

HARVARD

The Memorial Church



ORDER OF WORSHIP



The Third Sunday of Advent

Sunday, December 17, 2017

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

ORDER OF WORSHIP

PRELUDE

Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland, BWV 599

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685–1750)

Gott, durch deine Güte, BWV 600

Herr Christ, der ein'ge Gottessohn, BWV 601

Lob sei dem allmächtigen Gott, BWV 602

Wachet auf, ruft uns die Stimme, BWV 645

HYMN

No. 91, “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

Veni Emmanuel

The congregation standing

During the singing of this hymn, the third Advent candle, representing joy, is lit.

INVOCATION

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 back of the church.

BaShana HaBa'a (1970)

Nurit Hirsh (b. 1942)

בשנה הבאה	<i>Next year</i>
נשב על המרפסת	<i>We'll sit on the porch</i>
ונספור ציפורים נודדות	<i>And count migrating birds.</i>
ילדים בחופשה	<i>Children on vacation</i>
ישחקו תופסת	<i>Will play tag</i>
בין הבית לבין השדות	<i>Between the house and the fields.</i>
עוד תראה עוד תראה	<i>You will yet see</i>
כמה טוב יהיה	<i>How good it will be</i>
בשנה, בשנה הבאה	<i>Next year.</i>
ענבים אדומים	<i>Red grapes</i>
יבשילו עד הערב	<i>Will ripen until the evening</i>
ויוגשו צוננים לשולחן	<i>And will be served chilled to the table.</i>
ורוחות רדומים	<i>And languid winds</i>
ישאו אל אם הדרך	<i>Will carry to the crossroads</i>
עיתונים ישנים וענן	<i>Old newspapers and a cloud.</i>
בשנה הבאה	<i>Next year</i>
נפרוש כפות ידיים	<i>We will spread out our hands</i>
מול האור הניגר הלבן	<i>Towards the radiant light.</i>
אנפה לבנה	<i>A white heron</i>
תפרוש באור כנפיים	<i>Like a light will spread her wings</i>
והשמש תזרח בתוכם	<i>And within them the sun will rise.</i>

Ehud Manor (1941–2005)

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

Isaiah 61:1–4, 8–11

Pew Bible, pages 651–652 (OT)

ANTHEM

Siyahamba (1952)

Andries van Tonder (1882–1955)

arr. Anders Nyberg (b. 1955)

Siyahamba ekukhanyeni kwenkhos’.

We are marching in the light of God.

Original Afrikaans by Andries van Tonder, Zulu translation by Thabo Mkize

SECOND LESSON

Luke 1:46b–55

Pew Bible, page 49 (NT)

PRAYER HYMN

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

Carol of the Bells (1914)

Hark how the bells,
Sweet silver bells,
All seem to say,
Throw cares away.

Christmas is here,
Bringing good cheer,
To young and old,
Meek and the bold.

“Ding dong, ding dong,”
That is their song,
With joyful ring
All caroling.

On on they send,
On without end,
Their joyful tone
To every home.

Mykola Leontovych (1877–1921)

One seems to hear
Words of good cheer
From everywhere
Filling the air.

Oh, how they pound,
Raising the sound,
O'er hill and dale,
Telling their tale.

Gaily they ring
While people sing
Songs of good cheer,
Christmas is here.

Peter J. Wilhousky (1902–1978)

SERMON

An Attitude of Gratitude

Text: “...for the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name.” *Luke 1:49*

HYMN

No. 131, “Jesus, the Light of the World”

The congregation standing

We'll Walk in the Light

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Fugue on the Magnificat, BWV 733

Johann Sebastian Bach

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 17, 2017

WELCOME

Today is the Third Sunday of Advent. The preacher is Professor Jonathan L. Walton, Plummer Professor of Christian Morals and Pusey Minister in the Memorial Church. The service is led by the Reverend Alanna C. Sullivan, Associate Minister in the Memorial Church; and Aric Flemming MDiv II and Michael Robinson MDiv III, seminarians in the Memorial Church. The first lesson is read by Anna Betancourt. The second lesson is read by Henry Dallman. The music is provided by VOICES Boston, under the direction of Steven Lipsitt, Artistic Director. The Rossano family will light the third Advent candle, representing joy.

A crying room is available for young children and infants in the lower level of the church. Parents and their children are welcome to use the respite space during worship, complete with an audio broadcast of the service.

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 ages three through fifteen. New this year is our Teen Class. All classes are held during Sunday services in the Fall and Spring Terms. To register or learn more, please visit the Church School for Children page on our website. All families are kindly asked to register their children. Church School concludes its Fall Term today and will resume for its Spring Term on Sunday, January 28.

For adults in the MemChurch community, the Faith and Life Forum seeks to enrich our spirituality by promoting religious literacy and cultural competency. These programs are held Sunday mornings during the Fall and Spring Terms in the Buttrick Room from 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. Speakers include scholars, pastors, and other public figures whose work enhances our awareness of the pivotal role religion plays across space and time. The forum will resume for its Spring Term on Sunday, February 4.

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

COLLECTING 850 TOYS FOR OUR 85TH

Please join with the Church School in supporting Phillips Brooks House's 2017 Holiday Gift Drive. Our goal this year is to collect 850 new toys in honor of the 85th anniversary of the church! 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. Today is the last day to place contributions in the large, gift-wrapped boxes in the narthex and downstairs in the Student Oasis.

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE

Due to Christmas Eve falling on a Sunday this year, the Memorial Church's Christmas Eve service will be held next Sunday morning at 11 a.m. If you would like to sing in the community choir, please arrive for rehearsal at 9:30 a.m.

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 wrb.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](https://www.facebook.com/harvardmemorialchurch)

Follow us on Twitter: twitter.com/memchurch

and **Instagram:** [instagram.com/memchurch](https://www.instagram.com/memchurch)

Watch us on YouTube: [youtube.com/memchurchharvard](https://www.youtube.com/memchurchharvard)

NEXT SUNDAY'S SERVICE

Next Sunday is Christmas Eve and the Commemoration of the Fourth Sunday of Advent. The preacher will be the Reverend Alanna C. Sullivan, Associate Minister in the Memorial Church.

*For more information on upcoming services and events:
memorialchurch.harvard.edu • [facebook.com/harvardmemorialchurch](https://www.facebook.com/harvardmemorialchurch) • twitter.com/memchurch
To subscribe to the Memorial Church e-mail list, visit our website: memorialchurch.harvard.edu*