

HARVARD

The Memorial Church



ORDER OF WORSHIP

The Fifth Sunday in Lent

Sunday, March 13, 2016

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

ORDER OF WORSHIP

PRELUDE

O Lamm Gottes, unschuldig, BWV 656 (ca. 1725)

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685–1750)

HYMN

No. 146, “Jesus, Who This Our Lententide”

Rockingham

The congregation standing

CALL TO WORSHIP

Minister: O Lord, you have searched us and known us.

All: Before we move or think or speak, you know our actions and our words.

Minister: You breathed life into us and shaped us in human form to serve your purpose and sing your praise.

All: We praise you for the gifts of substance and spirit, of acceptance and expectancy, of lineage and legacy.

Minister: How wonderful are your thoughts, O God!

All: How vast is the expanse of your grace and love!

Minister: Praise the Lord!

All: The Lord’s name be praised! Amen.

inspired by Psalm 139

HYMN

No. 143, “Forty Days and Forty Nights”

Aus der Tiefe

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

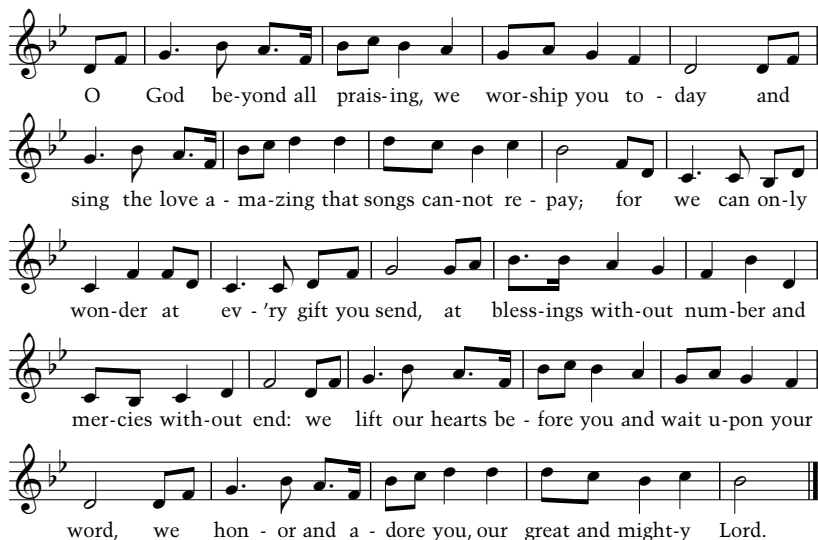
Children now join their teachers in the Church School.

OFFERTORY

Steal Away to Jesus

Calvin Taylor (b. 1948)

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.



Music: THAXTED, Gustav Holst, 1921, alt.

Text: Michael Perry; © by Jubilate Hymns, Ltd. (admin. by Hope Publishing Co., Carol Stream, IL 60188).

PSALTER

Psalms 139:13–18

Pew Bible, page 541 (OT)

To be read responsively; the congregation standing

GLORIA PATRI

See Hymn No. 371

FIRST LESSON

Matthew 5:13–18

Pew Bible, page 4 (NT)

ANTHEM

Oh! That Mine Eyes Would Melt

sung by Andy Troska '17, tenor

John Blow (1649–1708)

arr. Benjamin Britten (1913–1976)

Oh! that mine Eyes would melt into a flood,

That I might plunge in Tears for thee,

As thou didst swim in Blood,

To ransom me!

Oh! that this fleshly Limbeck would begin

To drop a Tear for every Sin!

See how his Blood bedabbled Arms are spread,

To entertain Death's welcome Bands;

Behold his bowing Head,

His bleeding Hands,

His oft repeated Stripes! Behold his wounded Side!

Hark, how he groans! Remember how he cried!

The very Heavens put Weed of Mourning on;

The solid Rocks in sunder rent,

And yet this Heart, this Stone,

Could not relent!

Hard-hearted Man! And only Man denied

To weep for him, for whom he only died!

SECOND LESSON

Mark 9:14–24

Pew Bible, pages 38–39 (NT)

ANTHEM

“Ye People, Rend Your Hearts” and “If With All Your Hearts” *Felix Mendelssohn (1809–1847)*
from *Elijah*, Op. 70 (1846)

sung by Andy Troska '17, tenor

Ye people, rend your hearts, and not your garments. For your transgressions, the prophet Elijah hath sealed the heavens through the word of God. I therefore say to ye, forsake your idols, return to God; for he is slow to anger, and merciful, and kind and gracious, and repenteth him of the evil.

“If with all your hearts ye truly seek me,

Ye shall ever surely find me,”

Thus saith our God.

Oh! that I knew where I might find him,

that I might even come before his presence!

adapted from Joel 2:13, Jeremiah 29:13, and Job 23:3 by Julius Schubring (1806–1889)

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. 225, “Sing, My Soul, His Wondrous Love” *St. Bees*
The congregation standing

SERMON

Hiding in Plain Sight
Text: “Enter through the narrow gate; for the gate is wide and the road is easy that leads to destruction, and there are many who take it. For the gate is narrow and the road is hard that leads to life, and there are few who find it.” *Matthew 7:13–14*

HYMN

No. 286, “Dear Lord and Father of Mankind” *Rest*
The congregation standing

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Wir glauben all’ an einen Gott, BWV 680 (1735) *Johann Sebastian Bach*

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, March 13, 2016

WELCOME

Today is the Fifth Sunday in Lent. The preacher is Dr. John Silvanus Wilson Jr., President, Morehouse College. The service is led by the Reverend Dr. Lucy A. Forster-Smith, Sedgwick Chaplain to the University and Senior Minister in the Memorial Church; and seminarians Danny Ballon MTS II and Patrick Jackson MDiv II. The liturgy is adapted from *Starters for Sunday*, “Fifth Sunday in Lent: 13 March 2016” by George S. Cowie, churchofscotland.org.uk; *Worship Ways*, “Restoring Fortune! Service Prayers for the Fifth Sunday of Lent” by Mary Nelson Abbott, ucc.org; and *liturgylink*, “Call to Worship—based on Psalm 139” by Michael Morgan, liturgylink.com.

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.

SPRING RECESS

Due to Harvard’s Spring Recess, Church School will not be held this morning, and there will be no services of Morning Prayers through March 19. Church School will resume on Sunday, March 20, and Morning Prayers will resume on Monday, March 21.

FAITH & LIFE FORUM

The Faith & Life Forum seeks to deepen our devotional lives by promoting religious literacy and cultural competency concerning communities of faith. Held every Sunday morning during the Term, the presentations take place in the Pusey Room of the Memorial Church from 9:30–10:30 a.m., but all are invited to gather for coffee and conversation at 9:00 a.m. The next Faith & Life Forum will be held on Sunday, March 20; Francis X. Clooney, S.J. will give the presentation.

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.

HOLY WEEK & EASTER

Morning Prayers Ecumenical Reflections on Holy Week: Monday, March 21–Saturday, March 26, 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 22, 8:00 p.m., The Memorial Church Sanctuary. Featuring the Harvard University Choir performing The Crucifixion by John Stainer.

Organ Recital: Wednesday, March 23, 7:30 p.m. Thomas Sheehan, Associate University Organist and Choirmaster performs works by Bach, Ridout, and de Maleingreau.

Maundy Thursday: March 24, 8:00 p.m., Appleton Chapel. Service of Holy Communion featuring the Harvard University Choral Fellows.

Good Friday: March 25, 12:00–2:00 p.m., The Memorial Church Sanctuary. Meditations upon the Seven Words from the Cross

Easter Day: Sunday, March 27. 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.

On Easter Day the Church School will be hosting an Easter egg hunt at 9:30 a.m. between our two worship services in Tercentenary Lawn.

WILLIAM BELDEN NOBLE LECTURE

On Monday, April 4, at 7:00 p.m., American essayist and novelist Marilynne Robinson will deliver the 2016 Noble Lecture, with an introduction by Matthew Potts, Assistant Professor of Ministry Studies, Harvard Divinity School. The lecture will be held in the Memorial Church Sanctuary; a reception and book signing will immediately follow in the Memorial Room. The event is free and open to the public; doors will open at 6:15 p.m. This event is cosponsored by the Memorial Church and Harvard Book Store.

Additionally, join us for a special Faith & Life Forum on Sunday, April 3, at 9:30 a.m., with Michelle C. Sanchez, Assistant Professor of Theology, Harvard Divinity School, who will speak on the relationship of Marilynne Robinson's writing and John Calvin.

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 Sunday is Palm Sunday. The preacher will be the Reverend Dr. Lucy Forster-Smith, Sedgwick Chaplain to the University and Senior Minister in the Memorial Church. The title of her sermon is "Out of the Mouths of Babes and Infants."

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.

