Order of Worship

Twenty-Third Sunday after Pentecost
Commemoration of Benefactors and of the War Dead

November 8, 2020
11 am
Order of Worship

Prelude
Canzona celesta (1955) George Frederick McKay (1899–1970)

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 36 & Isaiah 2

Minister: Your steadfast love, O Lord, extends to the heavens, your faithfulness to the clouds.
People: Your righteousness is like the mighty mountains, your judgments are like the great deep.
Minister: How precious is your steadfast love, O God!
All people may take refuge in the shadow of your wings.
People: For with you is the fountain of life;
in your light we see light.
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. 88, “O Lord of Life, Whose Power Sustains” Armistice
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.


Give all to love;
Obey thy heart;
Friends, kindred, days,
Nothing refuse.

Leave all for love;
Yet, hear me, yet,
One word more thy heart behooved,
One pulse more of firm endeavor,—
Keep thee today,
Tomorrow, forever.

Ralph Waldo Emerson, Class of 1821; (1803–1882), alt

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
Psalm 78: 1–7

from the English Standard Version (OT)
ANTHEM

The Remembering Earth (2018)  Carson Cooman ’04 (b. 1982)

A host of angels keep their watch
before the remembering earth.
They know the soul is more than a scrap
of tattered threads.

Take solace, listen closely:
alone we are nothing, together
we are a bouquet of shining voices,
a shimmering in the weaving of evening
streams, a myth that brings an awakening,
a life awakening unto the succor
of the soul’s seamlessness.

Elizabeth Kirschner (b. 1955)

SECOND LESSON

Luke 18: 1–8  from the English 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

Here follow the several prayers of the day.

FOR THE PEACE OF THE WORLD

O God, you have taught us that the world and all that is in it is yours; hear us, we pray, as we plead for the peace of the world. Grant that all nations may seek the ways that lead to peace, and that the dignity of your creation be upheld. Encourage us to share what we have, and embolden us to pursue and protect that peace which passes all human understanding, for the sake of Jesus Christ who is our peace. Amen.

FOR STUDENTS AND SCHOLARS

Grant, O Lord, to all students and scholars, that they may love that which is worth loving, know that which is worth knowing, praise that which is worthy of praise, and seek that which is worth finding. Endow this life of the mind with courage, discernment, modesty, and grace; and in the search for that truth which sets us free, grant us the wisdom which is found most perfectly in you. Amen.

FOR THIS UNIVERSITY CHURCH

O God of memory and of hope, make the doors of this Memorial Church wide enough to receive all who seek human fellowship and divine love, and narrow enough to shut out all envy, malice, and pride. Here may the tempted find help, the sorrowful find comfort, the fearful courage. Here may the indifferent be awakened to new purpose, and the penitent assured of mercy. And here, may all your children renew their strength and go on their way in hope and joy, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

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.
Election 2020: What Next?

THE ACT OF COMMEMORATION

Let us remember before God and commend to God’s keeping, those who gave their lives that others might live in peace. We honor them, we mourn their deaths, and we remember the grief of those who loved them. Let us also remember the generosity they inspired in others, including those who have offered talent and treasure to support the life of this community and extend its reach beyond these walls. May we too live generously and serve faithfully, making of our labor, our creativity, and our longing for peace and freedom for all an offering to the God who created the world and called it good. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE TOLLING OF THE BELL

The bell tolls “In memory of voices that are hushed.” This church was dedicated in 1932 to the memory of the Harvard dead of World War I, and now contains memorials of the dead of World War II, Korea, Vietnam, and the graduates of Radcliffe College who died in World War I. We also remember today all those who served this church and built this community, who have gone before us.

HYMN

No. 285, “Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah”

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

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

“Toccata” from Suite No. 1 (2017)

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 Twenty-Third Sunday after Pentecost and the Commemoration of Benefactors and of the War Dead. The preacher is Professor Cornell William Brooks, Professor of the Practice of Public Leadership and Social Justice and Director of William Monroe Trotter Collaborative for Social Justice, Harvard Kennedy School; Visiting Scholar, 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 for whose help with the liturgy we are most grateful. The first lesson is read by Alex Grayson ’22, Student Advisory Board and Student Deacon. The second lesson is read by Lawrence Jia ’23, Student Advisory Board and Student Deacon. The music for this Sunday’s service is provided by Edward Elwyn Jones, Gund University Organist and Choirmaster. The offertory and anthem are taken from archival service 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

Harvard graduate Carson Cooman is Composer in Residence at the Memorial Church, which has witnessed the premieres of many of his works. “Give All to Love” sets a text by fellow Harvard graduate Ralph Waldo Emerson, and was written in memory of our beloved colleague and friend Harry Lyn Huff, Associate Organist and Choirmaster (2004–2008), who died suddenly in November 2016.

Poet Elizabeth Kirschner has taught at Boston College, Fairfield University, and Carnegie Mellon University. The author of five volumes of poetry, she has actively collaborated on a number of new musical compositions with composers, including The Litany of Light (with Carson Cooman), written for the 75th anniversary of the Memorial Church in 2007. The Remembering Earth was premiered by the Harvard University Choir on the centenary of the armistice of November 1918; it recalls the sacrifice of those who have died while looking optimistically towards the future.

George Frederick McKay was born and spent most of his life in Washington State; he founded the composition department at the University of Washington and served as Professor of Music for over 40 years. McKay composed nearly 1000 works in every style and form, including about 30 works for organ. In recent years, a series of recordings of his orchestral music on the Naxos label has brought renewed attention to his music. Organist and composer Daniel Ficarri is a graduate of the Juilliard School and based in New York City. His Suite No. 1 was commissioned by organist David Ball for a performance at the Church of St. Paul the Apostle, NYC in March of 2017. The three movements are all built upon a simple three-note motif; the fiery “Toccata” concludes the suite with the motif in all its majesty.
BOSTON CAMERATA PRESENTS DIDO AND AEneas,
WITH HARVARD CHORAL FELLOWS

The Boston Camerata presents a new streaming production of Purcell’s only true opera titled “Dido and Aeneas, An Opera for Distanced Lovers.” Directed by Camerata Artistic Director Anne Azéma with media elements conceived by designer Peter Torpey, this production combines a cast of world-class musicians recorded in a staged performance augmented by the participation of remote singers and silent images. The story of the ill-fated queen of Carthage, Dido, is based on Book IV of Virgil’s Aeneid. It recounts her love for the shipwrecked Trojan hero Aeneas, and her despair when he abandons her. Henry Purcell’s short opera, intensely powerful despite its reduced scale, distills the emotions inherent in the story, as rapidly alternating feelings of hope, disquiet, rejoicing, and mortal sorrow vie for their places in our modern-day hearts. The show will be available for streaming November 14-29, 2020, and the digital performance includes a pre-concert presentation on “Dido and Aeneas” by Massachusetts Institute of Technology Professor Emeritus and musicologist Ellen T. Harris, and a post-performance conversation between Anne Azéma and Peter Torpey. This production celebrates the 40th Anniversary year of the pioneering Camerata recording of “Dido and Aneas” from 1979. That recording of Henry Purcell’s masterpiece was the first ever to use period instruments and became a milestone in the history of recorded sound, influencing many subsequent interpretations. Conceived and produced to be viewed on screens, Azéma’s production includes a stellar cast: Tahanee Aluwihare as Dido, Luke Scott as Aeneas, Camila Parias as Dido’s sister Belinda, Jordan Weatherston Pitts as the Sorcerer, assisted by students from Longy School of Music of Bard College and the Harvard Choral Fellows directed by Edward Elwyn Jones. For more information and tickets, visit: https://bostoncamerata.org/dido-2020/

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

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 from 10:00–10:45am. To register and learn more, please visit the Church School for Children page on our website.

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 and continues next Sunday, November 15, 9:30–10:30am with Professor Stephanie Paulsell, Interim Pusey Minister in the Memorial Church, Susan Shallcross Swartz Professor of the Practice of Christian Studies, Harvard Divinity School. To participate, please visit the Faith and Life Forum page on our website.

Contact Ministry Fellow, Rev. Westley (Wes) Conn (westley_conn@harvard.edu) to learn more about opportunities for faith formation.
INSTAGRAM LIVE
Join us on Instagram Live for a brief reflection on a practice on Thursdays at 7:00pm. Be sure to follow us @memchurch!

PRACTICING HOPE READING GROUP
You are warmly invited to join the Practicing Hope Reading Group from 7:00–8:00pm, which concludes on Wednesday, November 18; we will discuss Howard Thurman’s *Disciplines of the Spirit*. To register, please visit the Calendar on our website.

DAILY NEWSLETTER
In our daily newsletter, we share the meditations, music, spiritual practices, and prayers of our far-flung community. This is also the way to receive the most up to date information about the communal and worship life of the Memorial Church. To receive our newsletter, please subscribe on our website.

MEMCAFÉ
In observance of Veterans’ Day, MemCafé will not meet this week, Wednesday, November 11. Held virtually on Wednesday mornings from 9:30–10:15am from September 9 to December 2. Sit down at your computer or mobile device with your morning coffee and gather with us over Zoom. Each week as we check in with one another, we invite you to share a 1-2 sentence quote that has been grounding for you. To register, please visit the Calendar on our website.

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.

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 Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Pentecost. The preacher will be 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 name doth laud, and bless his praise forth tell, come ye before him and rejoice. doth us feed, and for his sheep he doth us take. name always, for it is seemly so to do. firmly stood, and shall from age to age endure.

2 Know that the Lord is God indeed; with our aid he did us make; we are his folk, he proach with joy his courts unto; praise, laud, and bless his mercy is forever sure; his truth at all times

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 doth laud, and bless his praise forth tell, come ye before him and rejoice. doth us feed, and for his sheep he doth us take. name always, for it is seemly so to do. firmly stood, and shall from age to age endure.
O Lord of Life, Whose Power Sustains

John Russell Darbyshire (1880–1948)

O Lord of Life, whose power sustains the world unseen
no less than this one

years reclothes the stricken battlefields, so

make the best memorials of the dead, but

Lord, to hear the whispered call of love, and

family in him who reigns, triumphant over

mercy gives us joy for tears, and grief to proud reburdens shouldered for their sake and tasks completed
day by day thy strength afford our work to do, our

Music © 2007 Peter J. Gomes.
death, in bliss; to thee with thankfulness we
membrance yields, and mindful hearts are glad to
in their stead; a braver faith and stronger
faith to prove. So be thy blessing richly

pray for all our valiant dead today.
keep a tryst of love with them that sleep.
prayers, devout worship, nobler cares.
shed on our communion with our dead.
Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

Arglwydd, arwain trwy'r anialwch
William Williams, 1745
 stanza 1: trans. Peter Williams, 1771
stanzas 2-3: trans. William Williams, c. 1774

1. Guide me, O thou great Jehovah, pilgrim through this barren land;
   I am weak, but thou art mighty, hold me with thy powerful hand;
   bread of heaven, bread of heaven, feed me till I want no more.

2. O pen now the crystal fountain, whence the healing stream doth flow;
   let the fire and cloud-y pillar lead me all my journey through;
   shield, (strength and shield,) be thou still my strength and shield.

3. When I tread the verge of Jordan, bid my anxious fears subside;
   death of death, and hell's destruction, land me safe on Canaan's side;
   thee, (give to thee,) I will ever give to thee.