

HARVARD

The Memorial Church



ORDER OF WORSHIP

The Second Sunday in Lent

Sunday, February 25, 2018
11 a.m.

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

ORDER OF WORSHIP

PRELUDE

Dies sind die heil'gen zehn Gebot', BWV 678 (1736) *Johann Sebastian Bach (1685–1750)*

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. 142, "Eternal Lord of Love, Behold Your Church"

Old 124th

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 121

Levavi oculos

Tone V.1

Antiphon: My help cometh even from the Lord, who hath made heaven and earth.

I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills;
from whence cometh my help?

My help cometh even from the Lord,
who hath made heaven and earth.

He will not suffer thy foot to be moved;
and he that keepeth thee will not sleep.

Behold, he that keepeth Israel
shall neither slumber nor sleep.

The Lord himself is thy keeper;
the Lord is thy defence upon thy right hand;

So that the sun shall not burn thee by day,
neither the moon by night.

The Lord shall preserve thee from all evil;
yea, it is even he that shall keep thy soul.

The Lord shall preserve thy going out, and thy coming in,
from this time forth for evermore.

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

Isaiah 59:9–12

Pew Bible, page 649 (OT)

ANTHEM

Komm, Jesu, komm, BWV 229 (ca. 1731)

Komm, Jesu, komm, mein Leib ist müde,
die Kraft verschwindt je mehr und mehr,
ich sehne mich nach deinem Frieden;
der saure Weg wird mir zu schwer!
Komm, komm, ich will mich dir ergeben,
du bist der rechte Weg,
die Wahrheit und das Leben.

Drum schließ ich mich in deine Hände
und sage, Welt, zu guter Nacht!
Eilt gleich mein Lebenslauf zu Ende,
ist doch der Geist wohl angebracht.
Er soll bei seinem Schöpfer schweben,
weil Jesus ist und bleibt
der wahre Weg zum Leben.

Johann Sebastian Bach

*Come, Jesus, come, my body is weary,
My strength wanes more and more,
I long for your peace;
The sour path becomes too difficult for me!
Come, come, I will yield myself to you;
You are the true path,
Truth and life.*

*Therefore I enclose myself in your hands
And say goodnight to you, world!
Even though my lifetime rushes to its end,
My spirit is nevertheless prepared.
It shall soar with its Savior,
Since Jesus is and remains
The true path to life.*

Paul Thymich (1656–1694)

SECOND LESSON

Mark 8:31–9:9

Pew Bible, page 38 (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.

SERMON

HYMN

No. 280, "O God, Thou Faithful God"

O Gott, du frommer Gott

The congregation standing

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Prelude in C minor, BWV 546a

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 25, 2018

WELCOME

Today is the Second Sunday in Lent. The preacher is Professor David Kyuman Kim, Professor of Religious Studies and American Studies, Connecticut College. The service is led by Professor Jonathan L. Walton, Plummer Professor of Christian Morals and Pusey Minister in the Memorial Church; the Reverend Alanna C. Sullivan, Associate Minister in the Memorial Church; and Aric B. Flemming Jr. MDiv II, Seminarian in the Memorial Church. 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, March 4 with Caroline Light, Director of Undergraduate Studies at Harvard, Lecturer on Studies of Women, Gender, and Sexuality.

MORNING PRAYERS

Monday: Jane Moran MDiv III; Tuesday: Ylisse Bess; Wednesday: Alanna C. Sullivan; Thursday: Morgan McNeill; Friday: Kevin P. Bryant

MUSIC NOTES

Unlike the cantatas, passions, and oratorios of Johann Sebastian Bach, which were written as part of his duties as cantor in St. Thomas's Church, Leipzig, and which were neglected for a long period after the composer's death in 1750, the six motets were written for specific private commissions and have remained in the repertory since their inception. Mozart famously heard a performance of the first motet in 1789, and many credit this event with his subsequent interest in contrapuntal mastery. During Bach's lifetime, the German motet was already an antiquated form: the cantata held the position of prime importance within the service, and although motets were still sung, they were usually drawn from the existing repertory. BWV 229, *Komm, Jesu, komm* is a setting of Paul Thymich's paraphrase of John 14:6, originally written in 1684 for the funeral of Jacob Thomasius, rector of St. Thomas's school and set to music by one of Bach's predecessors, Johann Schelle. Bach's setting uses only the first and last stanzas of Thymich's text and was composed at some point prior to 1732. The motet is scored for eight-part chorus and is in the traditional motet style, whereby each phrase of text is set to an enclosed musical phrase. Bach responds to this evocative text in a very personal and emotional way, with a strong sense of musical imagery employed throughout. Indeed Bach's true genius is here revealed: the ability to manipulate his encyclopedic knowledge of all compositional styles to the required *Affekt* presented by the text, which in this case ranges from utter despair to joy and near ecstasy. A few examples will suffice: the initial sense of supplication heightened by the repetitions of the word "komm," the dissonant intervals on the words "der saure Weg" ("the bitter path"), and the dance-like enthusiasm of "du bist der rechte Weg, die Wahrheit und das Leben" ("You are the way, the truth, and the life"). The motet ends with a beautiful choral aria, probably of Bach's own invention, filled with hope and anticipation at the thought of a heavenly union with "the true way of life."

The prelude is taken from Bach's monumental keyboard study, *Clavierübung*: four publications of the composer's keyboard music, the third of which is devoted to organ music. "Dies sind die heil'gen zehn Gebot" (These are the holy Ten Commandments) is based on Luther's hymn and is a gently-moving setting in which the two upper voices act as obbligato instruments around the double *cantus firmus*. Bach's monolithic Prelude in C minor concludes today's service. Imposing block chords and descending chromatic half-steps lend this piece a sense of foreboding and dread.

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.

ORGAN RECITAL

There will be an organ recital this afternoon 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

Next 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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and **Instagram:** [instagram.com/memchurch](https://www.instagram.com/memchurch)

Watch us on YouTube: [youtube.com/memchurchharvard](https://www.youtube.com/memchurchharvard)

NEXT SUNDAY'S SERVICE

Next Sunday is the Third Sunday in Lent. 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:

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