

HARVARD

The Memorial Church



ORDER OF WORSHIP

The Third Sunday of Advent

Sunday, December 15, 2013

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

ORDER OF WORSHIP

PRELUDE

Kommt her zu mir, spricht Gottes Sohn, BuxWV 201
Magnificat noni toni, BuxWV 205
Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland, BuxWV 211

Dietrich Buxtehude (1637–1707)

HYMN

No. 91, “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”
Sung by all, the congregation standing

Veni Emmanuel

SENTENCES FROM SCRIPTURE

COLLECT FOR THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Minister: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Minister: Let us all pray.

Stir up your power, O Lord, and with great might come among us; and, because we are sorely hindered by our sins, let your bountiful grace and mercy help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ, Our Lord, to whom with you and the Holy Spirit be honor and glory, now and forever. Amen.

The congregation seated

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

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.

HYMN

No. 101, “Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates”
The congregation standing

Macht hoch die Tür

GREETINGS

Children now join their teachers in the Church School.

THE PEACE

AT THE OFFERTORY

Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland

Georg Friedrich Kaufmann (1679–1735)

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.

PSALTER

Psalms 146:5–10

Pew Bible, page 545 (OT)

To be read responsively; the congregation standing

GLORIA PATRI

See Hymn No. 371

LESSON FROM THE OLD TESTAMENT

Isaiah 35:1–10

Pew Bible, pages 622–623 (OT)

ANTHEM

Alma Redemptoris Mater

Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina (c. 1525–1594)

Alma Redemptoris mater, quae pervia caeli
Porta manes, et stella maris, succurre cadenti
Surgere qui curat populo; tu quae genuisti, natura
Mirante, tuum sanctum Genitorem; virgo prius ac
Posterius, Gabrielis ab ore sumens illud Ave,
Peccatorum miserere.

Loving Mother of the Redeemer, who remains the gateway to heaven and star of the sea, help your fallen people who strive to rise: you who gave birth, while nature marvelled, to your holy creator: a virgin before and after receiving that "Ave" from the mouth of Gabriel, have mercy on our sins.

Hermann Contractus

LESSON FROM THE NEW TESTAMENT

Matthew 11:2–11

Pew Bible, pages 9–10 (NT)

ANTHEM

Ave Maria

Tomás Luis de Victoria (1548–1611)

Ave Maria, gratia plena, Dominus tecum:
Benedicta tu in mulieribus,
Et benedictus fructus ventris tui Jesus Christus.
Sancta Maria, mater Dei,
Ora pro nobis peccatoribus,
Nunc et in hora mortis nostrae. Amen.

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with you, blessed are you among women and blessed is the fruit of your womb, Jesus Christ. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners now and at the hour of our death. Amen.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Minister: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Minister: Create in us clean hearts, O God.

People: And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.

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

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. 94, “Comfort, Comfort Ye My People”

Genevan 42

The congregation standing

SERMON

Taking No Offense

Text: “And blessed is anyone who takes no offense at me.”

Matthew 11:6

HYMN

No. 109, “People, Look East, the Time Is Near”

Besançon

The congregation standing

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Fugue on the Magnificat, BWV 733

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685–1750)

For more information on upcoming services and events, please visit our website at www.memorialchurch.harvard.edu. You can also find us on Facebook (www.facebook.com/memorialchurch) and Twitter (twitter.com/MemChurch).

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sunday, December 15, 2013

WELCOME

Today is the Third Sunday of Advent. The preacher is the Reverend Dudley C. Rose, Associate Dean for Ministry Studies and Lecturer on Ministry, Harvard Divinity School. The service is led by the Reverend Ann Stevenson, Ministry Fellow Alanna Copenhaver, and Seminarian David Hysong MDiv II. The first lesson is read by Thomas Lovering, Graduate Student in the Harvard Department of Mathematics. The second lesson is read by Fay Alexander '14, Cabot House. The Third Candle of the Advent Wreath is lit by the Blankinship family.

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.

MUSIC NOTES

Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina's prolific and consistently superior output have made him one of the towering figures in Renaissance music. Although born in the nearby town of Palestrina, he spent his whole life in Rome; after training as a chorister in S. Maria Maggiore, he was appointed *Magister Cappellae* of the Cappella Giulia, the choir of St. Peter's Basilica. His beautiful antiphon "Alma Redemptoris Mater" is a simple and mainly homophonic work, balanced and restrained, which skillfully disguises the plainsong upon which it is based.

Widely regarded as the greatest Spanish Renaissance composer, Tomás Luis de Victoria was, nevertheless, less prolific than many of his contemporaries: indeed his entire output — which comprises exclusively Latin Church music — is contained in just eleven volumes, all published during his lifetime. His musical education began at Avila cathedral, where he was a choirboy, before moving to Rome to study at the Jesuit College. He was ordained a priest in 1575 and later took chaplaincies at two Roman churches. He returned to Spain in 1587 to become chaplain to Philip II's sister, the Dowager Empress Maria, at the convent of Descalzas Reales in Madrid. Victoria remained at the convent as organist and choirmaster for the remainder of his life. The delicate "Ave Maria" is an exercise in simplicity and economy of means, whose rhythmic interest is decidedly Spanish in accent.

The prelude presents a selection of Advent music from the pen of Dietrich Buxtehude, the great seventeenth-century organist and teacher who was a profound influence on Bach and Handel. The postlude is Johann Sebastian Bach's fugue on the *Magnificat* chant ("Meine seele erhebet den Herren"): written in the old-fashioned style of a sixteenth-century fantasia, the complete iteration of the melody is saved until the very end, when it appears as a *cantus firmus* in the pedals.

THE 104TH ANNUAL CHRISTMAS CAROL SERVICES

Please join us for the 104th Annual Carol Services, which will be held in the church tonight at 5:00 p.m., and tomorrow at 8:00 p.m. Doors open one hour before each service. Admission is free; an offering for charity is collected. The Monday service will be broadcast live on WHRB Radio (95.3 FM, www.whrb.org). The broadcast begins with the organ prelude at 7:30 p.m. It will also be re-broadcast on Sunday, December 22 at 11:00 a.m.

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE

On Christmas Eve, Tuesday, December 24 at 5:00 p.m., a service will be held to celebrate the Nativity of Our Lord with hymns and Holy Communion. Professor Jonathan L. Walton will preach. Singers are welcome to join in the community choir for the Christmas Eve service; rehearsal is before the service at 3:30 p.m.

WINTER RECESS

The Church offices will be closed from December 25 through January 1 for winter recess. There will be no worship service held on Sunday, December 29. Morning Prayers services have ended for the Fall Term and will resume at the start of the Spring Term on Monday, January 27, 8:45 a.m.

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.

NEXT SUNDAY'S SERVICE

Next Sunday is the Fourth Sunday of Advent. The preacher will be the Reverend Dr. Anthony L. Bennett, Senior Pastor, Mount Aery Baptist Church, Bridgeport, CT. The title of his sermon is "Hope Beyond Herod."

For more information on upcoming services and events:

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