Dear friends of the Memorial Church,

I’m writing to you in late July from Paris, where I recently preached at the American Cathedral, and where last week the temperature hovered above one hundred degrees for several days. My family and I here are grateful the weather has cooled, but the recent heat waves across Europe, North America, and East and South Asia are grim reminders of a worsening climate emergency.

This year we are focusing much of our programming upon repenting for and responding to the climate crisis. We will host a four part series of Noble Lectures during the academic year, each addressing apocalyptic emergency as its theme. Two of the lectures are scheduled for this fall. John Green, author of the beautiful, best-selling book “The Anthropocene Reviewed,” will be our lecturer on October 14. Norman Wirzba, Gilbert Rowe Professor of Theology at Duke University, will speak to us on November 10. This year we will also partner with both the Harvard University Center for the Environment and Harvard Divinity School to address the grief and anxiety that accompanies climate crisis. Our Faith and Life forums this fall will also focus on apocalypse in scripture, theology, and beyond. In the spring several students and I will make a climate pilgrimage to Iceland, where glaciers are rapidly melting, and we will begin gathering and preparing our pilgrims during the fall term.

Our music department is also planning a full schedule of events this fall. Please join us for a Harvard University Choir Reunion at the 11 a.m. service on Sunday, October 30, as well as for performances of Mozart’s “Missa Solemnis in C” and Michael Haydn’s “Requiem in C minor” on November 13. The Harvard Baroque Chamber Orchestra will host its fall concert on November 12. And of course, our annual Carols Services will be held at the end of term, on December 11 and 13. We look forward to welcoming you back to our sanctuary, with our new audio visual system, for all of these performances and for our weekly Sunday worship.

Last but not least, my family and I can’t wait to greet students back at Sparks House for After School Snack on Thursdays this fall, as well as to resume our other exciting student programming: Milkshake Mass, BGLTQ+ Inclusive Bible Study, and Love United Black Fellowship.

The summer has been long and difficult in several ways, with forbidding news at too many turns. We have missed gathering with you and are eager to do so again. We pray that the Memorial Church will be a place of respite and comfort to you this fall, and a source of resolve and courage in the future.

With love and faithfulness,
Matt
The Heart of Harvard Yard

WORSHIP SERVICES
A multi-denominational Protestant worship service open to all regardless of faith, serving the Harvard University community and beyond. Services are in the Memorial Church Sanctuary and are broadcast live on Harvard’s radio station, WHRB 91.5 FM and online at whrb.org.

Aug. 28, 11 a.m.
FIRST-YEAR SUNDAY
Preacher: The Rev. Matthew J. Potts, Ph.D., Pussy Minister in the Memorial Church of Harvard University, Plummer Professor of Christian Morals, Faculty of Divinity. Anthems: Heinrich Schütz: Jesus herr, du herren Gott, RV 64, John Eccles: How Great Thou Art

Sept. 4, 11 a.m.
THE FIRST SUNDAY OF FALL TERM

Sept. 11, 11 a.m.

Sept. 18, 11 a.m.
Preacher: The Rev. Alanna C. Sullivan, Associate Minister and Director of Administration, the Memorial Church of Harvard University. Anthems: Jan Pettersson Swedmark: Cantate Domino; Nathaniel Dett: Let Us Cheer the Weary Traveler.

Sept. 25, 11 a.m.

Oct. 2, 11 a.m.

Oct. 9, 11 a.m.
INDIGENOUS PEOPLES DAY

Oct. 16, 11 a.m.

Oct. 23, 11 a.m.

Oct. 30, 11 a.m.
HARVARD UNIVERSITY CHURCH REUNION

Nov. 6, 11 a.m.
ALL SAINTS SUNDAY

Nov. 13, 11 a.m.
COMMENORATION OF THE WAR DEAD

Nov. 20, 11 a.m.

Nov. 27, 11 a.m.
THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Dec. 4, 11 a.m.
THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Dec. 11, 11 a.m.
THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT
Preacher: Kayla August, doctoral student at the School of Theology and Ministry at Boston College. Anthems: Judith Weir: Ave maris Stella; Howard Helyx: How Long-expected Hour.

Dec. 18, 11 a.m.
THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Dec. 24, 5 p.m.
CHRISTMAS EVE

MORNING PRAYERS
Monday – Friday in Term, 8:30 – 8:45 a.m.
 Begins Aug. 31 • Appletown Chapel
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.

ATTIC LIFE FORUM
Sept. 11 – Dec. 4, 9:30 – 10:30 a.m. Buttick Room
The Faith & Life Forum explores matters of faith and public life. For more information, visit memorialchurch.harvard.edu/faith-life-forum.

CHURCH SCHOOL
Sept. 11 – Dec. 4, 11:15 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.
The Church School offers Christian education classes for children ages three through sixteen. All classes are held during Sunday services in the Fall and Spring Terms. Learn more: memorialchurch.harvard.edu/churchschool.

MUSIC
Music in the Memorial Church is led by the Harvard University Choir. The choir provides the music for weekly and daily services, as well as special concerts throughout the year. Concerts are held in the Memorial Church Sanctuary unless otherwise noted and are free and open to the public.

Sept. 12, 12:15 p.m.
MERTON COLLEGE CHOIR
Merton College Choir (University of Oxford, England) presents a concert as part of its USA tour.

Oct. 2, 4 p.m.
DIE SCHÖNE MÜLLERIN
Frank Kelley, tenor, and Kenneth Sluck, fortepiano, perform Franz Schubert’s song cycle Die schöne Müllerin.

Oct. 31, 12:15 p.m.
HBCO FALL CONCERT
The Harvard Baroque Chamber Orchestra fall concert featuring works by Vivaldi, Handel, Telemann, and Corelli.

Nov. 13, 4 p.m.
MUSIC OF MOZART AND MICHAEL HAYDN
Harvard University Choir and Orchestra perform music of W. A. Mozart and Michael Haydn.

Dec. 11, 5 p.m. & Dec. 13, 8 p.m.
LE PÉROU SÉRIE CAROL SERVICE
The annual carol service is the oldest carol service in America, and long-honored tradition in the Memorial Church. Each year a volunteer collection is offered for a local charity.

ORGAN RECITALS
Recital Sept. 6, and Oct. 13, at 7:30 p.m.; Dec. 5 at 12:15 p.m.

CHORAL SERVICES
COMPLINE
Sept. 1, Oct. 7, Nov. 3, Dec. 1 at 9 p.m. • Appletown Chapel
This twenty-minute candlelight evening service is sung by the Harvard University Choir, based upon the traditional evening liturgy of scripture, music, prayers, and silence.

EVENSONG
Sept. 11, 4 p.m. Sept. 22, Oct. 20, Nov. 17 at 5:45 p.m. • Appletown Chapel
Directed by Edwyn Jones, Grand Organist and Choirmaster, Memorial Church. Sept. 11th service will feature Merton College Choir.

STUDENT PROGRAMS
The Memorial Church is a unique and welcoming community in the heart of Harvard Yard. We offer a robust menu of programs for all Harvard students including the Harvard University Choir, Student Choral, Student Advisory Board and Grants Committee, student fellowship and worship, and many other programs such as the Love United Black Fellowship, BGLTQ+ Inclusive Bible Study, and opportunities for volunteers and work-study programs. Learn more about our thriving student community: memorialchurch.harvard.edu/students

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

FALL 2022 CALENDAR