HARVARD
The Memorial Church

Order of Worship

Easter Day

April 12, 2020
11 am
Order of Worship

Prelude
Prelude and Fugue in G major, BWV 541  
*Johann Sebastian Bach (1685–1750)*

Introit
Alleluia! Now Is the Hour of Darkness Past (1973)  
*Daniel Pinkham ’44 (1923–2006)*

**Alleluia!**
Now is the hour of darkness past;  
Christ hath assumed his reigning power.

**Alleluia!**
Behold the great accuser cast  
Down from the skies, to rise no more.

**Alleluia!**
’Twas by thy blood, immortal Lamb,  
Thine armies trod the tempter down;

**Alleluia!**
’Twas by thy word and powerful name  
They gained the battle and renown.

**Alleluia!**
Rejoice ye heavens! Let every star  
Shine with new glories round the sky!

**Alleluia!**
Saints, while ye sing the heavenly war,  
Raise your Redeemer’s name on high.

**Alleluia!**
Isaac Watts (1674–1748)

Hymn
No. 172, “Christ the Lord Is Risen Today”  
*Easter Hymn*

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

Invocation
The ministers and congregation exchange the Easter greeting:

**Minister:** Alleluia. Christ is risen!

**People:** The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!

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. 164, “Come, Ye Faithful, Raise the Strain”  
St. Kevin  
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.

Spring Bursts Today (2012)  
Alfred V. Fedak (b. 1953)

Spring bursts today,  
For Christ is risen and all the earth’s at play.  
Flash forth, thou Sun,  
The rain is over and gone, its work is done.  
Winter is past.  
Sweet Spring is come at last, is come at last.  
Bud, Fig and Vine,  
Bud, Olive, fat with fruit and oil and wine.  
Break forth this morn  
In roses, thou but yesterday a Thorn.  
Uplift thy head,  
O pure white Lily thro’ the Winter dead.  
Beside your dams  
Leap and rejoice, you merry-making Lambs.  
All Herds and Flocks  
Rejoice, all Beasts of thickets and of rocks.  
Sing, Creatures, sing,  
Angels and Men and Birds and everything.  
All notes of Doves  
Fill all our world: this is the time of loves.

Christina Rossetti (1830–1894)

Written for the Harvard University Choir for the dedication of the Charles B. Fisk and Peter J. Gomes Memorial Organ, Easter 2012

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  
Jeremiah 31:1–6  
from the New Revised Standard Version (OT)
ANTHEM
Most Glorious Lord of Life (2010)
John Rutter (b. 1945)
Most glorious Lord of life, that on this day Didst make thy triumph over death and sin, And having harrow’d hell, didst bring away Captivity thence captive, us to win. This joyous day, dear Lord, with joy begin, And grant that we may for whom thou diddest die, Being with thy dear blood clean wash’d from sin, May live for ever in felicity. And that thy love we weighing worthily, May likewise love thee for the same again; And for Thy sake, that all like dear didst buy, With love may one another entertain. So let us love, dear love, like as we ought; Love is the lesson which the Lord us taught. The day of resurrection! Earth, tell it out abroad; The Passover of gladness, the Passover of God. From death to life eternal, from earth unto the sky, Our Christ hath brought us over, with hymns of victory. Amen.

Edmund Spenser, 1595
John of Damascus (675–749),
translated from the Greek by John Mason Neale, 1862
Written for the Harvard University Choir for Easter 2010

SECOND LESSON
John 20:1–18
from the New Revised Standard Version (NT)

PRAYER HYMN
The congregation remains 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

Easter Day (2013)  
Carson Cooman ’04 (b. 1982)

Beauty now for ashes wear,  
Perfumes for the garb of woe,  
Chaplets for disheveled hair,  
Dances for sad footsteps slow;  
Open wide your hearts that they let in joy this Easter Day.

Build His church and deck His shrine,  
Empty though it be on earth;  
Ye have kept your choicest wine—  
Let it flow for heavenly mirth;  
Pluck the harp and breathe the horn:

Know ye not ’tis Easter morn?  
Gather gladness from the skies;  
Take a lesson from the ground;  
Flowers do ope their heavenward eyes

And a Spring-time joy have found;  
Earth throws Winter’s robes away,  
Decks herself for Easter Day.  
Break the box and shed the nard;  
Stop not now to count the cost;  
Hither bring pearl, opal, sard;

Reck not what is seen as lost;  
Upon Christ throw all away:  
Know ye, this is Easter Day.  
Seek God’s house in happy throng;

Crowded let His table be;  
Mingle praises, prayer, and song,  
Singing to the Trinity.

Henceforth let your souls always  
Make each morn an Easter Day.

Gerald Manley Hopkins (1844–1889)

Written for the Harvard University Choir for Easter 2013

SERMON

Turning Toward Easter
HYMN
No. 180, “Now the Green Blade Riseth”
See end of worship bulletin. The congregation stands and sings.

BENEDICTION & CHORAL ALLELUIA
George Frideric Handel (1685–1759)

POSTLUDE

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.
Today is Easter Day. The preacher is Professor Stephanie Paulsell, Interim Pusey Minister in the Memorial Church, Susan Shallcross Swartz Professor of the Practice of Christian Studies, Harvard Divinity School. The service is led by 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 Aidan Stoddart ’21. The second lesson is read by Louisa Rossano. The music for this Sunday’s service is provided by Edward Elwyn Jones, Gund University Organist and Choirmaster. Today’s choral offerings are taken from the Harvard University Choir’s 2014 recording “Spring Bursts Today” (Edward Jones, director; Christian Lane, organ). The prelude and postlude are archival recordings by David von Behren, Assistant University Organist and Choirmaster. The Choral Alleluia is taken from a 2011 performance by the Harvard University Choir and Harvard Baroque Chamber Orchestra.

MUSIC NOTES
A graduate of Harvard College—and for many years Director of Music at King’s Chapel, Boston—Daniel Pinkham ’43 was one of Boston’s most beloved musical figures. His festive “Alleluia! Now Is the Hour of Darkness Past” is quintessential Pinkham, in which a lively tune is combined with slightly unusual harmonies and subjected to various rhythmic distortions.

Alfred V. Fedak’s setting of Christina Rossetti’s “Spring Bursts Today” was commissioned for the inauguration of the Fisk Op. 139 pipe organ on Easter Day, 2012. One of America’s most widely-published composers of sacred music, Fedak is Minister of Music and Arts at Westminster Presbyterian Church in Albany, New York. His style combines the English pastoral modality of composers such as Vaughan Williams with the rhythmic vigor of contemporary American church music.

Renowned choral composer John Rutter was educated at Clare College, Cambridge, where he later became Director of Music. “Most Glorious Lord of Life” was commissioned in memory of Milan A. Heath Jr. ’59, and premiered by the Harvard University Choir on Easter Day, 2010. A setting of Edmund Spenser’s beautiful sonnet (Amoretti LXVIII), the anthem opens with an instrumental introduction that builds to a rousing choral entrance. The arching melody at the words “And that thy love” is quintessential Rutter, and the work concludes with a grand statement of the Easter hymn, “The Day of Resurrection.”

Harvard graduate Carson Cooman ’04 is Composer-in-Residence at the Memorial Church, which has witnessed the premieres of many of his works. Easter Day was first performed on Easter Sunday, 2013, in celebration of Professor Jonathan L. Walton’s first Easter service as Pusey Minister in the
Memorial Church. An energetic setting of an early poem by the English poet Gerald Manley Hopkins (written while he was still a student at Balliol College, Oxford), the organ is featured prominently in interludes between each of the poem’s verses.

Johann Sebastian Bach’s exuberant Prelude and Fugue in G major, BWV 541 begins our musical celebrations, while Charles Marie-Widor’s famous Toccata is a sonic symbol of Eastertide joy worldwide.

CALL FOR “EASTER BEST”
We invite you to take a picture wearing your Easter Sunday outfit while tuning in to worship — fun hats and bowties are encouraged! Please send your photo to Jesús Romo Llamas, Events Coordinator in the Memorial Church, to be included in our virtual photo album to be shared with the congregation and on social media (jesus_romo_llamas@harvard.edu). Deadline for submission is April 13 by 5:00pm.

PILGRIMAGE READING GROUP
The Pilgrimage Reading Group will meet this Wednesday, April 15, from 7:00–8:30pm on Zoom to discuss Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.’s Where Are We Going From Here? Chaos or Community. The Zoom link will be emailed to participants on Tuesday; if you would like to join, please send a note by Tuesday morning to elizabeth_montgomery@harvard.edu, and we will send you the link.

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.

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NEXT SUNDAY’S SERVICE
Next Sunday is the Second Sunday of Easter Easter. The preacher will be the Reverend Westley P. Conn, Ministry Fellow in the Memorial Church.
1 Christ the Lord is risen to-day,
2 Lives again our glorious King,
3 Love's redeeming work is done,
4 Soar we now where Christ has led,
5 Sing we to our God above:

Our triumphant holy day,
Where, O death, is now thy sting?
Fought the fight, the battle won,
Following our exalted Head,
Praise eternal as his love,

Raise your joys and triumphs high,
Dying once, he all doth save,
Death in vain forbids him rise,
Made like him, like him we rise,
Praise him, all ye heavenly host,

Sing, ye heavens, and earth reply:
Where thy victory, O grave?
Christ has opened Paradise,
Ours the cross, the grave, the skies,
Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Al-le-lu-ia!
Al-le-lu-ia!
Al-le-lu-ia!
Al-le-lu-ia!
Al-le-lu-ia!
Come, Ye Faithful, Raise the Strain

1 Come, ye faithful, raise the strain of triumphant gladness;
2 'Tis the spring of souls today; Christ hath burst his prison;
3 Now the queen of sons, bright with the day of splendor,
4 Neither might the gates of death, nor the tomb's dark portal,
5 Alleluia, now we cry to our King immortal,

God hath brought his Israel into joy from sadness;
and from three days' sleep in death as a sun hath risen;
with the royal feast of feasts, comes its joy to render;
nor the watchers, nor the seal hold thee as a mortal:
who triumphant burst the bars of the tomb's dark portal;

loosed from Pharaoh's bitter yoke Jacob's sons and daughters;
all the winter of our sins, long and dark, is flying
comes to glad Jerusalem, who with true affection,
but today amidst thine own thou didst stand bestowing
Alleluia, with the Son, God the Father praising;

led them with unmoistened foot through the Red Sea waters.
from his light, to whom we give laud and praise undying.
welcomes in uneven ried strains Jesus' resurrection.
that thy peace which evermore passeth human knowing.
Alleluia, yet again to the Spirit raising.
1. Now the green blade riseth from the buried grain,
   wheat that in the dark earth many days has lain;
   love lives again, that with the dead has been:
   Love is come again, like wheat that spring-eth green.

2. In the grave they laid him, Love whom hate had slain,
   thinking that he never would awake again,
   laid in the earth like grain that sleeps unseen:
   Love is come again, like wheat that spring-eth green.

3. Forth he came at Easter, like the risen grain,
   Jesus who for three days in a grave had lain,
   quick from the dead my risen Lord is seen:
   Love is come again, like wheat that spring-eth green.

4. When our hearts are wintry, grieving, or in pain,
   Jesus' touch can call us back to life again,
   fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been:
   Love is come again, like wheat that spring-eth green.