HARVARD
The Memorial Church

Order of Worship

Seventh Sunday of Easter
Senior Sunday

May 16, 2021
11 am

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

Prelude
Abendlied and Pastorale, Op. 150, Nos. 2 & 4 (1887)  
Josef Rheinberger (1830–1901)  
David von Behren, organ  
Karen Becker, cello

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. 181, “God Is Gone Up on High”  

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.

Coelos ascendit hodie, Op. 38, No. 2 (1892)  
Charles Villiers Stanford (1852–1924)

Coelos 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.

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

Acts 1: 1–11  
from the New Revised Standard Version (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: 6–19  
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

Into a Waiting World

HYMN

No. 184, “Hail the Day That Sees Him Rise”

_Orientis partibus_

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

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Elegie, Op. 150, No. 5 (1887)

_Josef Rheinberger_

David von Behren, organ
Karen Becker, cello

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 Seventh Sunday of Easter and Senior Sunday. The preacher is the Reverend Matthew Ichihashi Potts PhD ’13, Associate Professor of Religion and Literature and of Ministry Studies at 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 Alden Fossett ’21, Student Deacon, Student Advisory Board. The second lesson is read by Elizabeth Propst ’22, Student Deacon, Student Advisory Board. 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, and Karen Becker, cello.

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. “Coelos 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; it 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.

Child prodigy Josef Rheinberger began composition lessons at age 10. After graduating from the Munich Conservatory, he taught piano and composition there until the institution dissolved. Most
of his compositions were written after he was hired as court conductor to the King of Bavaria; additionally, he was responsible for providing music for the mass in the royal chapel. During this time, the Munich Conservatory was re-formed and Rheinberger was made its professor of organ and composition: Engelbert Humperdinck, George Chadwick, and Horatio Parker were among his composition students. The cello and organ pieces (Op. 150) are individual character pieces and are not interconnected thematically. Cast in ternary form, “Abendlied” and “Elegie” are full of longing, melancholy melodies that are interwoven throughout between both instruments. Beginning with an ostinato bass in the organ pedals, the meditative “Pastorale” is characterized by a folk-like melody, played as a singing line by the cello.

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.

The Faith and Life Forum seeks to enrich our spirituality by promoting religious literacy and cultural competency. The Faith and Life Forum is held on Sundays, and has concluded for the Spring Term, and will resume in the Fall Term.

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 Day of Pentecost. The preacher will be at Professor Stephanie Paulsell, Interim Pusey Minister in the Memorial Church, Susan Shallcross Swartz Professor of the Practice of Christian Studies, 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, approach 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 God is gone up on high, with a triumphant noise: the
2 God in the flesh below, for us he reigns above: let
3 Till all the earth, renewed in righteousness divine, with

clarions of the sky proclaim the angelic joys:
all the nations know our Jesus’s conquering love: re-
all the hosts of God in one great chorus join:

joice and sing! rejoice and sing; ascribing glory to our King.
Hail the Day That Sees Him Rise

Charles Wesley, 1742, alt.

ORIENTIS PARTIBUS 77 77
attrib. Pierre de Corbeil (d. 1222)
harm. Harvard University Hymn Book, 1964

1. Hail the day that sees him rise glorious to his native skies; Christ, a while to mortals given, enters now the highest heaven!

2. There the glorious triumph waits; lift your heads, eternal gates! Wide unfold the radiant scene; take the King of glory in!

3. See! he lifts his hands above; see! he shows the prints of love: hark! his gracious lips be stow blessings on his Church below.

4. Lord beyond our mortal sight, raise our hearts to reach thy height, there thy face unclouded see, find our heaven of heavens in thee.