

HARVARD

The Memorial Church



ORDER OF WORSHIP

Senior Sunday
The Last Sunday of Spring Term
The First Sunday after Pentecost

Sunday, May 22, 2016

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

ORDER OF WORSHIP

PRELUDE

Air (1960)

Gerre Hancock (1934–2012)

HYMN

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

Old Hundredth

The congregation standing

CALL TO WORSHIP

Minister: O Holy Trinity, One God in Three Persons.

People: We behold in the splendor of creation,
Your majesty and our responsibility.

Minister: O Holy Trinity, One God in Three Persons.

People: We behold in the face of Jesus Christ
Your divinity and our humanity.

Minister: O Holy Trinity, One God in Three Persons.

People: We behold in the Spirit of truth your glory and our calling.
Bound to you forever, we will ever praise your name!

HYMN

No. 21, “Holy God, We Praise Thy Name”

Grosser Gott

The congregation standing

INVOCATION

CONFESSION

In unison:

Triune God, within your own life there is mutuality, equality, and unity in diversity. Though we are made in your image, we confess that we distort the triune life. Instead of seeking the common good, we see our own gain. Instead of living in equality, justice, and respect, we construct systems that are unjust. We allow differences to divide us and lead to brokenness. Holy God, forgive us. Restore in us, and in our life together, the divine image you intend. Make us tender in mutuality. Make us generous in equality. Make us grateful in diversity. We pray to be one with you and one another, through Jesus Christ our Lord. 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

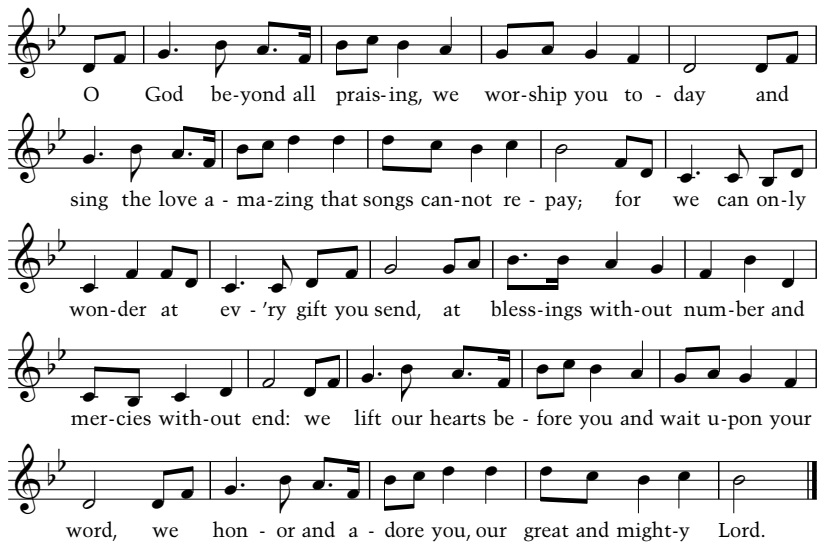
“God So Loved the World” from *The Crucifixion* (1887)

John Stainer (1840–1901)

God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son,
That whoso believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life.
For God sent not His Son into the world to condemn the world;
But that the world through Him might be saved.

John 3:16–17 (KJV)

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.



O God be-yond all prais-ing, we wor-ship you to - day and
sing the love a - ma-zing that songs can-not re - pay; for we can on-ly
won-der at ev - 'ry gift you send, at bless-ings with-out num-ber and
mer-cies with-out end: we lift our hearts be - fore you and wait u-pon your
word, we hon - or and a - dore you, our great and might-y Lord.

Music: THAXTED, Gustav Holst, 1921, alt.

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

PSALTER

Psalms 8

Pew Bible, page 455 (OT)

To be read responsively; the congregation standing

GLORIA PATRI

See Hymn No. 371

FIRST LESSON

Romans 5:1–5

Pew Bible, pages 135–136 (NT)

ANTHEM

O How Amiable (1934)

Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872–1958)

O how amiable are thy dwellings:

Thou Lord of hosts!

My soul hath a desire and longing to enter into the courts of the Lord:

My heart and my flesh rejoice in the living God.

Yea, the sparrow hath found her an house, and the swallow a nest where she may lay her young:

Even thy altars, O Lord of hosts, my king and my God.

Blessed are they that dwell in thy house:

They will be always praising thee.

The glorious majesty of the Lord our God be upon us:

Prosper thou the work of our hands upon us.

O prosper thou our handiwork.

O God, our help in ages past,

Our hope for years to come,

Our shelter from the stormy blast,

And our eternal home.

Psalms 84 & 90 (The Great Bible) and Isaac Watts (1674–1748)

SECOND LESSON

Matthew 28:16–20

Pew Bible, page 29 (NT)

ANTHEM

A Parting Blessing (2008)

Alfred V. Fedak (b. 1953)

Walk softly upon the earth.

May its beauty forever surround you,

Its wonders forever astound you,

May its wisdom delight you, its music invite you

To dance and to play and to sing.

May you love and be loved by all you meet.

May you know and practice compassion.

Rejoice in the earth and in all of creation.

Rejoice in life.

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. 90, "God Be with You Till We Meet Again"

Randolph

The congregation standing

SERMON

The Magnificent Reach

Text: "And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

Matthew 28:20b

HYMN

No. 285, "Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah"

Cwm Rhondda

The congregation standing

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

"Allegro" from *Duet for Organ* (1810)

Samuel Wesley (1766–1837)

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, May 22, 2016

WELCOME

Today is Senior Sunday, the Last Sunday of Spring Term, and the First Sunday after Pentecost. The preacher is the Reverend Dr. Lucy Forster-Smith, Sedgwick Chaplain to the University and Senior Minister in the Memorial Church. The service is led by the Reverend Alanna Copenhaver, Ministry Fellow in the Memorial Church; and seminarians Patrick Jackson MDiv II and Adam Vander Tuig MDiv III. The first lesson is read by Scotty Hosch '16. The second lesson is read by Silvia Mejia MDiv III. The music is provided by graduating 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.

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.

WITH GRATEFUL THANKS

As the Spring Term comes to a close, we take this opportunity to acknowledge gratefully all those who have contributed to the work of the Memorial Church over the past year. We would like to thank our seminarians and interns Adam Vander Tuig MDiv III, Danny Ballon MTS II, Patrick Jackson MDiv II, Jordan Sharick MDiv '15, Katherine Blaisdell MDiv III, Sahar Shahid MDiv II, and Silvia Mejia MDiv III for all their hard work in planning and assisting with our ministries; our Church School Director Wes Conn and his talented and dedicated staff of teachers, Sophie Iosue '18, Jing Leung '19, Jane Moran MDiv I, and Fola Sofela '16, who have inspired and educated the wonderful children who attend our Sunday school; our faithful ushers who come each Sunday and participate in service; our student assistant Joseph Lanzillo '16 who printed our Sunday bulletins each week and helped with MemCafé; our Student Advisory Board and Grants Committee members; and the excellent work of the University Choir and Choral Fellows.

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR GRADUATES

Scotty Hosch '16 (Student Advisory Board), William Jameson '16 (former University Choir member and Grants Committee), Joseph Lanzillo '16, Adam Vander Tuig MDiv III, Katherine Blaisdell MDiv III, Silvia Mejia MDiv III, Fola Sofela '16 (Church School), and University Choir members Josh Bean '16, Samuel Brinton '16, Joshua Campbell '16, Camille Crossot '16, Samantha Heinle '16, Sofia Jonas '16, Randa Melhem '16, Arvind Narayanan '16, Andrew Sanchez '16, Joy Wang '16, and Sara Wiant '16.

CONFIRMATION CLASS

The Church School will be offering confirmation for students in grades 7–8. The program begins at the start of Fall Term and is designed to guide students in the formation of their Christian identity and personal faith. Contact Westley Conn (westley_conn@harvard.edu) to learn more about the program and registration.

MEMORIAL CHURCH RENOVATIONS

We are excited to announce that the Memorial Church will undergo much needed renovations in the coming months. Beginning at the end of May after Commencement, the project is anticipated to extend through the end of the calendar year and the Church building will be closed for the duration of the renovation. The Memorial Church staff has relocated temporarily to the third floor of 44R Brattle Street during construction. Starting in the Fall Term*, Sunday Worship will be held in the Knafel Center (Radcliffe Gym) in Radcliffe Yard and Morning Prayers will be held in Holden Chapel in Harvard Yard. If you have any questions about the project, please contact Harvard's Construction Mitigation Hotline at 617-496-0857, email mitigation@csl-consulting.com, or visit construction.harvard.edu/memorial-church. You can also subscribe to weekly email project updates at construction.harvard.edu/subscribe-weekly-updates.

***Please note that due to construction, worship services will not be held this summer.**

MUSIC NOTES

This morning I would like to thank Thomas Sheehan, Carson Cooman '04, and the members of the Harvard University Choir for a wonderful year of music-making in the Memorial Church. It is with sadness that we say farewell to our graduating seniors and leavers, and we wish them every success in their future endeavors.

The Crucifixion is Sir John Stainer's "Meditation on the Sacred Passion of the Holy Redeemer" and was composed to a text of the Reverend William John Sparrow-Simpson for the church choir of St. Marylebone, London. It gained such widespread fame that within a year it was performed more frequently in England than any other choral work, except *Messiah* and the Mendelssohn oratorios; "God So Loved the World" is the work's centerpiece.

Ralph Vaughan Williams's anthem "O How Amiable" was originally written for an outdoor pageant where it was accompanied by military band. It draws on verses from Psalms 84 and 90, and ends with a grand statement of the hymn, "O God, Our Help In Ages Past."

Alfred V. Fedak is organist and composer-in-residence at Westminster Presbyterian Church in Albany, New York. Widely regarded as one of the greatest living composers of original hymn tunes, he is also a prolific composer of choral works. *A Parting Blessing* is a gentle, contemplative setting of words whose sentiments seem particularly appropriate as our leavers begin their new journeys.

Gerre Hancock was most famous for his tenure as Organist and Master of the Choristers at Saint Thomas Church in New York, where he led its famous Choir of Men and Boys. A famed improviser, one of his trademark improvisational forms was what he dubbed "song form," a lyrical piece that starts quietly with a simple melody, grows in complexity and volume, has a grand climax, and dies down again into peace for the conclusion. His *Air* is a written-out example of this form.

The postlude is the joyous final movement of Samuel Wesley's *Duet for Organ*, in which the fugue subject is passed across the entire range of the instrument, and between the hands and feet of the two organists.

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*

For more information on upcoming services and events:

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