

HARVARD

The Memorial Church



ORDER OF WORSHIP

The Second Sunday in Lent

February 28, 2021
11 am

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

ORDER OF WORSHIP

PRELUDE

Prélude (1911)

Nadia Boulanger (1887-1979)

HYMN

No. 146, "Jesus, Who This Our Lententide"

Rockingham

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

CALL TO WORSHIP

from Psalm 130 & Isaiah 2

Minister: Out of the depths we cry to you, O God.
God, hear our voice!

People: Let your ears be attentive
to the voice of our supplications!

Minister: If you should mark iniquities, O God,
who of us could stand?

People: But there is forgiveness with you;
and plenteous redemption.

Minister: I wait for the Lord, my soul waits,
and in God's word I hope.

People: My soul waits for the Lord
more than those who watch for the morning,
more than those who watch for the morning.

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. 88, "O Lord of Life, Whose Power Sustains"

Armistice

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>.

My Shepherd Will Supply My Need

American Folk Hymn

arr. Virgil Thomson '23 (1896–1990)

My shepherd will supply my need,
Jehovah is his name.
In pastures fresh he makes me feed
Beside the living stream.
He brings my wandering spirit back
When I forsake his ways.
He leads me for his mercy's sake
In paths of truth and grace.

When I walk through the shades of death
Thy presence is my stay.
One word of thy supporting breath
Drives all my fears away.
Thy hand, in sight of all my foes,
Doth still my table spread.
My cup with blessings overflows,
Thine oil anoints my head.

The sure provisions of my God
Attend me all my days.
O may thy house be my abode
And all my work be praise.
There would I find a settled rest,
While others go and come,
No more a stranger or a guest,
But like a child at home.

Isaac Watts (1674–1748)

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

Genesis 17: 1–7, 15–16

from the New Revised Standard Version (OT)

ANTHEM

When the Perfect Comes

Carson P. Cooman '04

(b. 1982)

*Commissioned by Peter J. Gomes in celebration of the fortieth anniversary
of his ordination to the ministry, 1968–2008*

Brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, I call upon you: present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and well-pleasing to God, which is your reasonable worship. Prophecies will come to an end. Knowledge will come to an end. Tongues will cease. But love never ends, and when the perfect comes, the imperfect will pass away. Do not be conformed to the present age, but transformed by the renewing of the mind, so that you may discern the will of God: what is good, what is well-pleasing, what is good and perfect. Amen.

Text adapted by Matthew F. Burt M.Div. '01 (b. 1977) from Romans 12:1–2 and I Corinthians 13:8, 10

SECOND LESSON

Mark 8: 31–38

from the New Revised Standard Version (NT)

ANTHEM

This Is My Father's World

*Peter J. Gomes S.T.B. '68
(1942–2011)*

*Kent Montgomery French M.Div. '07, tenor
Harry Lyn Huff, piano*

This is my Father's world, and to my listening ears
All nature sings, and round me rings the music of the spheres.
This is my Father's world: I rest me in the thought
Of rocks and trees, and skies and seas;
His hand the wonders wrought.

This is my Father's world, the birds their carols raise,
The morning light, the lily white, declare their Maker's praise.
This is my Father's world: He shines in all that's fair;
In the rustling grass I hear Him pass;
He speaks to me everywhere.

Maltbie D. Babcock (1858–1901)

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

Where Do We Go From Here?

Text: "Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things"

Mark 8:33

HYMN

No. 76, "Great Is Thy Faithfulness"

Faithfulness

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

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Improvisation (1911)

Nadia Boulanger

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 28, 2021

WELCOME

Today is the Second Sunday in Lent. The preacher is the Reverend Adam Lawrence Dyer, Lead Minister of the First Parish in Cambridge, Unitarian Universalist Chaplaincy at Harvard. 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 Kayla Manning '22, Student Advisory Board. The second lesson is read by Alex Grayson '22, Student Deacon, Student Advisory Board. 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

Today marks the tenth anniversary of the death of the Reverend Professor Peter J. Gomes, and for this morning's music we hear excerpts from his Memorial Service on April 6, 2011, sung by alums of the Harvard University Choir.

The American composer and critic Virgil Thomson was educated at Harvard, where he sang in the Glee Club; he subsequently studied in Paris with Nadia Boulanger. "My Shepherd Will Supply My Need" is an arrangement from the 1930s of the American hymn tune *Resignation*, found in William Walker's 1854 collection, *The Southern Harmony*.

Harvard graduate Carson Cooman is Composer-in-Residence at the Memorial Church, which has witnessed the premieres of many of his works. "When the Perfect Comes" was commissioned in 2007 by The Reverend Professor Peter J. Gomes in celebration of the fortieth anniversary of his ordination to the ministry: this morning it is given in his memory.

A talented musician, Professor Gomes composed many hymns and songs: in addition to singing the beautiful hymn *Armistice*, this morning we hear the Memorial Service performance of his setting of Maltbie Babcock's "This Is Our Father's World," given by Kent French and Harry Huff.

The French musician Nadia Boulanger was one of the most famous composition teachers of her time; she taught many of the most significant musicians the 20th century, and students came from all over the world to study with her in France. Although she had pursued some composition herself in her youth, Nadia gave up her own composing after recognizing the truly exceptional compositional talent of her younger sister, Lili. After Lili's tragic death of tuberculosis at age 24, Nadia

devoted herself to teaching, conducting, organ playing, and promoting Lili's music. Nadia's three pieces of 1911 for organ were written to be included in an anthology of organ music by various composers published the following year. This morning, we hear two pieces from this set: "Prélude" and "Improvisation." The first piece, "Prélude," consists of a starkly simple texture—a single melody dialogued by various solo stops juxtaposed a gentle accompaniment of sonorities based on thirds. "Improvisation" ends this cycle of miniatures, drifting between different key areas but held together with ostinatos.

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! In our newsletter we 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, March 7 with Professor Stephanie Paulsell, Interim Pusey Minister in the Memorial Church, Susan Shallcross Swartz Professor of the Practice of Christian Studies, Harvard Divinity School. 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 Third 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.

Jesu quadragenariae

Latin, 10th cent.

trans. Walter Howard Frere, 1932

ROCKINGHAM LM

Second Supplement to Psalmody in Miniature, c. 1780

adapt. Edward Miller, 1790

1 Je - sus, who this our Len - ten - tide, of ab - sti -
 2 And as thou dost, for - give the past, thy shel - tering
 3 Make, Lord, this Lent - en dis - ci - pline an ex - pi -

nence, hast sanc - ti - fied, be with thy Church in
 arms ar - ound us cast that we may in thy
 a - tion for our sin, and through these days our -

sav - ing power, in this her pen - i - ten - tial hour.
 grace re - main, and fall not back to sins a - gain.
 selves pre - pare the joys of Eas - ter - tide to share.

John Russell Darbyshire (1880-1948)

ARMISTICE 88 88 88

Peter J. Gomes, 2002

1 O Lord of Life, whose power sus -
 2 As na - ture's heal - ing through the
 3 Not names en - graved in mar - ble
 4 O help us in the si - lence,

tains the world un - seen no less than this— one
 years re - clothes the strick - en bat - tle - fields; so
 make the best me - mor - ials of the dead, but
 Lord, to hear the whis - pered call of love, and

fam - i - ly in him who reigns, tri - umph - ant o - ver
 mer - cy gives us joy for tears, and grief to proud re -
 bur - dens shoul - dered for their sake and tasks com - ple - ted
 day by day thy strength af - ford our work to do, our

death, in bliss; to thee with thank - ful-ness we
mem-brance yields, and mind - ful hearts are glad to
in their stead; a brav - er faith and strong-er
faith to prove. So be thy bless - ing rich - ly

pray for all our val - iant dead to - day.
keep a tryst of love with them that sleep.
prayers, de - vout - er wor-ship, no - bler cares.
shed on our com-mun-ion with our dead.

Great Is Thy Faithfulness

Thomas O. Chisolm, 1923

FAITHFULNESS 11 10 11 10 with Refrain

William M. Runyan, 1923

1 Great is thy faith - ful - ness, O God my Fa - ther,
 2 Sum - mer and win - ter, and spring - time and har - vest,
 3 Par - don for sin and a peace that en - du - reth,

there is no sha - dow of turn - ing with thee; thou chang - est
 sun, moon and stars in their cours - es a - bove, join with all
 thy own dear pres - ence to cheer and to guide; strength for to -

not, thy com - pas - sions they fail not; as thou hast
 na - ture in man - i - fold wit - ness to thy great
 day and bright hope for to - mor - row, bless - ings all

been thou for - ev - er wilt be:
 faith - ful - ness, mer - cy, and love: Great is thy
 mine, with ten thou - sand be - side!

faith-ful-ness! Great is thy faith-ful-ness! Morn-ing by morn-ing new

mer - cies I see, all I have need - ed thy hand has pro -

vi - ded, great is thy faith - ful - ness, Lord, un - to me.