

HARVARD

The Memorial Church



ORDER OF WORSHIP

The Second Sunday in Lent

Sunday, February 21, 2016

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

ORDER OF WORSHIP

PRELUDE

Pari intervallo (1976)

Arvo Pärt (b. 1935)

HYMN

No. 146, "Jesus, Who This Our Lententide"

Rockingham

The congregation standing

CALL TO WORSHIP

Minister: Let us worship the eternal God,

People: Who is ever-faithful, in whom we can trust.

Minister: Let us worship Jesus Christ,

People: Who takes our burdens from us and lives among us.

Minister: Let us worship the Holy Spirit,

People: The Living Presence, who teaches us to be trustworthy.

Minister: To the one true God be praise in all times and places,
through the grace of Jesus Christ.

People: Amen.

HYMN

No. 213, "Thou Didst Leave Thy Throne"

Margaret

The congregation standing

INVOCATION

CONFESSION

In unison:

Merciful and gracious God, we bow before your unending compassion, the measure of our falling short. We have not loved as you command. We have not spoken truly. We have not cared for creation, including ourselves, according to your will. Help us to know the mind of Christ, that in all thoughts, words, and deeds, our lives might come to honor you. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

THE PEACE

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

GREETINGS

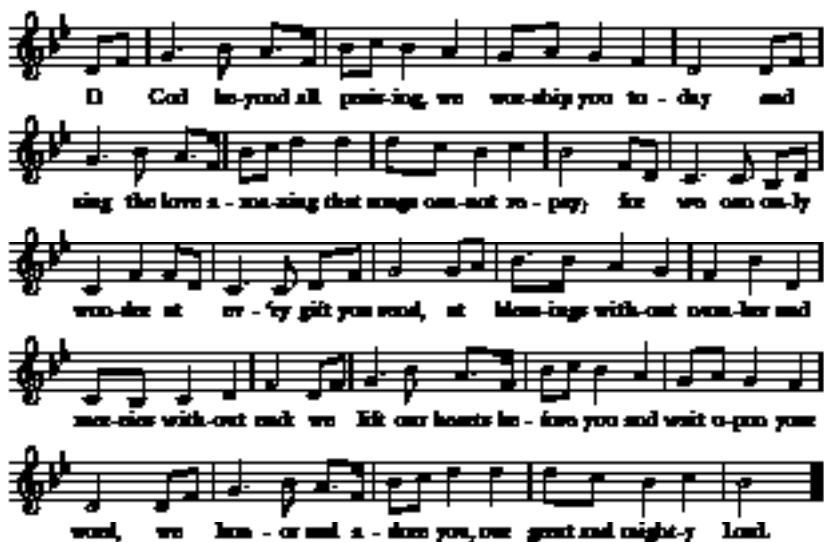
Children now join their teachers in the Church School.

OFFERTORY

"K" from *Annum per annum* (1980)

Arvo Pärt

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.



Melody: **THAXTON**, Charles Halsey, 1883, etc.

Text: Michael Percy, © by Jubilate Hymns, Ltd. (publ. by Hope Publishing Co., Carol Stream, IL 60188).

PSALTER

Psalms 27

Pew Bible, pages 466–467 (OT)

To be read responsively; the congregation standing

GLORIA PATRI

See Hymn No. 371

FIRST LESSON

Genesis 15:1–18

Pew Bible, page 11 (OT)

ANTHEM

The Beatitudes (1990)

Arvo Pärt

Blessed are the poor in spirit: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are they that mourn: for they shall be comforted.

Blessed are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth.

Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled.

Blessed are the merciful: for they shall obtain mercy.

Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God.

Blessed are the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of God.

Blessed are they which are persecuted for righteousness sake: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are ye when men shall revile you, and persecute you,

And shall say all manner of evil against you falsely, for my sake.

Rejoice, and be exceeding glad: for great is your reward in heaven:

For so persecuted they the prophets which were before you. Amen.

Matthew 5:3–12 (KJV)

SECOND LESSON

Luke 9:28–35

Pew Bible, page 60 (NT)

ANTHEM

Selig sind die Toten, SWV 391 (1648)

Heinrich Schütz (1585–1672)

Selig sind die Toten, die in dem Herren sterben, von nun an.

Ja, der Geist spricht: Sie ruhen von ihrer Arbeit, und ihre Werke folgen ihnen nach.

Blessed are the dead, who from now on die in the Lord.

“Yes,” says the Spirit, “they will rest from their labors, for their deeds will follow them.”

Revelation 14:13 (Luther Bible)

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

In unison:

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. 243, “Send Down Thy Truth, O God”

Nova Vita

The congregation standing

SERMON

How Long Must We Wait?

Text: “Wait for the Lord; be strong, and let your heart take courage; wait for the Lord!”

Psalms 27:14

HYMN

No. 280, "O God, Thou Faithful God"
The congregation standing

O Gott, du frommer Gott

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Mein Weg hat Gipfel und Wellentäler (1989)

Arvo Pärt

OUR MISSION

The Memorial Church of Harvard University is a space of grace in the center of the Yard, rooted in the good news of Jesus Christ. Affectionately known as "MemChurch," we pursue partnerships within and beyond Harvard, empowering community members to serve the world as well-informed, compassionate, moral citizens. Through worship and ministry outreach, MemChurch aims to promote justice and mercy by confronting life's challenges, differences, and our own imperfections with courage, empathy, and an ethic of love. By doing so, the Memorial Church seeks to educate minds, expand hearts, and enrich lives.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sunday, February 21, 2016

WELCOME

Today is the Second Sunday in Lent. The preacher is the Reverend Marlin Lavanhar, Senior Minister, All Souls Unitarian Church, Tulsa, Oklahoma. 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, Danny Ballon MTS II, Patrick Jackson MDiv II, and Adam Vander Tuig MDiv III. The first lesson is read by Alanna Copenhaver. The second lesson is read by Michelle Odonkor '18. The liturgy is adapted from *Worship Ways*, "Renew Our Trust: Service Prayers for the Second Sunday in Lent" by John A. Nelson, ucc.org; *Reformed Worship*, "Great Stories from Genesis: An Eight-Week Series with Artwork" by Victoria Cok, reformedworship.org; *Rev-o-lution*, "Worship Resources for February 21st, 2016—Second Sunday in Lent" by Mindi Welton-Mitchell, rev-o-lution.org; and *Starters for Sunday*, "Second Sunday in Lent" by Scott McKenna, churchofscotland.org.

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

PRAYER REQUEST CARDS

Prayer request cards are available in the pew card holders or in the church lobby. We would be honored to pray for your specific needs. Please place prayer request cards in the offering plates during worship services or in the prayer request box in the church lobby.

LENTEN STUDY SERIES

Please join Lucy Forster-Smith for a Lenten Study Series exploring Barbara Brown Taylor's *An Altar in the World: A Geography of Faith*. The study series will continue this Tuesday, February 23, and will be held each following Tuesday through March 8 at 7:00 p.m. in the Pusey Room.

MORNING PRAYERS SPEAKERS: FEBRUARY 22 – 27, 8:45 A.M.

Monday: Ryan Gregg MTS II; Tuesday: Adam Vander Tuig MDiv III; Wednesday: Neil Alacha '16; Thursday: Celene Ibrahim MDiv '11; Friday: Lana Idris '16; Saturday: Garrett Lam '16

Following each service of Morning Prayers on Wednesdays, free coffee and snacks will be available at MemCafé from 9:00–10:15 a.m. on the steps of the church across from Widener Library. All are welcome!

CHURCH SCHOOL FOR CHILDREN

The Church School offers Christian education classes for children of ages three through twelve. Classes are held in the Buttrick Room during Sunday services and emphasize biblical themes and scripture. At the conclusion of the worship service, parents are asked to pick up their children in the Buttrick Room promptly. A committed staff of undergraduate teachers works closely with Church School Director Westley (Wes) Conn. For more information, contact Wes at westley_conn@harvard.edu.

ORGAN RECITAL

The Memorial Church's spring 2016 organ recital series continues on Tuesday, March 1, at 7:30 p.m. Featuring Jonathan Wessler, Assistant Organist at St. Paul's Church and Choir School, Cambridge, Massachusetts, the concert is free, and all are invited.

IN CONVERSATION WITH PROFESSOR CATHERINE BREKUS

On Thursday, March 10, from 12:00–1:00 p.m., Harvard Divinity School will hold “In Conversation with Professor Catherine Brekus.” In this ongoing series, faculty members explore their intellectual and spiritual autobiographies with attention to the ways in which they have intersected, cohered, collided, and deepened over the course of their careers. The event will be held in the Common Room, CSWR, 42 Francis Ave. For more information, contact rs1@hds.harvard.edu.

MUSIC NOTES

Arvo Pärt is an Estonian composer whose works have achieved widespread popularity. *The Beatitudes* is written in Pärt’s unique “tintinnabuli” style, achieved through the interweaving of two voices, one of which moves in simple melodic steps while the other rotates through the pitches of a major or minor chord. The resulting bell-like textures are influenced both by Pärt’s study of late medieval music and his intense religiosity. This meditative and reflective setting moves intricately through twenty out of the twenty-four major or minor chords creating a feeling of vast space, which is heightened by the unexpected inclusion of an organ toccata at the work’s conclusion.

Heinrich Schütz ranks as the first German musician of true European standing and its most important composer before the arrival of Johann Sebastian Bach. Schütz studied with Giovanni Gabrieli in Venice before moving to the Dresden court in 1617, where he remained for the rest of his long life. Today’s motet comes from the 1648 *Geistliche Chormusik*, an important collection of 29 motets; *Selig sind die Toten* is a supreme example of the composer’s art, and has become one of his most famous works.

The prelude is a slow-moving elegy by Arvo Pärt, written on the occasion of the death of a friend and dedicated to his memory; the offertory is the first movement, “K” (signifying “Kyrie”), from Pärt’s organ cycle *Annum per annum*. The postlude is based on a line from Egyptian-French poet Edmond Jabès’s *Livre des Questions*: “My path has its peaks and its valleys...” Using this as inspiration, Pärt paints a picture of the ups and downs of life, comparing it to waves on the ocean.

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 memorialchurch.harvard.edu.

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

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

NEXT SUNDAY’S SERVICE

Next weekend is Junior Parents Weekend and next Sunday is the Third Sunday in Lent. The preacher will be the Reverend Dr. Yolanda Pierce, Associate Professor of African American Religion and Director of the Black Church Studies Department, Princeton Theological Seminary.

For more information on upcoming services and events:

memorialchurch.harvard.edu • facebook.com/memorialchurch • twitter.com/memchurch

To subscribe to the Memorial Church e-mail list, visit our website: memorialchurch.harvard.edu.