

HARVARD

The Memorial Church



ORDER OF WORSHIP

The Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 20, 2020

11 am

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

ORDER OF WORSHIP

PRELUDE

Nöel X: Grand Jeu et duo

Louis Claude Daquin (1694-1772)

THE LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

The fourth Advent candle, representing love, is lit. During this time congregants are invited to light their Advent wreaths.

Leader: He will come, will come,
will come like crying in the night,
like blood, like breaking,
as the earth writhes to toss him free.
He will come like a child.

People: And the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the night, and the emptiness did not overcome it.

Leader: Advent is a time of preparation and anticipation for the one who casts out fear with love. Today we light the candle of love, as we wait for Jesus to come again to turn hatred into love. Thanks be to God.

HYMN

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

Veni Emmanuel

See end of worship bulletin. 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."

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. 103, "Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence"

Picardy

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

GREETING & THE PEACE

OFFERTORY

Our offering this month goes to support the Phillips Brooks House's annual Toy and Joy drive. This year we have been asked to support the Ella J. Baker House, an organization which offers mentorship and summer enrichment programming to youth in the Dorchester community. This year, they have expressed a need for over 100 toys to support their youth. Give online at <https://memorialchurch.harvard.edu/donate>.

Creator of the Stars of Night

Plainsong, Mode IV

Creator of the stars of night, thy people's everlasting light,
O Christ, thou Savior of us all, we pray thee, hear us when we call.

To thee the travail deep was known that made the whole creation groan,
Till thou, Redeemer, shouldst free thine own in glorious liberty.

When the old world drew on toward night, thou camest, not in splendor bright
As monarch, but the humble child of Mary, blameless mother mild.

At thy great name exalted now all knees must bend, all hearts must bow,
And things celestial thee shall own, and things terrestrial, Lord alone. Amen.

*Latin, 9th Century
Translated by John Mason Neale (1818–1866)*

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 60: 1–3

from the New Revised Standard Version (OT)

ANTHEM

Ave maris stella, SV 206:12 (1610)

Claudio Monteverdi (1567–1643)

Ave maris stella,
Dei mater alma,
Atque semper virgo,
Felix cæli porta.
Sumens illud Ave
Gabrielis ore,
Funda nos in pace,
Mutans Evæ nomen.
Solve vincla reis,
Profer lumen cæcis,
Mala nostra pelle,
Bona cuncta posce.
Sit laus Deo Patri,
Summo Christo decus
Spiritus Sancto,
Tribus honor unus. Amen.

*Hail O star of the ocean,
God's own Mother blest,
Ever sinless virgin,
Gate of heavenly rest.
Taking that sweet Ave,
Which from Gabriel came,
Peace confirm within us,
Reversing Evæ's name.
Break the sinner's fetters,
Make our blindness day,
Chase all evils from us,
For all blessings pray.
Praise to God the Father,
Honor to the Son,
In the Holy Spirit,
Be the glory One. Amen.*

SECOND LESSON

Luke 1: 8–13; 21–38

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 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.

SERMON

Do Not Be Afraid

HYMN

No. 106, "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"

Stuttgart

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

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Variations on a Basque Noël, Op. 1212 (2017)

Carson Cooman '04 (b. 1982)

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 20, 2020

WELCOME

Today is the Fourth Sunday of Advent. The preacher is the Reverend Martin B. Copenhagen. 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 Elam Jones G1. The second lesson is read by Amaia Cook MDiv I. 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 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.

Louisa, Penny, Cynthia, and Ken Rossano light the fourth candle of Advent, representing love. Liturgy for lighting the Advent candles is an adaptation of scripture, the German carol *Vom Himmel Hoch da komm ich her*, and the poem "Advent Calendar" by poet and priest, Rowan Williams.

MUSIC NOTES

Creator of the Stars of Night (Conditor alme siderum) is a plainchant hymn appointed for the season of Advent. The hymn entered the general repertoire following its 1851 English translation by John Mason Neale, who created metrical English version of more than two hundred Greek and Latin texts, bringing many early hymns back into common usage.

Claudio Monteverdi represents the pinnacle of Italian Renaissance composition and guides the transformation to the early Baroque style. He revolutionized the music of the theatre and the church with a dramatic use of instruments and voices, combined with a daring harmonic palette. From 1613 until his death in 1643, Monteverdi held the esteemed post of choirmaster of St. Mark's Basilica, Venice: unfortunately, much of the sacred music he wrote for Venice—including several important works mentioned in contemporary letters and documents—is now lost. The Vespers of 1610 might have been written as an audition piece for St. Mark's and displays a stunning array of compositional styles; in the beautiful Marian hymn, *Ave maris stella*, two eight-part verses frame a pair of smaller-scale ones, interspersed with instrumental ritornelli.

French composer and organist Louis-Claude Daquin was appointed organist to Louis XIV in 1739 at the age of twelve. He is remembered primarily for a collection of harpsichord pieces and a very successful volume of arrangements of then-popular French carol melodies. From this latter collection comes *Nöel X: Grand Jeu et duo*, which is characterized by a joyful dialogue between glistening

upperwork and brilliant reeds. Composer in Residence Carson Cooman's *Variations on Basque Noël* was written in 2017 for James Kibbie, head of the organ department at the University of Michigan, to use as his annual "musical Christmas card." The carol melody ("Beude bazter") is presented in five brief variations.

THE 111TH ANNUAL CHRISTMAS CAROL SERVICE

The 111th Annual Christmas Carol Service is scheduled for 5:00pm, December 24 on the Memorial Church website, YouTube channel and Facebook page. The hour-long service of readings and music is free and available to the public. Online donations will be accepted through the Phillips Brooks House Association in support of Y2Y Harvard Square youth homeless shelter and the Harvard Square Homeless Shelter for adults.

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 from 10:00–10:45am. To register and learn more, please visit the Church School for Children page on our website. The Church School has concluded for the Fall Term and will resume in the Spring Term on Sunday, January 31.

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 from 9:30–10:30am. The Forum has concluded for the Fall Term and will resume in the Spring Term on Sunday, January 31. To participate, please visit the Faith and Life Forum page on our website. The Forum will resume in the Spring Term on Sunday, January 31.

Contact Ministry Fellow, Rev. Westley (Wes) Conn (westley_conn@harvard.edu) to learn more about opportunities for faith formation.

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 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*

Follow us on Twitter: *twitter.com/memchurch*

and **Instagram:** *instagram.com/memchurch*

Watch us on YouTube: *youtube.com/memchurchharvard*

NEXT SUNDAY SERVICE: JANUARY 10

There will be no service on Sundays, December 29 and January 3, in observance of the University's winter recess. The next service will be the Baptism of the Lord, on Sunday, January 10. The preacher will be the Reverend Westley P. Conn, Ministry Fellow in the Memorial Church.

Veni veni Emmanuel

Latin, 8th cent.?

stanzas 1, 2: John Mason Neale, 1851, alt.

stanzas 3, 4: Henry Sloane Coffin, 1916

VENI EMMANUEL 88 88 88

Plainsong, Mode 1

Processionale, 15th cent.

adapt. Thomas Helmore, 1854

unison

1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som cap - tive
 2 O come, thou Day - spring, now ap - pear and cheer us by thine
 3 O come, thou Wis - dom from on high, and or - der all things,
 4 O come, De - sire of na - tions, bind all peo - ples in one

Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile
 ad - vent here; dis - perse the gloom - y clouds of
 far and nigh; to us the path of knowl - edge
 heart and mind; bid en - vy, strife, and quar - rels

harmony

here, un - til the Son of God ap - pear.
 night, and death's dark shad - ows put to flight. Re -
 show, and cause us in her ways to go.
 cease; and fill the world with heav - en's peace.

joyce! Re-joyce! Em - man - u - el shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!

συγησάτω πᾶσα σὰρξ βροτεία
 Liturgy of St. James, 4th cent.
 trans. Gerald Moultrie, 1864

PICARDY 87 87 87
 French melody, 17th cent.
 accomp. The English Hymnal, 1906

1 Let all mor-tal flesh keep si-lence, and with fear and trem-bling stand;
 2 King of kings, yet born of Mar-y, as of old on earth he stood,
 3 Rank on rank the host of heav-en spreads its van-guard on the way,
 4 At his feet the six-winged ser-aph; cher-u-bim with sleep-less eye,

pon-der noth-ing earth-ly - mind-ed, for with bless-ing in his hand,
 Lord of lords, in hu-man ves-ture, in the bod-y and the blood,
 as the light of light de-scend-eth from the realms of end-less day,
 veil their fac-es to the pres-ence, as with cease-less voice they cry,

Christ our God to earth de-scend-eth, our full hom-age to de-mand.
 He will give to all the faith-ful his own self for heav-en-ly food.
 that the powers of hell may van-ish as the dark-ness clears a-way.
 Al-le-lu-ia, Al-le-lu-ia, Al-le-lu-ia, Lord most high!

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

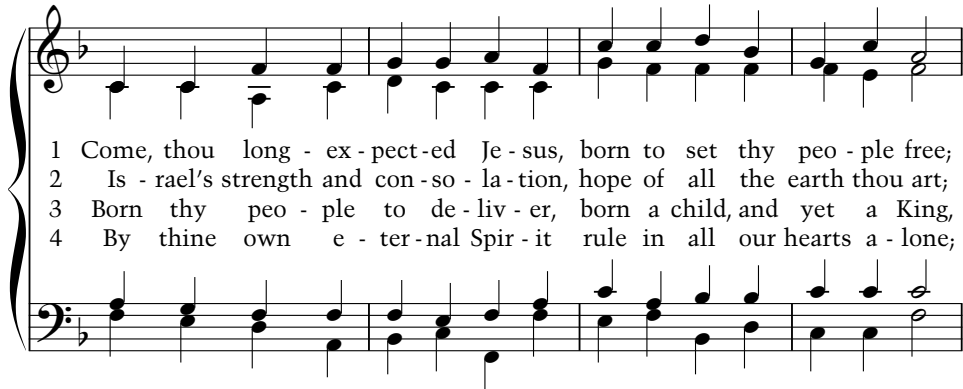
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Charles Wesley, 1744, alt.

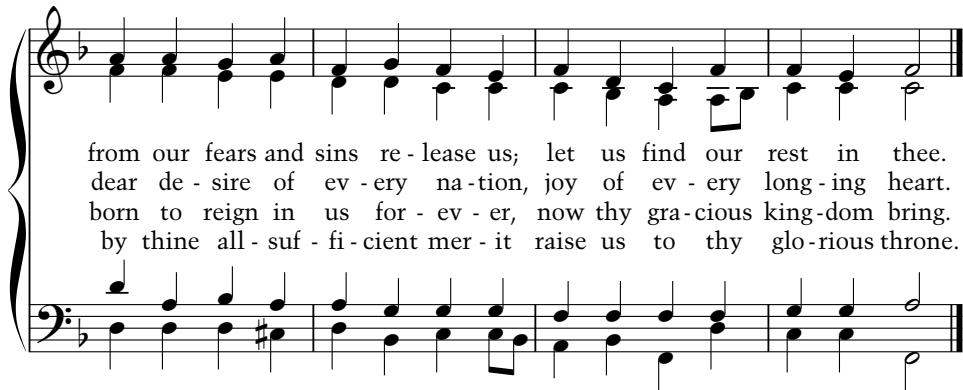
STUTT GART 87 87

Christian F. Witt, 1715

adapt. Hymns Ancient and Modern, 1861



1 Come, thou long - ex - pect - ed Je - sus, born to set thy peo - ple free;
2 Is - rael's strength and con - so - la - tion, hope of all the earth thou art;
3 Born thy peo - ple to de - liv - er, born a child, and yet a King,
4 By thine own e - ter - nal Spir - it rule in all our hearts a - lone;



from our fears and sins re - lease us; let us find our rest in thee.
dear de - sire of ev - ery na - tion, joy of ev - ery long - ing heart.
born to reign in us for - ev - er, now thy gra - cious king - dom bring.
by thine all - suf - fi - cient mer - it raise us to thy glo - rious throne.