

HARVARD

The Memorial Church



ORDER OF WORSHIP

The Fourth Sunday in Lent

Sunday, March 15, 2015

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

ORDER OF WORSHIP

PRELUDE

O Lamm Gottes, unschuldig, BWV 656

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685–1750)

HYMN

No. 146, “Jesus, Who This Our Lententide”
The congregation standing

Rockingham

CALL TO WORSHIP

Minister: We lift up our souls to you, Holy God.

People: We trust the Lord with our past, present, and future.

Minister: Teach us, Lord, that we may know your ways.

People: Guide our every move, Holy One,
that we may walk in your paths of love and mercy.

Minister: Let us worship the One who leads us in what is right.

People: Together, let us worship God!

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. 4, “For the Beauty of the Earth”
The congregation standing

Dix

GREETINGS

THE PEACE

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

AT THE OFFERTORY

“Silent Noon” from *The House of Life*
Tamsin Jones G4, alto

Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872–1958)

Your hands lie open in the long fresh grass, —
The finger-points look through like rosy blooms:
Your eyes smile peace. The pasture gleams and glooms
'Neath billowing clouds that scatter and amass.

All round our nest, far as the eye can pass,
Are golden kingcup fields with silver edge
Where the cow-parsley skirts the hawthorn hedge.
'Tis visible silence, still as the hour glass.

Deep in the sunsearched growths the dragon-fly
Hangs like a blue thread loosened from the sky: —
So this winged hour is dropt to us from above.
Oh! clasp we to our hearts, for deathless dower,
This close-companioned inarticulate hour
When twofold silence was the song of love.

Dante Gabriel Rossetti (1828–1882)

Here an offering is received for the work of the Church within and beyond the University. Ushers will begin the collection from the back of the Church forward.

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow,
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

PSALTER

Psalms 107:1–3, 17–22
To be read responsively; the congregation standing

Pew Bible, page 522–523 (OT)

GLORIA PATRI

See Hymn No. 371

LESSON FROM THE OLD TESTAMENT

Numbers 21:4–9

Pew Bible, page 130 (OT)

ANTHEM

“O Rest in the Lord” from *Elijah*
Tamsin Jones, G4, alto

Felix Mendelssohn (1809–1847)

O rest in the Lord, wait patiently for him,
And he shall give thee thy hearts desires.
Commit thy way to him, and trust in him,
And fret not thyself because of evil doers.
O rest in the Lord, and wait, wait patiently for him.

After Psalm 37

LESSON FROM THE NEW TESTAMENT

John 3:14–21

Pew Bible, page 81 (NT)

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Minister: The Lord be with you.
People: And also with you.
Minister: Let us pray.
Lord, show us your love and mercy;
People: For we put our trust in you.
Minister: In you, Lord, is our hope;
People: And we shall never hope in vain.

Each time the minister says “Lord, in your mercy,” the congregation will respond with “Hear our prayer.”

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, the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

THE GRACE

The Grace of Our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all. Amen.

HYMN

No. 254, “Mothering God, You Gave Me Birth”
The congregation standing

Hesperus (Québec)

SERMON

Lord, We Beg You, Make Us Truly Alive

Text: “Let the redeemed of the Lord say so, those he redeemed from trouble.”

Psalm 107:2

HYMN

No. 203, “Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise”
The congregation standing

St. Denio

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Wir glauben all an einen Gott, BWV 680

Johann Sebastian Bach

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sunday, March 15, 2015

WELCOME

Today is the Fourth Sunday in Lent. The preacher is the Reverend Janet Cooper Nelson, Chaplain of the University and Director of the Office of the Chaplains and Religious Life at Brown University. The service is led by the Reverend Dr. Lucy A. Forster-Smith, Sedgwick Chaplain to the University and Senior Minister in the Memorial Church; the Reverend Alanna Copenhaver, Ministry Fellow in the Memorial Church; and Seminarians Lauren Seganos MDiv II, Andover Newton Theological School, and Omar Rouchon MDiv III. The first lesson is read by Jerry Ellis. The second lesson is read by Babita Kuruvilla. This morning's offertory and anthem are sung by Choral Fellow Tamsin Jones G4. Listening devices are available to help the hearing impaired participate in the service; please ask an usher for assistance. Following the service, the congregation is invited to a reception in the Memorial Room.

WELCOME TABLE

Want to learn more about the Memorial Church? Stop by the Welcome Table to learn more about our array of events, programs, and ministries. Questions encouraged!

SPRING BREAK

Due to Harvard's Spring Break, Church School will not be held this morning and there will be no service of Morning Prayers through March 21. Church School will resume on Sunday, March 22 and Morning Prayers will resume on Monday, March 23.

LENTEN CONTEMPLATIVE SPACE

Lent is time for reflection and deepening our relationship with God. Step out of your hectic lives and set aside space and time for prayer, contemplation, and meditation. We invite you to use Appleton Chapel, which will be open every Wednesday during Lent from 3:00–5:00 p.m. You are welcome to take a brief moment or stay an extended time in the chapel to reflect upon your Lenten walk. Resources about Lenten practices will be available to help guide you through this sacred season.

FAITH & LIFE FORUM

The next Faith & Life Forum will be held on Sunday, March 22 from 9:30–10:30 a.m. in the Pusey Room; coffee and conversation starts at 9:00 a.m. Leslie D. Callahan, Pastor, St. Paul's Baptist Church will give the presentation.

ORGAN RECITAL SERIES

The Memorial Church's biweekly organ recital series continues on Tuesday, March 24 at 7:30 p.m., with Jonathan Ortloff, President of Ortloff Organ Company. The concert is free and all are invited.

SELMA ANNIVERSARY

2015 marks the 50th anniversary of "Bloody Sunday" and the 1965 Selma to Montgomery Voting Rights March. The Memorial Church has several events planned in the coming months to commemorate this important moment in the Civil Rights Movement. We hope that you can attend.

Stanley Nelson, Jr. Film Series & Lecture: We are excited to share the news that our 2015 Noble Lecturer is renowned documentary filmmaker, Stanley Nelson, Jr. In anticipation of the lecture on April 13, the Memorial Church will be hosting a film series of Nelson's work. The second screening will be of *Freedom Riders* on Sunday, March 29 at 7:00 p.m. and the third and final screening will be of *Freedom Summer* on Sunday, April 12 at 7:00 p.m. Screenings will take place in Boylston Hall, 110 Fong Auditorium. The William Belden Noble Lecture will be held on Monday, April 13 at 7:00 p.m. in the Memorial Church Sanctuary. President Drew Faust will interview Stanley Nelson, Jr.; selected clips of his work will be shown and discussed.

The Reverend Clark Olsen: Unitarian Universalist minister Clark Olsen will speak at the Faith & Life Forum at 9:30 a.m. and preach at Sunday service at 11:00 a.m. on April 12. Reverend Olsen was one of three white ministers brutally attacked on the sidewalks of Selma by white supremacists. Tragically, one of the ministers, James Reeb, died two days later. But like so many others courageous women and men, Reverend Olsen would let neither hatred nor attempts upon his life silence him.

HOLY WEEK & EASTER SERVICES

Morning Prayers Ecumenical Reflections on Holy Week: Monday, March 29 – Saturday, April 4, 8:45–9:00 a.m., Appleton Chapel. Harvard Chaplains from a variety of Christian faiths will reflect upon Lent and Holy Week.

Holy Week Musical Meditation: Tuesday, March 31, 8:00 p.m., The Memorial Church Sanctuary. Heinrich Schütz's *The Seven Last Words of Jesus Christ on the Cross* and Gabriel Fauré's *Requiem*. Featuring the Harvard University Choir.

Maundy Thursday, April 2, 8:00 p.m., Appleton Chapel

Good Friday, April 3, 12:00 p.m., The Memorial Church Sanctuary

Easter Sunday, April 5. 8:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m. Both Easter services will be the same; however, you may wish to consider attending the 8:00 a.m. service to more easily find seating and parking. Church School will also be available for both services.

SUNDAY SERMONS AND MORNING PRAYERS SERVICES ON HARVARD'S ITUNES U

Sunday sermons and weekly Morning Prayers services are available on Harvard's iTunes U in the "Religion & Spirituality" channel. From your iTunes software, search "Harvard Memorial Church" to listen on your iPod, iPhone, iPad, Mac, or PC.

STAY CONNECTED TO THE MEMORIAL CHURCH

E-mail List: 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 www.memorialchurch.harvard.edu.

Facebook: Like us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/memorialchurch.

Twitter: Follow us on Twitter: twitter.com/MemChurch.

NEXT SUNDAY'S SERVICE

Next Sunday is the Fifth Sunday in Lent. The preacher will be the Reverend Dr. Leslie D. Callahan, Pastor of St. Paul's Baptist Church.

For more information on upcoming services and events:

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