

HARVARD

The Memorial Church



ORDER OF WORSHIP



The Fourth Sunday of Easter

Sunday, April 22, 2018
11 a.m.

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

ORDER OF WORSHIP

PRELUDE

Celebrations of God in Nature (1979)

Robert Ward (1917–2013)

I. The Glorious Sun

II. The Pensive Moon

III. The Capricious Wind

HYMN

No. 1, st. 1 & 4, “All People That on Earth Do Dwell”

Old Hundredth

The congregation standing

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”

Dix

The congregation standing

GREETING AND THE PEACE

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

OFFERTORY

The offering collected goes directly to fund the Memorial Church Grants Committee’s recipient organizations and their important work in our local communities. Checks can be written to the Memorial Church with the memo line “Grants Committee.” Ushers will begin collection from the front of the church.

Psalm 23

Dominus regit me

Charles Hylton Stewart (1884–1932)

The Lord is my shepherd;
therefore can I lack nothing.
He shall feed me in a green pasture,
and lead me forth beside the waters of comfort.
He shall convert my soul,
and bring me forth in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.
Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil;
for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff comfort me.
Thou shalt prepare a table before me in the presence of them that trouble me;
thou hast anointed my head with oil, and my cup shall be full.
Surely thy loving-kindness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life;
and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

DOXOLOGY

Sung by the congregation, standing

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

FIRST LESSON

Proverbs 3:13–20

Pew Bible, page 549 (OT)

ANTHEM

Nisi Dominus, SV 206:8 (1610)

Claudio Monteverdi (1567–1643)

Nisi Dominus ædificaverit domum,
In vanum laboraverunt qui ædificant eam.
Nisi Dominus custodierit civitatem,
Frustra vigilat qui custodit eam.
Vanum est vobis ante lucem surgere:
Surgite postquam sederitis,
Qui manducatis panem doloris.
Cum dederit dilectis suis somnum,
Ecce hæreditas Domini, filii;
Merces, fructus ventris.
Sicut sagittæ in manu potentis,
Ita filii excussorum.
Beatus vir qui implevit desiderium suum exipsis:
Non confundetur
Cum loquetur inimicis suis in porta.

*Except the Lord build the house:
Their labor is but lost that build it.
Except the Lord keep the city:
The watchman waketh but in vain.
It is but lost labour that ye haste to rise up early,
And so late take rest,
And eat the bread of carefulness:
For so he giveth his beloved sleep.
Lo, children and the fruit of the womb:
Are an heritage and gift that cometh of the Lord.
Like as the arrows in the hand of the giant:
Even so are the young children.
Happy is the man that hath his quiver full of them:
They shall not be ashamed
When they speak with their enemies in the gate.*

Gloria Patri et Filio
Et Spiritui Sancto,
Sicut erat in principio et nunc et semper
Et in sæcula sæculorum. Amen.

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,
And to the Holy Ghost:
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be,
World without end. Amen.*

Psalm 126

SECOND LESSON

Luke 12:54–57

Pew Bible, page 65 (NT)

PRAYER HYMN

Sung by the congregation, seated

Day by day, dear Lord, of thee three things I pray: to
see thee more clear - ly, love thee more dear - ly,
fol - low thee more near - ly, day by day.

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.

Following the Lord's Prayer, the Prayer Hymn is repeated.

ANTHEM

Jesus Christ the Apple Tree (1986)

Anthony Piccolo (b. 1946)

The tree of life my soul hath seen,
Laden with fruit and always green:
The trees of nature fruitless be
Compared with Christ the apple tree.

For happiness I long have sought,
And pleasure dearly I have bought:
I missed of all; but now I see
’Tis found in Christ the apple tree.

His beauty doth all things excel:
By faith I know, but ne’er can tell
The glory which I now can see
In Jesus Christ the apple tree.

I’m weary with my former toil,
Here I will sit and rest awhile:
Under the shadow I will be,
Of Jesus Christ the apple tree.

This fruit doth make my soul to thrive,
It keeps my dying faith alive;
Which makes my soul in haste to be
With Jesus Christ the apple tree.

Richard Hutchins (fl. 1760)

SERMON

The Wisdom of the Earth

Text: “You know how to interpret the appearance of earth and sky, but why do you not know how to interpret the present time?”

Luke 12:56b

HYMN

No. 78, “For the Fruit of All Creation”

East Acklam

The congregation standing

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Toccata for a Joyful Day (1995)

Emma Lou Diemer (b. 1927)

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, April 22, 2018

WELCOME

Today is the Fourth Sunday of Easter. The preacher is Karennia Gore '95, Director of the Center for Earth Ethics, Union Theological Seminary. The first lesson is read by Benjamin Schafer '19. The second lesson is read by Karen-Alexandra Nogues '18. The music is provided by members of the Harvard University Choir, under the direction of Edward E. Jones, Gund University Organist and Choirmaster; and Thomas M. Sheehan, Associate University Organist and Choirmaster.

Our “Baby Oasis” is available for young children and infants in the lower level of the church. Parents and their children are welcome to use this respite space during worship, complete with an audio broadcast of the service.

Listening devices are available to help the hearing impaired participate in the service; please ask an usher for assistance.

FAITH FORMATION

The Church School offers Christian education classes for children of ages three through fifteen. New this year is our Teen Class. All classes are held during Sunday services in the Fall and Spring Terms. To register or learn more, please visit the Church School for Children page on our website. All families are kindly asked to register their children.

For adults in the MemChurch community, the Faith and Life forum seeks to enrich our spirituality by promoting religious literacy and cultural competency. These programs are held Sunday mornings during the Fall and Spring Terms in the Buttrick Room from 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. Speakers include scholars, pastors, and other public figures whose work enhances our awareness of the pivotal role religion plays across space and time. The Forum will continue next Sunday, April 29 with the Reverend Margery Kennelly, Episcopal Chaplain at Harvard.

MORNING PRAYERS

Monday: Oskar Kocol '18; Tuesday: Arianna Kahn '18; Wednesday: Jorriion Wilson '18
Thursday: Jake Levene '18; Friday: Lisa Chille '18

MUSIC NOTES

Claudio Monteverdi represents the pinnacle of Italian Renaissance composition, and he guided the transformation to the early baroque style. The Harvard University Choir is celebrating Monteverdi's compositions throughout this academic year. His *Vespro della Beata Vergine*—published in 1610 together with his *Missa in illo tempore*—is a sequence of

fourteen pieces (including two versions of the *Magnificat*), that some scholars believe could have been used in a liturgical setting. Others claim that it was a composition portfolio compiled in order to secure employment away from the political intrigues and jealousies of the Court of Mantua; indeed, in 1613, Monteverdi assumed the prestigious post of *maestro di cappella* at the Basilica of St. Mark's, Venice. The Harvard University Choir presents the complete *Vespers* during Harvard's ARTS FIRST celebrations next weekend, Saturday April 28, 2018; this morning, the group sings the setting of Psalm 127, *Nisi Dominus*, a ten-part work whose *cantus firmus* is heard in two of the tenor parts.

American composer, conductor, and pianist Anthony Piccolo is Children's Chorus Director of the Metropolitan Opera in New York, and a composer particularly celebrated for his choral works. This morning's elegiac setting of *Jesus Christ the Apple Tree* was written for the Fairfield Country Day School Concert Choir and utilizes Piccolo's signature jazzy harmonic language.

At the time of his death in 2013, Robert Ward was the last living member of the generation of prominent American neo-romantic composers who flourished artistically in the middle of the 20th century. *Celebrations of God in Nature*—a triptych of contrasting pieces inspired by the sun, moon, and wind—was commissioned by the Twin Cities Chapter of the American Guild of Organists for the 1980 national convention. Ward was primarily an orchestra and opera composer and so when writing his first organ piece, he explicitly sought “to transfer certain procedures of my orchestral scoring to the organ.”

Emma Lou Diemer is Professor of Music, *Emerita*, at the University of California, Santa Barbara, and a distinguished organ recitalist and composer, whose oeuvre includes the perky *Toccata for a Joyful Day*.

ARTS FIRST CONCERT

The Harvard University Choir and Harvard Baroque Chamber Orchestra will present Monteverdi's *Vespers* (1610) as part of Harvard's ARTS FIRST festival on Saturday, April 28, at 7:30 p.m. in the Memorial Church. Admission is free and all are welcome.

ORGAN RECITAL

Thomas Sheehan, Assistant University Organist and Choirmaster, will perform an organ recital next Sunday, April 29, at 4 p.m. in the Memorial Church. Utilizing both the Skinner and Fisk organs, the program will feature works by Buxtehude, Padre Davide da Bergamo, Debussy, Dynam-Victor Fumet, Karg-Elert, Carson Cooman, Larry King, and Mendelssohn.

LISTEN TO SUNDAY WORSHIP AND MORNING PRAYERS

Sunday services are broadcast on Harvard's radio station, WHRB 95.3 FM in term; a live stream of the service is available at *whrb.org*. Recordings of Sunday Worship Services and Sunday Sermons are available on our website, *memorialchurch.harvard.edu*, during the week following the service. Sunday Sermons and Morning Prayers are also available on SoundCloud at *http://bit.ly/sundaysermons* and *http://bit.ly/morningprayers* respectively.

STAY CONNECTED TO THE MEMORIAL CHURCH

E-mail: 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*

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Watch us on YouTube: *youtube.com/memchurchharvard*

NEXT SUNDAY'S SERVICE

Next Sunday is the Fifth Sunday in Easter. The preacher will be the Reverend Margery Kennelly, Episcopal Chaplain, Harvard University.

For more information on upcoming services and events:

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