blest, Founder and Foundation, of endless habitation. Amen.

Anonymous

SECOND LESSON
Hebrews 10:32–39  
Pew Bible, page 198 (NT)

PRAYER HYMN
The congregation seated

Day by day, dear Lord, of thee three things I pray: to see thee more clearly, love thee more dearly, follow thee more nearly, 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

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 they walls  
And plenteousness within thy palaces.  

_Psalm 122:6-7_

SERMON

Where Do We Go from Here: Chaos or Community?  
Text: “To ourselves we seemed like grasshoppers, and so we seemed to them.”  
–_Numbers 13:33_

HYMN

No. 9, “Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven”  
_Lauda anima_

The congregation standing

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Fugue sur le theme du Carillon des Heures de la Cathédrale de Soissons, Op. 12 (1962)  
_Maurice Duruflé (1902–1986)_

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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.
ANNOUNCEMENTS
Sunday, February 23, 2020

WELCOME
Today is the Last Sunday before Lent and Junior Family Weekend. The preacher is the Rev. Gloria E. White-Hammond, Co-Pastor Bethel AME Church, Boston, MA; Swartz Resident Practitioner in Ministry Studies, Harvard Divinity School. The worship leaders are 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 Westley P. Conn, Ministry Fellow in the Memorial Church, and Grace Killian MDiv III, Seminarian in the Memorial Church. The first lesson is read by Sally Hammel MDiv II, Seminarian in the Memorial Church. The second lesson is read by Lawrence Jia ’23, Student Deacon in the Memorial Church. The music is provided by the Harvard University Choir, Barry Rose, formerly of St. Paul’s, St. Alban’s, and Guildford Cathedrals, and David von Behren, Assistant University Organist and Choirmaster.

Our “Baby Oasis” 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.

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

MORNING PRAYERS
Monday: Beth Flaherty; Tuesday: Douglas Elmendorf AM ’85, PhD ’89; Wednesday: Westley Conn; Thursday: Sally Hammel MDiv II; Friday: Garth McCavana PhD ’90

ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE
Next Wednesday, February 26th, is the First Day of Lent. There will be a short service at 12:10 p.m. which will include the imposition of ashes.

CHORAL EVENSONG
This afternoon at 6 p.m., the Harvard University Choir will offer a service of choral evensong, featuring music of Stephen Paulus, Herbert Howells, and Edgar Bainton. The choir will be led by guest director Barry Rose, formerly of Guildford Cathedral; St. Paul’s Cathedral, London; and St. Albans Cathedral.

THE OFFICE OF COMPLINE
This Thursday, compline, a twenty-minute candlelit evening service, will be sung by the Harvard University Choir, based upon the traditional evening liturgy of scripture, music, prayers, and silence. The service will be held in Appleton Chapel at 9 p.m.

FAITH FORMATION
The Church School offers Christian education classes for children of age three through sixteen. All classes are held during Sunday services in the Fall and Spring Terms.
To register and learn more, please visit the Church School for Children page on our website.

For adults in the MemChurch community, 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 in the Buttrick Room from 9:30 am to 10:30 am. Speakers include scholars, pastors, and other public figures whose work enhances our awareness of the pivotal role religion plays across space and time. To learn about upcoming speakers, please visit the Faith & Life Forum page on our website. The Faith and Life Forum continues next Sunday, March 1 with Ian Oliver, Senior Associate Chaplain for Protestant Life & Pastor of the University Church in Yale; Lecturer, Yale Divinity School.

**SHROVE TUESDAY**

On the evening of Tuesday, February 25th, we will mark the last evening before Lent begins with a free festive pancake supper at 6 p.m. downstairs in the Student Oasis. It will be followed by a Pilgrimage Movie Night in the Buttrick Room a screening of Emilio Estevez’s film, The Way. All are welcome!

**THE PILGRIMAGE PROJECT**

Join us for a new semester of Pilgrimage Project activities! The Pilgrimage Reading Group will meet Tuesday, March, 3–8:30 pm: Interior pilgrimage. The great Spanish mystical writer, Teresa of Avila, taught the nuns in her care that they could make a journey to their “interior castle” whenever they wanted, without asking anyone’s permission! All are welcome to join us for a pilgrimage within. No registration required.

**OPEN REHEARSAL**

On Thursday, February 27 at 5 pm, there will be open rehearsal and lecture by the Harvard University led Pedro Memelsdorff of “Messe en cantiques,” a reconstruction of a mass as it would have been sung by freed and enslaved Africans in French Guiana. Memelsdorff is the Christoph Wolff Distinguished Visiting Scholar in the Harvard Music Department.

**MUSIC NOTES**

Charles Wood taught at the Royal College of Music, London, where his pupils included Ralph Vaughan Williams, and Herbert Howells. Wood only started composing music for the church in his later years, but it is for this repertoire that he is primarily remembered today. One of his lesser known, but stirring anthems, *Glorious and Powerful God*, is majestic in character, building towards its final section that features an active organ accompaniment. Herbert Howells was born in Gloucestershire, England, and studied with Charles Villiers 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. About today’s anthem, Paul Spicer has written: “In September 1940 the Howells’s house in Barnes was bombed in the Blitz with the loss of his library and many manuscripts. The family moved
temporarily to Cheltenham and Howells was given a bed in the basement of the Royal College of Music on teaching days. New Year’s Day 1941 saw the family snowed in. Remarkably, Howells produced a new work every single day until January 15 when he had to return to London. This burst of activity included the composition of a set of anthems which he called “In Time of War.” O Pray for the Peace of Jerusalem was written on the 5th. The music barely raises its voice and is a gentle meditation on the word ‘peace’

Today’s prelude is the most popular organ work of George Thalben-Ball, the longtime organist of Temple Church in London. Originally improvised on the spur of the moment to fill up a few minutes at the end of live radio broadcast, its instant popularity created the demand for him to write it down and publish it. The postlude by Maurice Duruflé is a fugue based on the simple tower bell chime of the cathedral in Soissons, France.

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 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 the Rev. Ian Oliver, Senior Associate Chaplain for Protestant Life & Pastor of the University Church in Yale; Lecturer, Yale Divinity School.

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.