

HARVARD

The Memorial Church



ORDER OF WORSHIP

Mother's Day
The Seventh Sunday of Easter

Sunday, May 8, 2016

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

ORDER OF WORSHIP

PRELUDE

Chanson (1991)

Robert M. Cundick (1926–2016)

HYMN

No. 1, stanzas 1 & 4, “All People That on Earth Do Dwell”
The congregation standing

Old Hundredth

CALL TO WORSHIP

Minister: We come to this place of prayer,

People: For here we can bring our hopes and dreams,
Our hidden fears and the doubts we dare wear on our sleeves.

Minister: We come to this place of grace,

People: For here we learn compassion and joy,
And discover how deeply we are loved.

Minister: We come with these people called the church,

People: To be blessed by the variety of gifts,
To live as one for our God.

HYMN

No. 181, “God Is Gone Up on High”
The congregation standing

Darwall 148

INVOCATION

CONFESSION

In unison:

Gracious and loving God, in the light of your glory we see the evil we have done, the suffering we have caused, the good we have refused, and the truth we have denied. Heal us of our sin, wash us in your mercy, and feed us with your grace, so that we may follow your way and tell the good news of the gospel. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

THE PEACE

All are invited to join in the singing of Hymn No. 27, stanza 1.

GREETINGS

Children now join their teachers in the Church School.

OFFERTORY

Cælos ascendit hodie, Op. 38, No. 2 (1892)

Charles Villiers Stanford (1852–1924)

Cælos ascendit hodie
Jesus Christus Rex gloriæ:
Sedet ad Patris dexteram,
Gubernat cælum et terram.
Iam finem habent omnia
Patris Davidis carmina.
Iam Dominus cum Domino,
Sedet in Dei solio:
In hoc triumpho maximo
Benedicamus Domino.
Laudatur Sancta Trinitas,
Deo dicamus gratias,
Alleluia! Amen.

*Today has ascended into the heavens
Jesus Christ, the king of glory:
He sits at the Father's right hand,
Ruling heaven and earth.
Now are fulfilled
All of David's songs.
Now is the Lord with his Lord,
Sitting upon the royal throne of God:
In this his greatest triumph,
Let us bless the Lord.
Let the Holy Trinity be praised,
Let us give thanks to the Lord,
Alleluia! Amen.*

Here an offering is received for the work of the Church within and beyond the University. Ushers will begin the collection from the back of the Church forward.

O God be-yond all prais-ing, we wor-ship you to - day and
sing the love a - ma-zing that songs can-not re - pay; for we can on-ly
won-der at ev - 'ry gift you send, at bless-ings with-out num-ber and
mer-cies with-out end: we lift our hearts be - fore you and wait u-pon your
word, we hon - or and a - dore you, our great and might-y Lord.

Music: THAXTED, Gustav Holst, 1921, alt.

Text: Michael Perry; © by Jubilate Hymns, Ltd. (admin. by Hope Publishing Co., Carol Stream, IL 60188).

PSALTER

Psalms 97

Pew Bible, page 514 (OT)

To be read responsively; the congregation standing

GLORIA PATRI

See Hymn No. 371

FIRST LESSON

Acts 16:16–34

Pew Bible, page 119 (NT)

ANTHEM

God Is Gone Up (1951)

Gerald Finzi (1901–1956)

God is gone up with a triumphant shout:
The Lord with sounding trumpets' melodies:
Sing praise, sing praises out,
Unto our king sing praise seraphicwise!
Lift up your heads, ye lasting doors, they sing,
And let the king of glory enter in.

Methinks I see heaven's sparkling courtiers fly,
In flakes of glory down him to attend,
And hear heart-cramping notes of melody
Surround his chariot as it did ascend;
Mixing their music, making every string
More to enravish as they this tune sing.

Edward Taylor, Class of 1671 (1642–1729)

SECOND LESSON

John 17:20–26

Pew Bible, page 98 (NT)

ANTHEM

Viri Galilæi (1987)

Patrick Gowders (1936–2014)

Alleluia.

And while they looked steadfastly toward heaven as he went up,
Behold, two men stood by them in white apparel; which said unto them,
“Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up to heaven?
In like manner as ye have seen him going up into heaven, so shall he come again.”

God is gone up with a merry noise,
And the Lord with the sound of the trumpet,
Christ to highest heaven ascending, led captivity captive.
Sing ye to the Lord who ascended to the heaven of heavens to the sun rising.

See the conqueror mounts in triumph,
See the king in royal state,
Riding on the clouds his chariot
To his heavenly palace gate;
Hark! the choirs of angel voices
Joyful alleluias sing,
And the portals high are lifted
To receive their heavenly king.

Acts 1:10–11 (KJV), Psalm 47:5, 68:18a (The Great Bible), Christopher Wordsworth (1807–1885)

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Minister: The Lord be with you.
People: And also with you.
Minister: Let us pray.
Lord, show us your love and mercy.
People: For we put our trust in you.
Minister: In you, Lord, is our hope.
People: And we shall never hope in vain.

Each time the minister says "Lord, in your mercy," the congregation will respond with "Hear our prayer."

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, the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

THE GRACE

In unison:

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all. Amen.

HYMN

No. 189, "This Is Our Father's World"
The congregation standing

Terra Beata

SERMON

Cures for What Ails Us, Freedom from What Jails Us
Text: "[W]hat must I do to be saved?"

Acts 16:30b

HYMN

No. 204, "Dear Mother God"
The congregation standing

Welwyn

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

"Mars, the Bringer of War" (1914) from *The Planets*, Op. 32

Gustav Holst (1874–1934)
arr. Adam Mathias GI (b. 1992)

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, May 8, 2016

WELCOME

Today is Mother's Day and the Seventh Sunday of Easter. The preacher is Sarah B. Drummond, Dean of the Faculty and Vice President for Academic Affairs, Andover Newton Theological School. The service is led by the Reverend Dr. Lucy A. Forster-Smith, Sedgwick Chaplain to the University and Senior Minister in the Memorial Church; and seminarians Patrick Jackson MDiv II and Adam Vander Tuig MDiv III. The first lesson is read by Michelle Odonkor '18. The second lesson is read by Karen-Alexandra Noguez '18. 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.

The liturgy is adapted from *Godspace* by Christine Sine, godspace-msa.com; *Rev-o-lution* by Mindi Welton-Mitchell, rev-o-lution.org; *Worship Ways* by Susan A. Blain, ucc.org/worship_worship-ways; *Lectionary Liturgies* by Thom Shum, lectionaryliturgies.blogspot.com; and *Feasting on the Word: Worship Companion* edited by Kimberly Long, Westminster John Knox Press, 2012.

Listening devices are available to help the hearing impaired participate in the service; please ask an usher for assistance. Following the service, the congregation is invited to a reception in the Memorial Room.

WELCOME TABLE

Want to learn about the Memorial Church? Stop by the Welcome Table to learn more about our array of events, programs, and ministries. Questions are encouraged!

PRAYER REQUEST CARDS

Prayer request cards are available in the pew card holders or in the church lobby. We would be honored to pray for your specific needs. Please place prayer request cards in the offering plates during worship services or in the prayer request box in the church lobby.

MEMORIAL CHURCH RENOVATIONS

We are excited to announce that the Memorial Church will undergo much needed renovations in the coming months. Beginning at the end of May after Commencement, the project is anticipated to extend through the end of the calendar year and the Church building will be closed for the duration of the renovation. The Memorial Church staff will relocate temporarily to the third floor of 44R Brattle Street during construction; this move will occur next week. Starting in the Fall Term*, Sunday Worship will be held in the Knafel Center (Radcliffe Gym) in Radcliffe Yard and Morning Prayers will be held in Holden Chapel in the yard. If you have any questions about the project, please contact Harvard's Construction Mitigation Hotline at 617-496-0857, email mitigation@csl-consulting.com, or visit construction.harvard.edu/memorial-church. You can also subscribe to weekly email project updates at construction.harvard.edu/subscribe-weekly-updates.

***Please note that due to construction, worship services will not be held this summer.**

FAITH & LIFE FORUM

The Faith & Life Forum seeks to deepen our devotional lives by promoting religious literacy and cultural competency concerning communities of faith. Held every Sunday morning during the Term, the presentations take place in the Pusey Room of the Memorial Church from 9:30-10:30 a.m., but all are invited to gather for coffee and conversation at 9:00 a.m. The next Faith & Life Forum, which will be the final forum of the Spring 2016 Term, will be held on Sunday, May 15; David A. Mersky will give the presentation.

CHURCH SCHOOL FOR CHILDREN

The Church School offers Christian education classes for children of ages three through twelve. Classes are held in the Buttrick Room during Sunday services and emphasize biblical themes and scripture. At the conclusion of the worship service, parents are asked to pick up their children in the Buttrick Room promptly. A committed staff of undergraduate teachers works closely with Church School Director Westley (Wes) Conn. For more information, contact Wes at westley_conn@harvard.edu

Families of the Church School are invited to an End of Year Reception to celebrate the conclusion of Church School for this academic year and to thank the teachers for their amazing efforts. Also, we congratulate Fola Sofela, Church School Teacher, on her upcoming graduation, and we are grateful for her extended dedication to the Church School.

CONFIRMATION CLASS

The Church School will be offering confirmation for students in grades 7–8. The program begins at the start of Fall Term and is designed to guide students in the formation of their Christian identity and personal faith. Contact Westley Conn (westley_conn@harvard.edu) to learn more about the program and registration.

CHORAL FELLOWS ON TOUR

On Sunday, May 15, at 4:00 p.m., the Choral Fellows will present a recital in St. John's Episcopal Church, Beverly Farms, MA 01915. Admission is free and the repertoire includes J. S. Bach's *Jesu, meine Freude*, BWV 227.

MUSIC NOTES

This morning's music celebrates Ascension Day, which occurred on Thursday. Sir Charles Villiers Stanford studied at Cambridge University, and also in Leipzig and Berlin, where he was a pupil of Carl Reinecke: while in Germany, he became an ardent devotee of the music of Johannes Brahms, whose influence is strongly heard throughout Stanford's oeuvre. Stanford was later the organist of Trinity College, Cambridge, before moving to London as the first professor of composition at the new Royal College of Music, where his notable students included Gustav Holst, Herbert Howells, and Ralph Vaughan Williams. His contribution to the revival of Anglican Church music at the end of the nineteenth century is unparalleled. Of all Stanford's motets and anthems, the *Three Latin Motets* are the most regularly sung, and were written as graces to be performed before meals on feast days in the hall of Trinity College. "Caelos ascendit hodie" is for double choir and is a setting of a medieval hymn which describes the glory of the ascended Christ.

Gerald Finzi's music is firmly rooted in the tradition of Elgar, Vaughan Williams, and Parry; a gifted word-painter, the composer's natural affinity for setting the English language combines a vital declamatory style with a lyrical impulse. Finzi's dramatic anthem "God Is Gone Up" was written in 1951 for the annual Festival of St. Cecilia Service in London, and responds to Edward Taylor's vividly poetic text with dramatic, evocative music, ranging from the opening trumpet fanfares to the yearning melodies of the central section.

The English composer Patrick Gowers was best known for his music for television and films, but his large output also contains several sacred choral works, of which the Ascension anthem *Viri Galilei* is the best known. This dramatic and atmospheric depiction of the opening chapter of Acts begins with high-pitched, swirling figures in the organ, and serene, overlapping choral Alleluias. The music becomes more rhythmic and declamatory at the words "God is gone up with a merry noise," and an organ glissando leads into a setting of Christopher Wordsworth's Ascension poem "See the conqueror mounts in triumph." The music gradually dissolves into the nebulous mood of the opening and eventually fades away to nothing.

The organ voluntaries this morning are duets performed by Thomas Sheehan and Adam Mathias G1.

SUNDAY SERMONS AND MORNING PRAYERS SERVICES
ON HARVARD'S ITUNES U

Sunday sermons and weekly Morning Prayers services are available on Harvard's iTunes U in the "Religion & Spirituality" channel. From your iTunes software, search "Harvard Memorial Church" to listen on your iPod, iPhone, iPad, Mac, or PC.

STAY CONNECTED TO THE MEMORIAL CHURCH

E-mail List: 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*

Facebook: Like us on Facebook: *facebook.com/memorialchurch*

Twitter: Follow us on Twitter: *twitter.com/MemChurch*

NEXT SUNDAY'S SERVICE

Next Sunday is the Day of Pentecost. The preacher will be Rabbi David A. Mersky, D.D., Founder and Managing Director, Mersky, Jaffe & Associates; Faculty, Hornstein Jewish Professional Leadership Program and Director of Education and Professional Development of the Institute for Jewish Philanthropy and Leadership, Brandeis University. The title of his sermon is "From Dreams of Gathering to Visions of a Reconciled Humanity."

For more information on upcoming services and events:

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