

HARVARD

The Memorial Church



ORDER OF WORSHIP

The Fifth Sunday of Easter

Sunday, May 18, 2014

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

ORDER OF WORSHIP

PRELUDE

“Overture and Siciliana” from *Music for the Royal Fireworks* George Frideric Handel (1685–1759)

HYMN

No. 1, verses 1 & 4, “All People That on Earth Do Dwell” *Old Hundredth*
The congregation standing

CALL TO WORSHIP

Minister: Your steadfast love, O Lord, extends to the heavens.

People: Your righteousness is like the mighty mountains.

Minister: How precious is your steadfast love, O God!

People: We feast on the abundance of your house,

Minister: For with you is the fountain of life;

People: In your light we see light.

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

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.

HYMN

No. 19, “O Praise Ye the Lord! Sing Praise in the Height” *Laudate Dominum*
The congregation standing

GREETINGS

THE PEACE

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

AT THE OFFERTORY

Image *Eugène Bozza (1905–1991)*
Clare Duncan '14, flute

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.

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

PSALTER

Psalms 66:8–20

Pew Bible, page 491–492 (OT)

To be read responsively; the congregation standing

GLORIA PATRI

See Hymn No. 371

FIRST LESSON

Acts 17:22–31

Pew Bible, pages 120–121 (NT)

ANTHEM

O God, Thou Art My God

Henry Purcell (1659–1695)

O God, thou art my God: early will I seek thee. My soul thirsteth for thee, my flesh also longeth after thee in a barren and dry land where no water is. Thus have I look'd for thee in holiness, that I might behold thy pow'r and glory. For thy loving kindness is better than life itself: my lips shall praise thee. As long as I live will I magnify thee on this manner and lift up my hands in thy Name. Because thou hast been my helper: therefore under the shadow of thy wings will I rejoice. Hallelujah!

Psalms 63:1–5, 8

SECOND LESSON

I Peter 3:13–17

Pew Bible, page 207 (NT)

ANTHEM

Come Ye Sons of Art (selections)

Henry Purcell

Come, ye Sons of Art, come away,
Tune all your voices and instruments play
To celebrate this triumphant day.
Sound the trumpet till around
You make the listening shores rebound.
On the sprightly hautboy play.
All the instruments of joy
That skilful numbers can employ
To celebrate the glory of this day.
Thus Nature, rejoicing, has shown us the way,
With innocent revels to welcome the day.
The tuneful grove, the talking rill,
The laughing vale, replying hill,
With charming harmony unite,
The happy season to invite.
What the Graces require,
And the Muses inspire,
Is at once our delight and our duty to pay.
Thus Nature, rejoicing, has shown us the way,
With innocent revels to welcome the day.

Nabum Tate (1652–1715)

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 GRACE

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. 248, "Spirit Divine, Attend Our Prayers" *Nun danket all' und bringet Ehr'*
The congregation standing

SERMON

Speaking and Listening
Text: "...I see how very religious you are..." *Acts 17:22*

HYMN

No. 262, "Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation" *Westminster Abbey*
The congregation standing

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Voluntary XI *George Frideric Handel*

The preacher this morning is Professor R. Gustav Niebuhr, Associate Professor of Religion and the Media, Syracuse University, Syracuse, NY.

The service is led by Jonathan L. Walton, Plummer Professor of Christian Morals and Pusey Minister in the Memorial Church, and Seminarian Adam Vander Tuig MDiv II.

For more information on upcoming services and events, please visit our website at www.memorialchurch.harvard.edu. You can also find us on Facebook (www.facebook.com/memorialchurch) and Twitter (twitter.com/MemChurch).

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sunday, May 18 2014

WELCOME

Today is the Fifth Sunday of Easter. The preacher is Professor R. Gustav Niebuhr, Associate Professor of Religion and the Media, Syracuse University, Syracuse, NY. The service is led by Jonathan L. Walton, Plummer Professor of Christian Morals and Pusey Minister in the Memorial Church, and Seminarian Adam Vander Tuig MDiv II. 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.

SUNDAY SERVICES DURING THE SUMMER TERM

Sunday, May 25, will be the last Sunday Service of Spring Term. This summer, Sunday worship services will be offered at 10:00 a.m. and will run from Sunday, June 29 through Sunday, August 3. We look forward to welcoming all who remain in the area to worship with us this summer. Services begin an hour earlier during the Summer Term than in the Fall and Spring Terms, and WHRB, Harvard's student run radio station, will not broadcast. Visit the Memorial Church website for the full preaching schedule. Please note that today is the last meeting of the Faith & Life Forum for the Spring Term. Morning Prayers and Church School have also ended. All will resume in the Fall Term.

MUSIC NOTES

This morning's choral music is sung by the Choral Fellows and I would like to take this opportunity to thank these gifted students for their musical leadership throughout the past academic year.

Considered one of the greatest of all English composers, Henry Purcell was born just a few months before the end of Cromwell's puritan rule and the restoration of the monarchy, which ushered in a golden age for the arts in England. As a boy he was a chorister in the Chapel Royal; in 1679 he became organist of Westminster Abbey, and of the Chapel Royal in 1682. Church music occupied a position of great importance during the reign of Charles II, and most of Purcell's sacred music was written before the king died in 1685. This morning's anthems demonstrate Purcell's consummate mastery of the art of text setting, a skill for which he is justly famed.

"O God, Thou Art My God" dates from the early 1680s and contains many beautiful examples of word painting: "and lift up my hands" is set to a rising scale; "for thy loving-kindness" is given to a trio of high voices. The music forming the closing "Hallelujah" section became so popular that it was subsequently adapted as the hymn tune, "Westminster Abbey" (sung at the close of today's service).

"Come Ye Sons of Art" is one of a number of odes that Purcell was called upon to write for state occasions – this one as a birthday celebration for Queen Mary II in April 1694. This morning, we present the ode's opening and closing choruses, as well as the famous "Sound the trumpet" duet for upper voices; joyful, and tuneful, the music aptly portrays the sentiment of nature rejoicing in perfect harmony.

George Frideric Handel composed *Music for the Royal Fireworks* for the 1749 festivities in London's Green Park to celebrate the signing of the Treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle. Originally scored for a large wind band (consisting of no less than 24 oboes, 12 bassoons, nine trumpets, nine French horns, and three pairs of timpani), Handel later re-scored the work for full orchestra. This morning's prelude features the work's famous overture as well as the lilting "La paix" siciliana; the postlude is the penultimate work from Handel's *Twelve Voluntaries and Fugues for the Organ or Harpsichord*.

NEXT SUNDAY'S SERVICE

Next Sunday is Senior Sunday, the Last Sunday of Spring Term, and the Sixth Sunday of Easter. The preacher will be Jonathan L. Walton, Plummer Professor of Christian Morals and Pusey Minister, The Memorial Church, Harvard University. The title of his sermon is "Other People's Problems."