

HARVARD

The Memorial Church



ORDER OF WORSHIP

The Third Sunday of Advent

Sunday, December 16, 2018
11 a.m.

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

ORDER OF WORSHIP

PRELUDE

Nun freut euch, lieben Christen g'mein

Dieterich Buxtehude (ca. 1637–1707)

HYMN

No. 91, "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

Veni Emmanuel

The congregation standing

INVOCATION

One: Joy to the world! God is coming to bring us good news.

Many: May we sing songs of praise and gladness.

One: Last week we marked our Advent journey by lighting the candles of hope and peace. This morning we light the candle of joy.

Many: May we kindle God's light together as we journey on.

One: May the light from this candle overwhelm the world. May the light from this candle say to all that God's joy is coming on earth as it already is in heaven.

Many: Be not afraid; the light of God's joy is at hand. Amen.

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. 96, "On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry"

Winchester New

The congregation standing

GREETING AND THE PEACE

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

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 front of the church.

Psalm 98 *Cantate Domino*

Tone VIII.2

O sing unto the Lord a new song;
 for he hath done marvelous things.
With his own right hand, and with his holy arm,
 hath he gotten himself the victory.
The Lord declared his salvation;
 his righteousness hath he openly showed in the sight of the nations.
He hath remembered his mercy and truth toward the house of Israel;
 and all the ends of the world have seen the salvation of our God.
Show yourselves joyful unto the Lord, all ye lands;
 sing, rejoice, and give thanks.
Praise the Lord upon the harp;
 sing to the harp with a psalm of thanksgiving.
With trumpets also and shawms,
 O show yourselves joyful before the Lord, the King.
Let the sea make a noise, and all that therein is;
 the round world, and they that dwell therein.
Let the floods clap their hands, and let the hills be joyful together before the Lord;
 for he is come to judge the earth.
With righteousness shall he judge the world,
 and the peoples with equity.

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

Philippians 4:4-7

Pew Bible, page 175 (NT)

ANTHEM

Advent Prose

Plainchant, ed. Stephen Cleobury (b. 1948)

Pour down, O heavens, from above, and let the skies rain down righteousness.

Turn your fierce anger from us, O Lord, and remember not our sins for ever.
Your holy cities have become a desert, Zion a wilderness, Jerusalem a desolation;
Our holy and beautiful house, where our fathers praised you.

We have sinned and become like one who is unclean; we have all withered like a leaf,
And our iniquities like the wind have swept us away.

You have hidden your face from us, and abandoned us to our iniquities.

You are my witnesses, says the Lord, and my servant whom I have chosen,
That you may know me and believe me.

I myself am the Lord, and none but I can deliver; what my hand holds, none can snatch away.

Comfort my people, comfort them; my salvation shall not be delayed.

I have swept your offenses away like a cloud; fear not, for I will save you.

I am the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, your redeemer.

from the Book of Isaiah

SECOND LESSON

Luke 3:7-18

Pew Bible, page 52 (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

Rejoice Ye in the Lord

Plainchant

Rejoice ye in the Lord alway: and again I say, rejoice ye:

Let your moderation be known unto all men: the Lord is at hand.

Be careful for nothing, nor troubled:

But in all things, by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving,

Let your requests be made known unto God.

Lord, thou art become gracious unto thy land:

Thou hast turned away the captivity of Jacob.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

SERMON

Defiant Joy

Text: "Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice..."

Philippians 4:4

HYMN

No. 110, "Joy to the World! The Lord Is Come"

Antioch

The congregation standing

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Two Diversions on “Joy to the World”

Gilbert M. Martin (b. 1941)

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, December 16, 2018

WELCOME

Today is the Third Sunday of Advent. The preacher is the Reverend Alanna C. Sullivan, Associate Minister in the Memorial Church. The service is led by the Reverend Katherine A. Schofield, Interim Minister in the Memorial Church; and the Reverend Westley P. Conn, Ministry Fellow in the Memorial Church. The music is provided by members of 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. The Soonkyo Kwon and Jaeyun Kim family will light the third candle of Advent, representing joy.

Our “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. Today is the last Sunday for Church School in fall term. Church School resumes on Sunday, February 10.

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. Today is the last Sunday of the Faith & Life Forum in the fall term. To learn about upcoming speakers, please visit the Faith & Life Forum page on our website. The Forum will resume on Sunday, February 10.

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE

The Memorial Church’s Christmas Eve service will be held on Monday, December 24, at 5 p.m. If you would like to sing in the volunteer choir, please arrive at 3:45 p.m. in Appleton Chapel.

COLLECTING 400 TOYS

Please join with the Church School in supporting Phillips Brooks House's 2018 Holiday Gift Drive. Our goal this year is to collect 400 new toys! This annual event provides gifts to children of all ages in Cambridge and Boston, many of whose families are without necessary resources. Gifts should be new and unwrapped. Contributions can be placed in the large, gift-wrapped boxes in the narthex and downstairs in the Student Oasis until the end of coffee hour today.

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 Fourth Sunday of Advent. The preacher will be Professor Jonathan L. Walton, Plummer Professor of Christian Morals and Pusey Minister in the Memorial Church.

For more information on upcoming services and events:

memorialchurch.harvard.edu • facebook.com/harvardmemorialchurch • twitter.com/memchurch

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

