Order of Worship

Sixth Sunday of Easter

May 9, 2021
11 am
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 tuæ 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.
WELCOME

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. The Forum is held Sunday mornings during the Fall and Spring Terms. 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

1 All people that on earth do dwell, sing, praise
2 Know that the Lord is God indeed; with our aid he did us make; we are his folk, he procured
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
4 For why? The Lord our God is good, his name always, for it is seemly so to do. Firmly stood, and shall from age to age endure.

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

OLD HUNDREDTH  LM
Genevan Psalter, 1551
Love Divine, All Loves Excelling
Charles Wesley, 1747, alt.

HYFRYDOL  87 87 D
Rowland Huw Prichard, 1830

1  Love divine, all loves excelling, joy of heaven, to
   earth come down, fix in us thy humble dwelling,
   all thy faithful mercies crown; Jesus, thou art
   let us find thy promised rest; take away the

2  Breathe, O breathe thy loving Spirit into every
   troubled breast; let us all in thee inherit,
   let us find thy promised rest; take away the
   never more thy temples leave. Thee we would be

3  Come, Almighty, to deliver, let us all thy
   life receive; suddenly return, and never,
   let us be; let us see thy great salvation
   perfectly restored in thee; changed from glory

4  Finish, then, thy new creation, pure and spotless
   might breathe vine, then, thy all new loves existing,
   it enter, to us and heaven, ever
   thy ever to us all
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.
1 How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord, is
to thine

2 "Fear not, I am with thee, O, be not dis-mayed, for
thou through

3 "When through the deep wa-ters I call thee to go, the
despair of

4 "When through fiery tri-a-sals thy path-ways shall lie, my
will not, I will not de-sert to its foes, that

5 The soul that on Je-sus has leaned for re-pose, I
will not be trod

laid for your faith in his ex-cellent word! What
I am thy God, and will still give thee aid. I'll
river 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-deav-or to shake, I'll

you who for ref-uge to Je-sus have fled?
held by my right-eous, om-nip-o-tent hand.
sancti-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."