



From the Senior Minister

LUCY A. FORSTER-SMITH



Photo: Justin Knight

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

As we round the bend from winter to spring, Memorial Church's program is as vibrant as ever! We look forward to welcoming you to a robust, engaged Spring Term 2016.

With a new year, whether the turn from 2015 to 2016 or the move from Fall to Spring Term, there is always a tendency to take stock, to consider our accomplishments, and to engage afresh what lies ahead. Our Fall Term brought a range of remarkable preachers, the wonderful contribution of our Harvard University Choir and seminarians who led us with depth and joy. Our President Faust launched daily Morning Prayers with a stunning talk on the importance of diversity. In some ways her clarion call became evident in the wonderful range of topics explored by our subsequent Morning Prayers speakers. Students from the College, Graduate, and Professional Schools, faculty and staff, and friends of this church brought diverse perspectives and personal reflections on the meaning and purpose of life's challenges. Candor coupled with grace was a hallmark of the Fall Term.

Spring Term brings a marvelous slate of preachers and excellent Faith & Life Forum speakers. We welcome Presidents Craig Barnes (Princeton Theological Seminary) and John Wilson (Morehouse College), Wake Forest School of Divinity Dean and Professor of New Testament and Preaching, Gail R. O'Day, and Yolanda Pierce, Associate Professor of African American Religion and Director of the Black Church Studies Department at Princeton Theological Seminary. Memorial Church clergy and other preachers will fill out the schedule.

With Lent and Holy Week, the Memorial Church brings opportunities for worship, fellowship, and study. We launch the Lenten journey with our annual Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper on February 9, leading us to our noontime Ash Wednesday Service on February 10. I will be offering a Lenten Study Series using Barbara Brown Taylor's book, *Altars in the World*, which will meet four Tuesday evenings, beginning February 16. We will continue our tradition of having our seminarians lead us through the Seven Last Words of Christ on Good Friday and Pusey Minister & Plummer Professor Jonathan L. Walton will preach at our Easter Day services.

The Memorial Church music program, led by Gund University Organist and Choirmaster Edward Jones, blesses us with daily musical offerings as well as several special opportunities. This Term's program includes monthly Compline Services, and two Evensong services, one of which (February 7) will feature guest conductor Dr. Barry Rose, former Director of Music at St. Paul's Cathedral, Lon-

don. And you will want to mark your calendar for the Harvard University Choir's Spring Concert, which will feature Bach's *Magnificat* and *Ascension Oratorio* with instrumental accompaniment by the Harvard Baroque Chamber Orchestra. The music program also features four organ recitals with remarkably talented regionally acclaimed organists. Please consult the schedule for details.

We are thrilled to announce that our William Belden Noble Lecturer this year is American Author and Pulitzer Prize winning Novelist Marilynne Robinson. Robinson is author of *Gilead*, *Home*, *Housekeeping*, *Lila* and other novels as well as collections of essays. Her writing, which is strongly imprinted by a close reading of Reformer John Calvin, engages theology in public life. In a recent interview with President Barack Obama, Ms. Robinson responded to a question about disagreements and suspicion among religious people, particularly Christians. Ms. Robinson replied, "...Christianity is profoundly counter-intuitive—'Love thy neighbor as thyself'—which I think properly understood means your neighbor is as worthy of love as you are, not that you're actually going to be capable of this sort of superhuman feat. But you're supposed to run against the grain. It's supposed to be difficult. It's supposed to be a challenge." Leading up to the Noble Lecture on April 4, we will offer a series of presentations highlighting the work of Ms. Robinson.

The programmatic work of Memorial Church would not be possible without an excellent, committed, and motivated staff. In Fall Term we welcomed Charles Anderson, Director of Finance and Operations. He picked up the excellent work of Nancy Granert and has worked with a team of colleagues as we are excitedly preparing for a renovation of the church that will attend to long-deferred structural upkeep and building maintenance, the installation of an HVAC system, and an update of the lower level. More details on this are forthcoming. As we welcomed Charles we also have been in a transition in our Communications Office. Justin Mullane, Director of Communications, left our staff at the end of 2015. Adrienne Yapo is assuming her new role in the lead communications position and a new staff colleague in that department will join her in Spring Term. We thank Justin for his years of service to Memorial Church and wish him Godspeed in his new endeavors.

I close with reflections on the work of this church at this time in our history. The core of Memorial Church's mission is our outreach and care of Harvard students. We not only give support but also receive the abundant contributions of students. Whether hosting student events such as the Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper or grief support groups, marveling at the genius of our choir members, responding to students who have lost a friend or family member, listening to our Student Advisory Board talking about their big questions and life dreams, or standing with students at a vigil on the church's Porch as we grieve the loss of those on our planet, this work contributes to the well-being of Harvard. And I believe, by extension, it contributes to the well being of our world. Supporting students to be courageous global citizens and caring Harvard community members is our go-to. Doing this with deep respect for the range of religious, spiritual, and ethical traditions that populated this University is key. And carrying this out with the strong, life-giving call to be a space of grace, of holy hospitality in Harvard Yard, is our core mission. We count it a grand and high calling.

Blessed be!

Lucy A. Forster-Smith

Sedgwick Chaplain to the University & Senior Minister in the Memorial Church



memorialchurch.harvard.edu/calendar

WORSHIP • Sunday Services, Morning Prayers, Compline & Evensong

Sunday Worship

Sunday services are broadcast on Harvard's radio station, WHRB 95.3 FM. For those outside the Cambridge area, WHRB provides live internet streaming from its website whrb.org. Services take place at 11:00 a.m. eastern time.

Sunday, January 31, 11 a.m.
THE FIRST SUNDAY OF SPRING TERM
Preacher: The Rev. Alanna Copenhaver, Ministry Fellow, The Memorial Church. Anthems: Mendelssohn—"And Then Shall Your Light Break Forth" from *Elijah*; Haydn—"Sing the Lord, Ye Voices All" from *The Creation*.

Sunday, February 7, 11 a.m.
Preacher: The Rev. Dr. Gail R. O'Day, Dean and Professor of New Testament and Preaching, Wake Forest School of Divinity. Anthems: Howells—Communion Service (Collegium Regale); Mawby—Ave verum Corpus.

Sunday, February 14, 11 a.m.
FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT
Preacher: The Rev. Dr. Lucy Forster-Smith, Sedgwick Chaplain to the University and Senior Minister, The Memorial Church. Anthems: Purcell—Remember Not, Lord, Our Offences; Tallis—Purge Me, O Lord.

Sunday, February 21, 11 a.m.
Preacher: The Rev. Marlin Lavanhar, Senior Minister, All Souls Unitarian Church, Tulsa, Oklahoma. Anthems: Pärt—The Beatitudes; Schütz—Selig sind die Toten.

Sunday, February 28, 11 a.m.
JUNIOR PARENTS WEEKEND
Preacher: The Rev. Dr. Yolanda Pierce, Associate Professor of African American Religion and Director of the Black Church Studies Department, Princeton Theological Seminary. Anthem: Finzi—Lo, the Full Final Sacrifice.

Sunday, March 6, 11 a.m.
Preacher: The Rev. Dr. M. Craig Barnes, President and Professor of Pastoral Ministry, Princeton Theological Seminary. Anthems: Lassus—Missa Bell' Amfitrit' altera; Byrd—Ave verum Corpus.

Sunday, March 13, 11 a.m.
Preacher: Dr. John Silvanus Wilson Jr., President, Morehouse College.

Sunday, March 20, 11 a.m.
PALM SUNDAY
Preacher: The Rev. Dr. Lucy Forster-Smith, Sedgwick Chaplain to the University and Senior Minister, The Memorial Church.

Sunday, March 27, 11 a.m.
EASTER SUNDAY — 2 services at 8 & 11 a.m.
Preacher: Professor Jonathan L. Walton, Plummer Professor of Christian Morals and Pusey Minister, The Memorial Church. Anthems: Mozart—Missa Brevis in C, KV 220 ("Spatzen-Messe"); Cooman—Easter Day.

Sunday, April 3, 11 a.m.
Preacher: Dr. Albert J. Raboteau, Henry W. Putnam Professor of Religion *Emeritus*, Princeton University. Anthem: Kodály—Missa Brevis.

Sunday, April 10, 11 a.m.
Preacher: To Be Announced. Anthems: Handel—Worthy Is the Lamb" from *Messiah*; Bach—"Sicut locutus est" from *Magnificat*.

Sunday, April 17, 11 a.m.
Preacher: To Be Announced. Anthems: Gauthrop—Morning Prayers; Paulus—Pilgrims' Hymn.

Sunday, April 24, 11 a.m.
Preacher: To Be Announced. Anthems: Britten—Te Deum in C; Walton—Jubilate.

Sunday, May 1, 11 a.m.
ARTS FIRST WEEKEND
Preacher: To Be Announced. Anthem: Rheinberger—Mass in C.

Sunday, May 8, 11 a.m.
MOTHER'S DAY
Preacher: To Be Announced. Anthems: Gowers—Viri Galilaei; Stanford—Coelos ascendit hodie.

Sunday, May 15, 11 a.m.
Preacher: To Be Announced. Anthems: Byrd—Non vos relinquam orphanos; Tallis—O Lord, Give Thy Holy Spirit.

Sunday, May 22, 11 a.m.
SENIOR SUNDAY
Preacher: To Be Announced. Anthem: Music Honoring the Class of 2016.

Morning Prayers

Monday–Saturday in Term, 8:45–9 a.m. Beginning Monday, January 25 • Appleton
Consisting of music, prayer, and a brief address given by a member or friend of the University, this service is a great way to start the day. For the full schedule of speakers, please visit our website.

Compline

Thursdays, February 4, March 3, April 7, May 5 at 10 p.m. • Appleton
This twenty-minute service is sung by the Harvard University Choir in the candlelit space of Appleton Chapel.

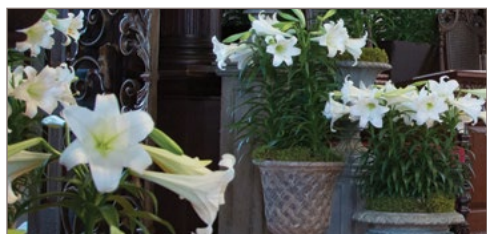
Evensong

Sunday, February 7, 4 p.m. • Appleton
Directed by Dr. Barry Rose, former Director of Music at St. Paul's Cathedral, London.
Sunday, May 1, 4 p.m. • Appleton
Sung by the Harvard University Choir.



Photo: Tony Rinaldo

Special Services



Lent

Tuesday, February 9, 6–8 p.m. • Buttrick
SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKE SUPPER
Enjoy delicious pancakes served by Memorial Church staff.

Wednesday, February 10, 12–12:30 p.m.
ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE

Tuesday evenings, February 16–March 8, 7 p.m. • Pusey
LENTEN STUDY SERIES
The Rev. Dr. Lucy Forster-Smith will lead a Lenten study series using Barbara Brown Taylor's book, *Altars in the World*.

Holy Week

March 21–26, 8:45 a.m. • Appleton
MORNING PRAYERS: ECUMENICAL REFLECTIONS ON HOLY WEEK
The Harvard Chaplains will offer ecumenical reflections on Holy Week.

Tuesday, March 22, 8 p.m. • Appleton
HOLY WEEK MUSICAL MEDITATION
Stainer's *The Crucifixion*. Featuring the Harvard University Choir.

Thursday, March 24, 8–9 p.m. • Appleton
MAUNDY THURSDAY
Featuring the Choral Fellows of the Harvard University Choir.

Friday, March 25, 12–2 p.m.
GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE

PROGRAMS



Faith & Life Forum

Sundays, February 7–May 22, 9:30–10:30 a.m. • Pusey
The Faith & Life Forum explores matters of faith and public life. Each week we hear from leading thinkers as it pertains to matters of ultimate concern such as love, justice, suffering, and salvation. Coffee begins at 9 a.m. For the full schedule of speakers, please visit our website.

Book Launch Party

Sunday, February 14, 12:30 p.m. • Pusey
Celebrating the release of the Rev. Dr. Lucy Forster-Smith's book, *Crossing Thresholds: The Making and Remaking of a 21st-Century College Chaplain*.

William Belden Noble Lecture

Monday, April 4, 7 p.m.
American Author and Novelist Marilynne Robinson will give the 2016 Noble Lecture. Leading up the lecture, a Noble Lecture Seminar Series will be held over four sessions from February–April. More details to follow.

Student Programs

- We have many student-focused programs this Term including:
- MemCafé, weekly on Wednesdays from 9-10:15 a.m. on the Porch
 - Heart-to-Hearts, monthly conversations in the Houses
 - Women and Spirituality Retreat, March 2016
 - A bereavement group for students, 4 sessions in March-April
 - Senior Talks, last two weeks of Spring Term

Look for our special student-program guide, available at the church and around campus.

Events are subject to change. Please visit memorialchurch.harvard.edu/calendar for the latest schedule. Unless otherwise noted, all events and services will take place in the Memorial Church Sanctuary and are free and open to the public.

MUSIC



Harvard University Choir Concerts

Tuesday, March 22, 8 p.m. • Appleton
HOLY WEEK MUSICAL MEDITATION
Stainer's *The Crucifixion*. Featuring the Harvard University Choir.

Sunday, April 17, 4 p.m.
SPRING CONCERT
Bach's *Magnificat* and *Ascension Oratorio*. Featuring the Harvard University Choir and the Harvard Baroque Chamber Orchestra.

Friday, April 29, 7:30 p.m. • Paine Hall
HARVARD UNIVERSITY CHOIR ARTS FIRST PERFORMANCE
In collaboration with the Bach Society Orchestra.

Saturday, April 30, 1 p.m.
HARVARD UNIVERSITY CHOIR ARTS FIRST PERFORMANCE
The Choral Fellows will sing Bach's *Jesu, meine Freude*, BWV 227.

Organ Recitals

Tuesday, February 2, 7:30 p.m.
George Bozeman, Organist and Organbuilder

Tuesday, March 1, 7:30 p.m.
Jonathan Wessler, St. Paul's Church and Choir School, Cambridge, MA

Wednesday, March 23, 7:30 p.m.
Thomas Sheehan, The Memorial Church

Tuesday, April 5, 7:30 p.m.
Stephen Buzard, St. Thomas Fifth Avenue, New York City

Photos: Justin Knight