

HARVARD

The Memorial Church



ORDER OF WORSHIP

The Fourth Sunday of Easter

Sunday, May 12, 2019
11 a.m.

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

ORDER OF WORSHIP

PRELUDE

And Again I Say, Rejoice! (2011)

Brenda Portman (b. 1980)

Ave Maria (ca. 1860)

Camille Saint-Saëns (1835–1921)

Theodora Mautz '19 and Rena Cohen '22, mezzo-sopranos

HYMN

No. 1, st. 1 & 4, “All People That on Earth Do Dwell”

Old Hundredth

The congregation standing

INVOCATION

CONFESION

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. 196, “The King of Love My Shepherd Is”

St. Columba

The congregation standing

ACT OF CONFIRMATION

At the appropriate time in the confirmation liturgy, the congregation responds with:

We rejoice, O merciful God, with these confirmands in the affirmation of their faith and their desire to be a part of this faith community and the wider Body of Christ. Through the gift of the Holy Spirit awaken them to new truth and inspire them to venture into fullness of life. Help them to live not for themselves but for Christ and those whom Christ loves. Grant them love for others, joy in serving you, peace in disagreement, patience in suffering, kindness toward all people, goodness in evil times, faithfulness in temptation, gentleness in the face of opposition, and self-control in all things. Thereby strengthen them for their service in the world, through Jesus Christ. Amen.

THE PEACE

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

GREETINGS

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." Ushers will begin collection from the back of the church.

"Schafe können sicher weiden"

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685–1750)

from *Was mir behagt, ist nur die muntre Jagd*, BWV 208 (1713) arr. Egon Petri (1881–1962)

Jie Chen G1, piano

DOXOLOGY

Sung by the congregation, standing

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;

Praise him, all creatures here below;

Praise him above, ye heavenly host;

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

FIRST LESSON

Psalm 34:15–19

Pew Bible, page 471 (OT)

ANTHEM

Blessed Be the God and Father (1834)

Samuel Sebastian Wesley (1810–1876)

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to his abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for you, who are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation ready to be revealed at the last time.

But as he which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of conversation.

Pass the time of your sojourning here in fear.

See that ye love one another with a pure heart fervently.

Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God.

For all flesh is as grass, and all the glory of man as the flower of grass. The grass withereth, and the flower thereof falleth away. But the word of the Lord endureth for ever, for evermore.

Amen.

selected from 1 Peter 1 (KJV)

SECOND LESSON

Romans 8:26–39

Pew Bible, pages 138–139 (NT)

PRAYER HYMN

Sung by the congregation, seated

Day by day, dear Lord, of thee three things I pray: to
see thee more clear - ly, love thee more dear - ly,
fol - low thee more near - ly, 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

There Is a Land of Pure Delight (publ. 2002)

Grayston Ives (b. 1948)

There is a land of pure delight
Where saints immortal reign;
Infinite day excludes the night
And pleasures banish pain.

There everlasting spring abides
And never withering flowers;
Death like a narrow sea divides
That heavenly land from ours.

Sweet fields beyond the swelling flood
Stand dressed in living green;
As to the Jews old Canaan stood
While Jordan rolled between.

But timorous mortals start and shrink
To cross the narrow sea,
And linger shivering on the brink,
And fear to launch away.

O could we make our doubts remove,
Those gloomy doubts that rise,
And see the Canaan that we love
With unclouded eyes.

Could we but climb where Moses stood
And view the landscape o'er;
Not Jordan's stream, nor death's cold flood
Should fright us from the shore.

Isaac Watts (1674–1748)

SERMON

Finding God's Love in Ambiguous Loss

Text: "The Lord is near to the brokenhearted, and saves the crushed in spirit."

Psalm 34:18

HYMN

No. 215, "Sing We of the Blessed Mother"

Rustington

The congregation standing

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Toccata for a Joyful Day (1995)

Emma Lou Diemer (b. 1927)

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 12, 2019

WELCOME

Today is the Fourth Sunday of Easter. The preacher is Tammy McLeod, Harvard Chaplain for Cru, co-author of *Hit Hard*, a personal narrative of their family's journey into the world of Ambiguous Loss. The worship leaders are Professor Jonathan L. Walton, Plummer Professor of Christian Morals and Pusey Minister in the Memorial Church; the Reverend Westley P. Conn, Ministry Fellow in the Memorial Church; Aric B. Flemming MDiv III and KMarie Tejeda MDiv II, Seminarian in the Memorial Church; and Samm Melton MDiv III, Confirmation Teacher in the Memorial Church. 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.

A "Baby Oasis" is available for young children and infants in the lower level of the church. Parents and their children are welcome to use this respite space during worship.

Listening devices are available to help the hearing impaired participate in the service; please ask an usher for assistance.

FAITH FORMATION

The Church School offers Christian education classes for children of age three through sixteen. All classes are held during Sunday services in the Fall and Spring terms. To register and learn more, please visit the Church School for Children page on our website. Church School concludes today for the spring term and will resume in the fall term.

For adults in the MemChurch community, the Faith & Life Forum seeks to enrich our spirituality by promoting religious literacy and cultural competency. This program is held Sunday mornings during the fall and spring terms in the Buttrick Room from 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. To learn about upcoming speakers, please visit the Faith & Life Forum page on our website. Faith & Life Forum concludes today for the spring term and will resume in the fall term.

Contact Ministry Fellow, Westley (Wes) Conn (wesley_conn@harvard.edu) for more information about faith formation at MemChurch.

CHORAL EVENSONG

This afternoon at 3 p.m., the Harvard University Choir will offer a service of choral evensong, featuring music of Josef Rheinberger, Kenneth Leighton, and Henry Balfour Gardiner.

MUSIC NOTES

Born into a musical family—his father was the composer Samuel Wesley and his grandfather the Methodist leader and hymn writer Charles Wesley—Samuel Sebastian Wesley was one of the outstanding musicians of nineteenth-century England. He was a chorister at the Chapel Royal, St. James's Palace, London and was successively organist of the Cathedrals of Hereford, Exeter, Winchester, and Gloucester. “Blessed Be the God and Father” was written for an Easter Day service at Hereford Cathedral when, apparently, only the trebles and a single bass voice (that of the Dean’s butler) showed up to sing! Despite such inauspicious beginnings, the anthem has gone on to become one of the staples of church music, with its beautiful dialogue “love one another” and the rousing final fugghetta “the word of the Lord endureth forever.”

Grayston Ives was the *Informator Choristarum* at Magdalen College, Oxford, from 1991 to 2009, and is a former member of the King’s Singers. A setting of words by Isaac Watts, “There Is a Land of Pure Delight” is melodious to the core and was written in homage to the hymn-anthems of Stanford.

It is a pleasure to welcome pianist Jie Chen who presents Bach’s pastoral “Sheep May Safely Graze” for the offertory (today is Good Shepherd Sunday); Senior Choir Secretary Theodora Mautz and UChoir member Rena Cohen also present Saint-Saëns’s beautiful “Ave Maria” in celebration of Mother’s Day.

Brenda Portman is the Resident Organist at Hyde Park Community United Methodist Church in Cincinnati, OH, and Adjunct Organ Instructor at Xavier University. Her *And Again I Say, Rejoice!* is based on the hymn tune *Marion*, written by nineteenth-century English-American organist Arthur Messiter. The tune is best known in connection with the text “Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart.” Emma Lou Diemer is Professor of Music, *Emerita*, at the University of California, Santa Barbara, and a distinguished organ recitalist and composer, whose oeuvre includes the perky *Toccata for a Joyful Day*.

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.

STAY CONNECTED TO THE MEMORIAL CHURCH

E-mail: 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

Like us on Facebook: facebook.com/harvardmemorialchurch

Follow us on Twitter: twitter.com/memchurch

and **Instagram:** instagram.com/memchurch

Watch us on YouTube: youtube.com/memchurchharvard

NEXT SUNDAY'S SERVICE

Next Sunday is the Fifth Sunday of Easter. The preacher will be the Reverend Alanna C. Sullivan, Associate Minister in the Memorial Church.

For more information on upcoming services and events:

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To subscribe to the Memorial Church e-mail list, visit our website: memorialchurch.harvard.edu.

