

HARVARD

The Memorial Church



ORDER OF WORSHIP

The Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

June 28, 2020

11 am

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

ORDER OF WORSHIP

PRELUDE

Vocalise, Op. 34, No. 14

Sergei Rachmaninoff (1873–1943)

(trans. Patricia Bird)

HYMN

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

Old Hundredth

See end of worship bulletin. The congregation stands and sings.

CALL TO WORSHIP

from Psalm 36 & Isaiah 2

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

People: Your righteousness is like the mighty mountains,
your judgments are like the great deep.

Minister: How precious is your steadfast love, O God!
All people may take refuge in the shadow of your wings.

People: For with you is the fountain of life;
in your light we see light.

Minister: Come, let us set out in the light of the Lord!

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. 306, “There Is a Balm in Gilead”

Balm in Gilead

See end of worship bulletin. The congregation stands and sings.

GREETING & THE PEACE

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." Give online at <https://memorialchurch.harvard.edu/donate>.

What is Good, Op. 1308

Carson Cooman '04 (b. 1982)

Written for the inauguration of Lawrence S. Bacow as the 29th President of Harvard University

You have been told, O mortal, what is good, and what is required of you:
To do justice, to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God.

Micah 6:8

DOXOLOGY

The congregation stands and sings.
Praise God, from whom all blessings flow.
Praise God, all people here below.
Praise God above, ye heavenly host.
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost.
Amen.

FIRST LESSON

Micah 6:1–8

from the New Revised Standard Version (OT)

ANTHEM

Heal the Land (2016)

Braxton D. Shelley (b. 1990)

Everywhere you turn: bad news, tragedies; people are confused, worried, depressed,
wondering what to do.

Lord, we know you see, that you care, and you're concerned about our misery.

We want to know: is there a word from the Lord?

"If my people, who are called by my name, if they will humble themselves and pray,
look up and listen, and turn from their wicked ways, I will heal the land."

Breathe on us!

Rain on us!

Heal the land, Lord!

"I will heal their land."

SECOND LESSON

Matthew 25:31–40

from the New Revised Standard Version (NT)

PRAYER HYMN

The congregation remains 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.

SERMON

Because They Are Hard

Text: "He has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?"

Micah 6:8

HYMN

No. 272, “Lift Every Voice and Sing”

Lift Every Voice

See end of worship bulletin. The congregation stands and sings.

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Nun danket alle Gott (Marche triomphale) Op. 65, No. 59 (1908) *Sigfrid Karg-Elert (1877–1933)*

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, June 28, 2020

WELCOME

Today is the Fourth Sunday after Pentecost. The preacher is the Reverend Professor Braxton D. Shelley, Stanley A. Marks and William H. Marks Assistant Professor at the Radcliffe Institute; Assistant Professor of Music in the Harvard Faculty of Arts and Sciences. The service is led by Professor Stephanie Paulsell, Interim Pusey Minister in the Memorial Church, Susan Shallcross Swartz Professor of the Practice of Christian Studies, Harvard Divinity School, the Reverend Alanna C. Sullivan, Associate Minister in the Memorial Church, and the Reverend Westley P. Conn, Ministry Fellow in the Memorial Church. You will also hear the voices of some of the family members and friends with whom we are sheltering and for whose help with the liturgy we are most grateful. The first lesson is read by Joy Nesbitt. The second lesson is read by Jeremy Williams. The music for this Sunday's service is provided by Edward Elwyn Jones, Gund University Organist and Choirmaster. The offertory is an archival recording of the Harvard University Choir. The prelude and postlude this morning were recorded on the organ at First-Plymouth Church in Lincoln, Nebraska this past week by David von Behren, Assistant University Organist and Choirmaster. The anthem is from the 2018 album "Sermons in Song" by Braxton Shelley and Testimony.

MUSIC NOTES

Composer in Residence Carson Cooman's *What Is Good* was written for the inauguration of Lawrence S. Bacow as the 29th President of Harvard University and first performed by the inauguration choir in Tercentenary Theatre in October 2018. For our main musical offering, it is a joy to feature a composition penned and performed by this morning's preacher, the Reverend Professor Braxton Shelley, a faculty member in the music department.

Written for Russian coloratura soprano Antonina Nezhdanova, Sergei Rachmaninoff's *Vocalise* is the last piece of his *14 Romances*, Op. 34. Originally scored for high voice with piano accompaniment, the song contains no words and is to be sung on any one vowel of the singer's choosing. The work is thus equally effective played on various instruments, and this morning's prelude is an organ transcription by Patricia Bird. German composer Sigfrid Karg-Elert was known for his extensive output for organ and harmonium. His *Chorale Improvisation on "Nun danket alle Gott"* comes from a set of 66 improvisations. Cast as a march, the work weaves motifs of the chorale tune into colorful flourishes, unexpected cadences, and a rousing finish.

COFFEE HOUR

Join us for a weekly virtual MemChurch Coffee Hour following each Sunday worship service from 12:15–1:00pm EST. This will be a time for us to check in with one another, to reflect on the day's sermon and to be together in community. To participate, please email Elizabeth Montgomery (elizabeth_montgomery@harvard.edu) before 12:00pm.

CHURCH SCHOOL

The Church School has resumed its virtual meetings for the Summer Term. Contact Ministry Fellow, Rev. Westley (Wes) Conn (westley_conn@harvard.edu) to learn more.

SUMMER PROGRAMMING

Join us for our summer reading group and pilgrimages on Wednesdays in July. To participate, please email Elizabeth Montgomery (elizabeth_montgomery@harvard.edu) before the start of the event.

July 1, 7:00pm—Reading group: *White Fragility* by Robin DiAngelo

July 8, 1:30pm—Virtual pilgrimage

July 15, 7:00pm—Reading group: “The Case for Reparations” by Ta-Nehisi Coates, *The Atlantic*

July 22, 1:30pm—Virtual pilgrimage

July 29, 7:00pm—Reading: “An Interview with Professor Evelyn Hammonds: How Racism is Shaping the Coronavirus Pandemic” by Isaac Chotiner, *The New Yorker*.

INTERFAITH SPACE OF HEALING AND ACTION

The student-led Harvard Interfaith Forum and FRESI (Facilitators of Religious, Ethical and Spiritual Inquiry) are holding a Virtual Healing Space on Sundays, with a moderated discussion on faith and racial justice, followed by An Hour of Action for Racial Justice each Sunday from 2:00–4:00pm. The Zoom link is <https://bit.ly/interfaithRJ>, and the password is `faithacts`.

SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE

We are delighted to share the news of our continued broadcasting of worship on Harvard's radio station, WHRB 95.3 FM, throughout the summer. Summer worship begins today and concludes on Sunday, August 2. During this time we will also offer a virtual coffee hour following worship. Please check our website for more details. Although our congregation is far-flung, we are so glad to continue worshipping alongside you during this difficult time. A special thank you to our partner, WHRB, for working with us to extend our broadcast services.

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, and on iTunes—search “Harvard Memorial Church” from your iTunes app.

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*

Like us on Facebook: *facebook.com/harvardmemorialchurch*

Follow us on Twitter: *twitter.com/memchurch*

and **Instagram:** *instagram.com/memchurch*

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

NEXT SUNDAY'S SERVICE

Next Sunday is the Fifth Sunday after Pentecost. The preacher will be the Reverend Alanna C. Sullivan, Associate Minister in the Memorial Church.

All People That on Earth Do Dwell

1

para. of Psalm 100
William Kethe, 1561, alt.

OLD HUNDREDTH LM
Genevan Psalter, 1551

1 All peo - ple that on earth do dwell, sing
2 Know that the Lord is God in - deed; with -
3 O en - ter then his gates with praise, ap -
4 For why? The Lord our God is good, his

to the Lord with cheer - ful voice; him serve with mirth, his
out our aid he did us make; we are his folk, he
proach with joy his courts un - to; praise, laud, and bless his
mer - cy is for - ev - er sure; his truth at all times

praise forth tell, come ye be - fore him and re - joice.
doth us feed, and for his sheep he doth us take.
name al - ways, for it is seem - ly so to do.
firm - ly stood, and shall from age to age en - dure.

African American


BALM IN GILEAD IRREGULAR with Refrain

*African American melody**harm. Hymns of Truth and Light, 1998*

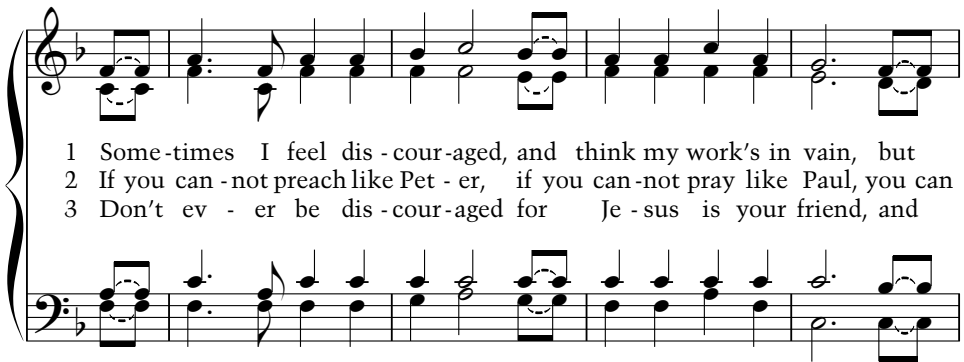
Refrain 



There is a balm in Gil-e-ad to make the wound-ed whole;



there is a balm in Gil-e-ad to heal the sin-sick soul.



1 Some-times I feel dis-cour-aged, and think my work's in vain, but
 2 If you can-not preach like Pet-er, if you can-not pray like Paul, you can
 3 Don't ev-er be dis-cour-aged for Je-sus is your friend, and

D.S.



then the Ho-ly Spi-rit re-vives my soul a-gain.
 tell the love of Je-sus, and say he died for all. There is a
 if you lack for knowl-edge, he'll ne'er re-fuse to lend.

James Weldon Johnson, 1899, alt.

LIFT EVERY VOICE IRREGULAR

John Rosamond Johnson, 1899

Piano introduction in F major, 4/4 time. The right hand features a melodic line with eighth and sixteenth notes, while the left hand provides a steady bass line with quarter notes.

Vocal entry for the first line of the hymn. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with a long note on 'and'.

1 Lift ev-ery voice and
2 Ston-y the road we
3 God of our wea - ry

Piano accompaniment for the first line of the hymn. The right hand has a melodic line with some grace notes, and the left hand has a bass line with quarter notes.

Vocal entry for the second line of the hymn. The melody continues with a similar simple, hymn-like style.

sing till earth and hea - ven ring, ring with the har - mon - ies of
trod, bit - ter the chas - tening rod, felt in the days when hope un -
years, God of our si - lent tears, thou who hast brought us thus far

Piano accompaniment for the second line of the hymn. The right hand has a melodic line with some grace notes, and the left hand has a bass line with quarter notes.

lib - er - ty. Let our re - joic - ing rise high as the lis - tening
 born had died; yet, with a stead - y beat, have not our wea - ry
 on the way; thou who hast by thy might led us in - to the

skies; let it re - sound loud as the roll - ing sea. Sing a
 feet come to the place for which our pa - rents sighed? We have
 light; keep us for - ev - er in the path, we pray. Lest our

song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us;
come o-ver a way that with tears has been wa - tered;
feet stray from the plac-es, our God, where we met thee;

sing a song full of the hope that the pres-ent has brought
we have come, tread-ing our path through the blood of the slaugh -
lest, our hearts drunk with the wine of the world, we for-get

us; fac - ing the ris - ing sun of our new day be -
tered, out from the gloom - y past, till now we stand at
thee; shad - owed be - neath thy hand may we for - ev - er

gun, let us march on, till vic - to - ry is won.
last where the white gleam of our bright star is cast.
stand, true to our God, true to our na - tive land.