The Memorial Church

HARVARD
The Memorial Church

ORDER OF WORSHIP

The Fourth Sunday in Lent

Sunday, March 11, 2018
11 a.m.

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

PRELUDE
O Lamm Gottes, unschuldig, BWV 656
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. 47, “New Every Morning Is the Love”
Melcombe
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.

“Choral” and “Denn das Gesetz”

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685–1750)
from Jesu, meine Freude, BWV 227 (ca. 1725)

Jesu, meine Freude,  
meines Herzens Weide,  
Jesu, meine Zier,  
ach, wie lang, wie lange  
ist dem Herzen bange  
und verlangt nach dir!  
Gottes Lamm, mein Bräutigam,  
außer dir soll mir auf Erden  
ничтоже sonst Liebers werden.

Jesus, my joy,  
My heart’s pasture,  
Jesus, my treasure!  
Ab, how long, how long  
Has my heart suffered  
And longed for you!  
God’s lamb, my bridegroom,  
Besides you on earth  
Nothing shall be dearer to me.

Johann Franck (1618–1677); English translations Pamela Dellal

Denn das Gesetz des Geistes, der da lebendig machet in Christo Jesu,  
hat mich frei gemacht von dem Gesetz der Sünde und des Todes.

For the law of the spirit, which gives life in Christ Jesus,  
has made me free from the law of sin and death.

Romans 8:2 (Luther Bible)

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

Numbers 21:4–9  
Pew Bible, page 130 (OT)
ANTHEM

“So aber Christus in euch ist” from Jesu, meine Freude, BWV 227 Johann Sebastian Bach

So aber Christus in euch ist, so ist der Leib zwar tot um der Sünde willen; der Geist aber ist das Leben um der Gerechtigkeit willen.

However if Christ is in you, then the body is dead indeed for the sake of sin; but the spirit is life for the sake of righteousness.

Romans 8:10 (Luther Bible)

SECOND LESSON

John 3:14–21 Pew Bible, page 81 (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

“Gute Nacht, o Wesen” from Jesu, meine Freude, BWV 227
Johann Sebastian Bach

Gute Nacht, o Wesen,
das die Welt erlesen,
mir gefällst du nicht!
Gute Nacht, ihr Sünden,
bleibet weit dahinter,
kommst nicht mehr an Licht!
Gute Nacht, du Stolz und Pracht!
Dir sei ganz, du Lasterleben,
gute Nacht gegeben!

Good night, existence
That cherishes the world!
You do not please me.
Good night, sins,
Stay far away,
Never again come to light!
Good night, pride and glory!
To you utterly, life of corruption,
Be good night given!

Johann Franck

SERMON

The Sign of Our Deliverance

HYMN

No. 214, “Jesus, the Very Thought of Thee”
St. Agnes

The congregation standing

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Fugue in C minor, BWV 546b
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.
WELCOME
Today is the Fourth Sunday in Lent. The preacher is the Reverend Westley P. Conn, Ministry Fellow in the Memorial Church. The service is led by the Reverend Alanna C. Sullivan, Associate 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 Foster. The second lesson is read by Karen-Alexandra Nogues ’18. The music is provided by Elba Alonso Monsalve ’19, Adrian Cho G2, and Rebecca Stewart G1, members of the Harvard University Choir; under the direction of Edward E. Jones, Gund 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 this 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 18 with the Reverend Jack Gilpin, Rector, St. John’s Episcopal Church, New Milford, CT and accomplished American actor.

MORNING PRAYERS
There will be no services of Morning Prayers this week due to Spring Recess.
HOLY WEEK AND EASTER SCHEDULE

Tuesday 3/27: Musical Meditation, 7:00 p.m., Brahms’s *Ein deutsches Requiem*, performed by the University Choir

Wednesday 3/28: Organ Recital, “A Holy Week Journey,” 7:00 p.m., works of Willscher, Ferrari, Woodman, Machajdík, and Leijon, performed by Carson Cooman ’04, Composer in Residence and Research Associate, The Memorial Church

Maundy Thursday 3/29: Service of Holy Communion, 7:00 p.m. with choral prelude at 6:45 p.m., performed by the University Choral Fellows

Good Friday 3/30: 12:00 p.m., Meditations upon the Seven Words from the Cross

Easter Day 4/1: Two identical services of Holy Communion at 8:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.

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.

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 Fifth Sunday in Lent. The preacher will be the Reverend Jack Gilpin ’73, Rector, St. John’s Episcopal Church, New Milford, CT.

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