HARVARD
The Memorial Church

Order of Worship

Sixth Sunday of Easter

May 9, 2021
11 am

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

PRELUDE
Suite bréve (2021)
1. Petit Plein-jeu
2. Andantino cantabile
4. Quickstep
6. Benediction

Tom Trenney (b. 1977)

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. 226, “Love Divine, All Loves Excelling”

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.


O Pulcher, fons gratiæ, cantabimus dum anima tua ad cælum in arcu surgit.
O amatus, manus tuae oculos nostros purgaverunt atque tranquillis tramitibus duxerunt per amœnos hortos et dolorem terribilem. Amen.

O beautiful one, source of grace, we will sing as your spirit arches to the sky.
O beloved one, you have washed clean our eyes and led us on quiet paths through gardens of beauty and terrible sorrow. Amen.

English original by Patricia Van Ness
translated into sung Latin by Edward J. Vodoklys S.J. PhD ’80 (b. ca. 1950)

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
1 John 5: 1–6

from the New Revised Standard Version (NT)
ANTHEM

Come, sound his praise abroad,
And hymns of glory sing:
Jehovah is the sovereign God,
The universal king.

He formed the deeps unknown;
He gave the seas their bound;
The watery worlds are all his own,
And all the solid ground.

Sounding joy!

Isaac Watts (1674–1748), after Psalm 95:1–5

SECOND LESSON
John 15: 9–17  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.

SERMON

A Collective Act of Love

HYMN

No. 282, “How Firm a Foundation”
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 Sixth Sunday of Easter. The preacher is the Reverend Westley P. Conn, Ministry Fellow in the Memorial Church. 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; and the Reverend Alanna C. Sullivan, Associate Minister 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 Louisa Rossano. The music for this Sunday’s service is provided by Edward Elwyn Jones, Gund University Organist and Choirmaster. Today’s choral offerings come 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
Patricia Van Ness is Composer in Residence at First Church in Cambridge, for whose choir O Pulcher, fons gratiae was composed. Van Ness’s musical style is influenced by the sounds and spirit of Medieval and Renaissance music, and she has received many awards and recognitions for her compositions.

Gwyneth Walker is one of America’s most published composers, whose versatility is evidenced in the wide variety of genres for which she writes. Dr. Walker was formerly on the faculty of Oberlin Conservatory, before devoting herself full-time to composition. Sounding Joy is based on a New-England fuguing tune by the eighteenth-century composer and horse breeder, Justin Morgan, which is heard at the outset. As the work evolves, syncopated rhythms and bouncing bass lines create an exuberant energy that climaxes with a final chord of mixed tonalities, in homage to another New-Englander, Charles Ives.

Tom Trenney is Minister of Music at First-Plymouth Congregational Church in Lincoln, Nebraska. Suite brève was written earlier this year and is based on the hymn tune SURSUM CORDA by Alfred Morton Smith, usually paired with the text “Come, Risen Lord, and deign to be our guest.” This morning’s prelude is four of the suite’s contrasting, brief movements. Jubilee on “Foundation,” based on the familiar early American hymn tune, was written by Composer in Residence Carson Cooman for its first performance in this morning’s service. The piece is written “in thanksgiving for the Rev. Westley P. Conn’s ministry at the Memorial Church of Harvard University, 2014–2021.”
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. The Church School has concluded for the Spring Term, and will resume in the Fall Term.

Faith and Life Forum:
The Faith and Life Forum seeks to enrich our spirituality by promoting religious literacy and cultural competency. Our final session for the academic year will be held next Sunday, May 16th at 9:30am. Our speaker will be the Reverend Matthew Ichihashi Potts PhD ’13, Associate Professor of Religion and Literature and of Ministry Studies at Harvard Divinity School. Professor Potts is also the newly appointed Plummer Professor of Christian Morals and Pusey Minister in the Memorial Church. His ministry with us begins on July 1. This will be a wonderful opportunity to welcome him to the community. We hope you can join us!

Contact Associate Minister, Rev. Alanna C. Sullivan (alanna_sullivan@harvard.edu) to learn more.

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.

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NEXT SUNDAY’S SERVICE
Next Sunday is the Seventh Sunday of Easter. The preacher will be the Reverend Matthew Ichihashi Potts PhD ’13, Associate Professor of Religion and Literature and of Ministry Studies at Harvard Divinity School.
All People That on Earth Do Dwell

para. of Psalm 100
William Kethe, 1561, alt.

OLD HUNDREDTH  LM
Genevan Psalter, 1551

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
   out 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, ap
   proach with joy his courts unto; praise, laud, and bless his
   name always, for it is seemly so to do.

4 For why? The Lord our God is good, his
   mercy is forever sure; his truth at all times
   firmly stood, and shall from age to age endure.
1 Love di - vine, all loves ex - cel - ling, joy of heaven, to
2 Breathe, O breathe thy lov - ing Spir - it in - to ev - ery
3 Come, Al - might - y, to de - liv - er, let us all thy
4 Fin - ish, then, thy new cre - a - tion, pure and spot - less

earth come down, fix in us thy hum - ble dwell - ing,
trou - bled breast; let us all in thee in - her - it,
life re - ceive; sud - den - ly re - turn, and nev - er,
let us be; let us see thy great sal - va - tion

all thy faith - ful mer - cies crown; Je - sus, thou art
let us find thy prom - ised rest; take a - way the
nev - er more thy tem - ples leave. Thee we would be
per - fect - ly re - stored in thee; changed from glo - ry
all compassion, pure, unbounded love thou art;
love of sinning, Alpha and Omega be;
always blessing, serve thee as thy hosts above,
in to glory, till in heaven we take our place,

visit us with thy salvation,
end of faith, as its beginning,
pray, and praise thee without ceasing,
till we cast our crowns before thee,

enter every trembling heart.
set our hearts at liberty.
glory in thy perfect love.
lost in wonder, love, and praise.
How Firm a Foundation

Selection of Hymns, 1787, alt.

FOUNDATION 11 11 11 11
Genuine Church Music, 1832
harm. The Wesleyan Hymn and Tune Book, 1859

1 How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord, is
2 "Fear not, I am with thee, O, be not dis-mayed, for
3 "When through the deep wa-ters I call thee to go, the
4 "When through fi-ery tri-als thy path-ways shall lie, my
5 The soul that on Je-sus has leaned for re-pose, I

laid for your faith in his ex-cel-lent word! What
I am thy God, and will still give thee aid. I'll
riv-ers of sor-row shall not thee o'er-flow; for
grace, all-suf-fi-cient, shall be thy sup-ply; the
will not, I will not de-sert to its foes, that

more can he say than to you he hath said, to
strength-en thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand, up-
I will be near thee, thy trou-bles to bless, and
flame shall not hurt thee; I on-ly de-sign thy
soul, though all hell should en-deavor to shake, I'll

you who for ref-uge to Je-sus have fled?
held by my right-eous, om-nip-o-tent hand.
sanc-ti-fy to thee thy deep-est dis-tress.
dross to con-sume, and thy gold to re-fine.
nev-er, no, nev-er, no, nev-er for-sake."