Prelude

Fantasy on “Veni Emmanuel”, Op. 72, No. 5 (1980)  
Kenneth Leighton (1929–1988)

Hymn

No. 91, “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”  
Veni Emmanuel
The congregation stands and sings

Call to Worship

from Isaiah 40 and Isaiah 2

Minister: A voice cries out: “In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord,  
make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

People: Every valley shall be lifted up,  
and every mountain and hill be made low;

Minister: The uneven ground shall become level,  
and the rough places a plain.

People: Then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed,  
and all people shall see it together.”

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. 95, “Watchman, Tell Us of the Night”  
Aberystwyth
The congregation stands and sings

The Peace & Greeting

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

Your offering supports the work of the Memorial Church, especially our ministries to students and to our neighbors in need through the Grants Committee. Ushers will begin collection from the front of the church. Checks can be written to the Memorial Church. You may also donate online at https://memorialchurch.harvard.edu/donate

Psalm 146   Lauda anima mea
Sung by the choir

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

Isaiah 35:1–10  
Pew Bible, page 622 (OT)

ANTHEM

Ave maris stella (2019)  
Judith Weir (b. 1954)

Hail, star of the sea,
Blessed Mother of God,
And ever virgin,
Happy gate of heaven.

Receiving that “Hail”
From the mouth of Gabriel,
Establish us in peace,
Transforming the name of Eve.

Loosen the chains of the guilty,
Bring forth light to the blind,
Dispel out evil,
Pray for all good things.

O unique Virgin,
Gentle above all others,
Set us free from sin,
Meek and pure.

Grant a pure life,
Prepare a safe way:
That seeing Jesus
We may ever rejoice.

To God the Father be praise,
Glory to Christ on high,
Honor to the Holy Spirit,
Three in one. Amen.

Hymn at Vespers for feasts of the Virgin Mary, sung in Latin

SECOND LESSON

Matthew 11:2–11  
Pew Bible, page 9 (NT)
ANTHEM

The Long-Expected Hour (publ. 2022)  

When Jordan hushed his waters still,  
And silence slept on Zion’s hill,  
When Bethlehem’s shepherds, through the night,  
Watched o’er their flocks by starry light.

Hark! from the midnight hills around,  
A voice of more than mortal sound,  
In distance hallelujahs stole,  
Wild murmuring o’er the raptured soul.

On wheels of light, on wings of flame,  
The glorious hosts of Zion came.  
High heaven with songs of triumph rang,  
While thus they struck their harps and sang:

O Zion, lift thy raptured eye;  
The long-expected hour is nigh;  
The joys of nature rise again;  
The Prince of Glory comes to reign.

Thomas Campbell (1777–1844), alt.

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.
PRAYER RESPONSE

The congregation remains seated

Come, thou long-expected Jesus, born to set thy people free;

from our fears and sins release us; let us find our rest in thee.

SERMON

Kayla August

HYMN

No. 96, “On Jordan’s Bank the Baptist’s Cry”

The congregation stands and sings

Winchester New

Benediction

POSTLUDE

Toccata on “Antioch” (1996)

Craig Phillips (b. 1961)

TODAY’S SERVICE

Additional information about today’s service and music notes are available from our website at memorialchurch.harvard.edu/service-and-music-notes or by scanning the following QR code.

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