

HARVARD

The Memorial Church



ORDER OF WORSHIP

The Seventh Sunday of Easter, The Sunday after Ascension Day, Mother's Day
May 12, 2024, 11 am

PRELUDE

"Ascension" from *Canzone Celesti* (1955)

George Frederick McKay (1899–1970)

INTROIT

Coelos ascendit hodie, Op. 38, No. 2 (1892)

Charles Villiers Stanford (1852–1924)

Coelos ascendit hodie
Jesus Christus Rex gloriæ:
Sedet ad Patris dexteram,
Gubernat cælum et terram.
Iam finem habent omnia
Patris Davidis carmina.
Iam Dominus cum Domino,
Sedet in Dei solio:
In hoc triumpho maximo
Benedicamus Domino.
Laudatur Sancta Trinitas,
Deo dicamus gratias,
Alleluia! Amen.

*Today has ascended into the heavens
Jesus Christ, the king of glory:
He sits at the Father's right hand,
Ruling heaven and earth.
Now are fulfilled
All of David's songs.
Now is the Lord with his Lord,
Sitting upon the royal throne of God:
In this his greatest triumph,
Let us bless the Lord.
Let the Holy Trinity be praised,
Let us give thanks to the Lord,
Alleluia! Amen.*

HYMN,

No. 1, "All People That on Earth Do Dwell"
The congregation stands and sings

Old Hundredth

CALL TO WORSHIP

from Psalms 71, 143, 16, and 34

Minister: You are our hope, O Lord our God.
People: We have been sustained by you ever since we were born.
Minister: Let us hear of your loving-kindness this morning,
For we put our trust in you.
People: Show us the road that we must walk,
For we lift up our souls to you.
Minister: You will show us the path of life,
In your presence there is fulness of joy.
People: The eyes of the Lord are upon the righteous,
And his ears are open to their cry.

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. 181, “God Is Gone Up on High”

Darwall 148

The congregation stands and sings

THE PEACE AND GREETINGS

Minister: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: And also with you.

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

OFFERTORY

Your offering supports the work of the Memorial Church, especially our ministries to students and to our neighbors in need through the Grants Committee. Ushers will begin collection from the front of the church. Checks can be written to the Memorial Church. You may also donate online at <https://memorialchurch.harvard.edu/donate>

Psalm 90:1–6, 13–17 *Domine, refugium*

Elizabeth Poston (1905–1987)

Sung by the choir

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

2 Samuel 9:1–7

Pew Bible, page 262 (OT)

ANTHEM

God Is Gone Up (1951)

Gerald Finzi (1901–1956)

God is gone up with a triumphant shout:
The Lord with sounding trumpets' melodies:
Sing praise, sing praises out,
Unto our king sing praise seraphicwise!
Lift up your heads, ye lasting doors, they sing,
And let the king of glory enter in.
Methinks I see heaven's sparkling courtiers fly,
In flakes of glory down him to attend,
And hear heart-cramping notes of melody
Surround his chariot as it did ascend;
Mixing their music, making every string
More to enravish as they this tune sing.

Edward Taylor, Class of 1671 (1642–1729)

SECOND LESSON

John 17:6–19

Pew Bible, page 97 (NT)

ANTHEM

Os justi, WAB 30

Anton Bruckner (1824–1896)

Os justi meditabitur sapientiam:
et lingua ejus loquetur judicium.
Lex Dei ejus in corde ipsius:
et non supplantabuntur gressus ejus.
Alleluia.

*The mouth of the righteous utters wisdom,
and his tongue speaks what is just.
The law of his God is in his heart:
and his feet do not falter.
Alleluia.*

Psalms 37:31–32

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

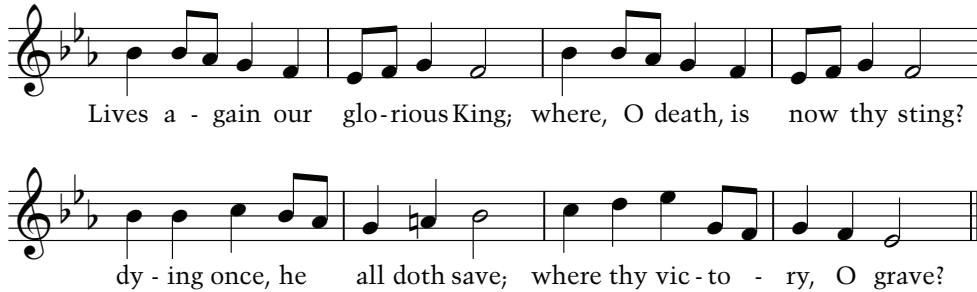
THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

PRAYER RESPONSE

The congregation remains seated



SERMON

The Rev. Calvin T. Jones

HYMN

No. 183, “Christ, Above All Glory Seated”

In Babilone

The congregation stands and sings

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

“Joie et clarté des corps glorieux” from *Les Corps glorieux* (1939)

Olivier Messiaen (1908–1992)

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