Order of Worship

Third Sunday of Easter

April 18, 2021
11 am
Order of Worship

Prelude
Recollection (Soliloquy No. 2) (2000)  
*David Conte (b. 1955)*

Hymn
No. 1, st. 1 & 4, “All People That on Earth Do Dwell”  
*Old Hundredth*  
*See end of worship bulletin. The congregation stands and sings.*

Call to Worship
_from Psalm 118_

*Minister:* The stone that the builders rejected  
has become the chief cornerstone.  
*People:* This is the Lord’s doing;  
and it is marvelous in our eyes.  
*Minister:* The Lord is God and has given us light.  
Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.  
*People:* This is the day that the Lord has made;  
let us rejoice and be glad in it.  
*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. 171, “Alleluia! Alleluia! Hearts to Heaven”  
*Lux eoi*  
*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.

Now the Green Blade Riseth

French Carol, arr. Simon Lindley (b. 1948)

Now the green blade riseth, from the buried grain,
Wheat that in dark earth many days has lain;
Love lives again, that with the dead has been:
Love is come again, like wheat that springeth green.

In the grave they laid him, Love whom men had slain,
Thinking that never he would wake again,
Laid in the earth like grain that sleeps unseen:
Love is come again, like wheat that springeth green.

Forth he came at Easter, like the risen grain,
He that for three days in the grave had lain;
Quick from the dead my risen Lord is seen:
Love is come again, like wheat that springeth green.

When our hearts are wintry, grieving, or in pain,
Thy 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 springeth green.

J. M. C. Crum (1872–1958)

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
Job 12: 7–10
from the New Revised Standard Version (OT)

ANTHEM
Set Me As a Seal (1989) René Clausen (b. 1953)
Set me as a seal upon your heart, as a seal upon your arm, for love is strong as death.
Many waters cannot quench love; neither can the floods drown it.

Song of Songs 8:6a; 8:7a

SECOND LESSON
Ecclesiastes 3: 18–21
from the New Revised Standard Version (OT)

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.*

SERMON

THE GLORIANS – A Commemoration of Grace in the Desert

HYMN

No. 167, “Thine Be the Glory, Risen, Conquering Son” __Maccabaeus__

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

BENEDICTION

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 the Third Sunday of Easter. The preacher is Terry Tempest Williams, Writer-in-Residence, Harvard Divinity School. 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 Amy Gruelich, MDiv III. The second lesson is read by Lesedi Graveline, MDiv III. 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 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**

Simon Lindley was Leeds City Organist from 1976 to 2017 (named City Organist Emeritus that year) and was Organist and Master of the Music at Leeds Minster from 1975 until his retirement in 2016. A noted composer and arranger of works for choir and organ, his contemplative setting of the Easter carol “Now the Green Blade Riseth” offers a more tender and inward response to the Easter message.

René Clausen was conductor of the acclaimed Concordia Choir for over thirty years, retiring in April 2020. “Set Me As a Seal” comes from the cantata *A New Creation*, and has become one of the composer’s most performed works.

David Conte is Professor of Music at San Francisco Conservatory and is particularly known for his widely-performed choral works. Today’s prelude, “Recollection (Soliloquy No. 2)”, was premiered on New Year’s Eve 2000 in memory of Janet Yii Ty at St. Bartholomew’s Church in New York City. The piece features a simple melody on several colorful solo sounds, growing in intensity and dynamics before finding peaceful rest again. Carson Cooman’s festive “Toccata-Rondo” was originally written for the Brazilian-Latvian organist Kris Rizzotto for a concert tour of South America.
**INSTAGRAM LIVE**
Join us on Instagram Live for a brief reflection on a spiritual practice on Thursdays at 7:00pm! Be sure to follow us @memchurch!

**DAILY NEWSLETTER**
In our daily 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, April 25 with the Reverend Mariama White-Hammond, Founding Pastor, New Roots AME Church. 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
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NEXT SUNDAY’S SERVICE
Next Sunday is the Fourth Sunday of Easter Easter. The preacher will be the Reverend Mariama White-Hammond, Founding Pastor, New Roots AME Church.
1 All people that on earth do dwell, sing to the Lord with cheerful voice; him serve with mirth, his praise forth tell, come ye before him and rejoice.

2 Know that the Lord is God indeed; with our aid he did us make; we are his folk, he doth us feed, and for his sheep he doth us take.

3 O enter then his gates with praise, approach with joy his courts unto; praise, laud, and bless his mercy is forever sure; his truth at all times name always, for it is seemingly so to do.

4 For why? The Lord our God is good, his firm; man stood, and shall from age to age endure.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Hearts to Heaven

Christopher Wordsworth, 1872, alt.

Arthur Seymour Sullivan, 1874

1 Alleluia! Alleluia! Hearts to heaven and voices raise;
   sing to God a hymn of gladness, sing to God a hymn of praise:
   he who on the cross a victim for the world's salvation bled,
   Jesus Christ, the King of glory, now is risen from the dead.

2 Christ is risen, Christ the first fruits of the holy harvest field,
   which will all its full abundance at his second coming yield;
   then the golden ears of harvest will their heads before him wave,
   ripened by his glorious sunshine, from the furrows of the grave.

3 Christ is risen, we are risen; shed upon us heavenly grace,
   rain, and dew, and gleams of glory from the brightness of thy face;
   that we, with our hearts in heaven, here on earth may fruitful be,
   and by angel hands be gathered, and be ever, Lord, with thee.

4 Alleluia! Alleluia! Glory be to God on high;
   Alleluia to the Savior, who has gained the victory;
   Alleluia to the Spirit, fount of love and sanctity;
   Alleluia! Alleluia! to the Triune Majesty.
1 Thine be the glory, risen, conquering Son,
2 Lo, Jesus meets us, risen from the tomb;
3 No more we doubt thee, glorious Prince of Life;

end less is the victory thou o'er death hast won;
lovingly he greets us, scatters fear and gloom;
life is nought without thee: aid us in our strife.

angels in bright raiment rolled the stone away,
let the Church with gladness hymns of triumph sing,
Make us more than conquerors through thy deathless love;

Words © World Student Christian Federation.
kept the folded grave-clothes where thy body lay.
for her Lord now liveth, death hath lost its sting:
bring us safe through Jordan to thy home above.

Thine be the glory, risen, conquering Son,
endless is the victory thou o'er death hast won.