

# HARVARD

The Memorial Church



## ORDER OF WORSHIP

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The Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Sunday, September 22, 2019

11 am

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

# ORDER OF WORSHIP

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## PRELUDE

Prelude and Fugue in G major, Op. 37, No. 2 (1835–37)

*Felix Mendelssohn (1809–1847)*

## HYMN

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

*Old Hundredth*

*The congregation standing*

## 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. 28, “To God Be the Glory”

*To God Be the Glory*

*The congregation standing*

## GREETING AND 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." Ushers will begin collection from the back of the church.*

Psalm 113:1–7 *Laudate, pueri*

*Chant by Stanley Vann (1910–2010)*

Praise the Lord, ye servants; O praise the Name of the Lord.

Blessed be the Name of the Lord from this time forth for evermore.

The Lord's Name is praised from the rising up of the sun unto the going down of the same.

The Lord is high above all nations, and his glory above the heavens.

Who is like unto the Lord our God, that hath his dwelling so high,

And yet humbleth himself to behold the things that are in heaven and earth!

He taketh up the simple out of the dust, and lifteth the poor out of the mire;

That he may set him with the princes, even with the princes of his people.

## DOXOLOGY

*Sung by the congregation, standing*

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

Ezekiel 37: 1–10

*Pew Bible, page 762 (OT)*

## ANTHEM

Richte mich, Gott, Op. 78, No. 2 (1844)

*Felix Mendelssohn*

Richte mich, Gott, und führe meine Sache wider das unheilige Volk  
und errette mich von den falschen und bösen Leuten.

Denn du bist der Gott meiner Stärke; warum verstößest du mich?

Warum lässtest du mich so traurig geh'n, wenn mein Feind mich drängt?

Sende dein Licht und deine Wahrheit,

dass sie mich leiten zu deinem heiligen Berge, und zu deiner Wohnung.

Dass ich hineingehe zum Altar Gottes, zu dem Gott, der meine Freude und Wonne ist,  
und dir, Gott, auf der Harfe danke, mein Gott.

Was betrübst du dich, meine Seele, und bist so unruhig in mir?

Harre auf Gott! denn ich werde ihm noch danken,  
dass er meines Angesichts Hilfe, und mein Gott ist.

*Give sentence with me, O God, and defend my cause against the ungodly people:*

*O deliver me from the deceitful and wicked man.*

*For thou art the God of my strength, why hast thou put me from thee:*

*and why go I so heavily, while the enemy oppresseth me?*

*O send out thy light and thy truth, that they may lead me:*

*and bring me unto thy holy hill, and to thy dwelling.*

*And that I may go unto the altar of God, even unto the God of my joy and gladness:*

*and upon the harp will I give thanks unto thee, O God, my God.*

*Why art thou so heavy, O my soul: and why art thou so disquieted within me?*

*O put thy trust in God:*

*for I will yet give him thanks,*

*which is the help of my countenance, and my God.*

*Psalm 43, The Luther Bible*

## SECOND LESSON

Ephesians 4:25–5:2

*Pew Bible, page 171 (NT)*

## PRAYER HYMN

*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

Geistliches Lied, Op. 30 (1856)

Lass dich nur nichts nicht dauren mit Trauren,  
sei stille, wie Gott es fügt,  
so sei vergnügt mein Wille!

Was willst du heute sorgen auf morgen?  
Der Eine steht allem für,  
der gibt auch dir das Deine.

Sei nur in allem Handel ohn Wandel,  
steh feste, was Gott beschleußt,  
das ist und heißt das Beste.

Amen.

*Johannes Brahms (1833–1897)*

*Do not be sorrowful or regretful;  
Be calm, as God has ordained,  
And thus my will shall be content.*

*What do you want to worry about from day to day?  
There is One who stands above all  
Who gives you, too, what is yours.*

*Only be steadfast in all you do,  
Stand firm; what God has decided,  
That is and must be the best.*

*Amen.*

*Paul Fleming (1609–1640)*

## SERMON

Words Worth Saying

## HYMN

No. 76, “Great Is Thy Faithfulness”

*Faithfulness*

*The congregation standing*

## BENEDICTION

## POSTLUDE

“Con moto maetoso” from *Sonata No. 3 in A major*, Op. 65, No. 3 (1845)

*Felix Mendelssohn*

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### 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, September 22, 2019

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## WELCOME

Today is the Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost. The preacher is the Rev. Dr. 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 the Rev. Dr. Emmanuel K. Akyeampong, Ellen Gurney Professor of History and Professor of African and African American Studies, Oppenheimer Faculty Director of the Harvard University Center for African Studies, and Minister for Worship and Formation in the Memorial Church, the Reverend Westley P. Conn, Ministry Fellow in the Memorial Church and Professor Stephanie Paulsell, Interim Pusey Minister in the Memorial Church and Susan Shallcross Swartz Professor of the Practice of Christian Studies, Harvard Divinity School. The first lesson is read by Aric B. Flemming Jr. MDiv '19. The second lesson is read by Elam D. Jones MDiv '19. The music is provided by the Harvard University Choir, under the direction of Edward E. Jones, Gund University Organist and Choirmaster, and David von Behren, Assistant 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 the respite space during worship. Audio from the service streams in the Baby Oasis.

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

## MORNING PRAYERS

Monday: Katherine Schofield; Tuesday: Teju Cole; Wednesday: KMarie Tejada MDiv III; Thursday: Sally Hammel MDiv II; Friday: Grace Killian MDiv III

## WILLIAM BELDEN NOBLE LECTURES

Save the date! The 2019–2020 William Belden Noble Lecturer in Residence, the Rev. Dr. Raphael G. Warnock, will deliver four lectures over the course of the academic year on October 16, November 20, March 11, April 22 at 7 pm. A national voice on social justice issues such as voting rights and criminal justice, Warnock is Senior Pastor of the Ebenezer Baptist Church in Atlanta, the spiritual home of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. All lectures will take place in the Memorial Church Sanctuary and are free and open to the public.

## FAITH FORMATION

The Church School offers Christian education classes for children of age three through sixteen. All classes are held during Sunday services in the Fall and Spring Terms. To register and learn more,

please visit the Church School for Children page on our website.

For adults in the MemChurch community, the Faith and Life forum seeks to enrich our spirituality by promoting religious literacy and cultural competency. The Forum is held Sunday mornings during the Fall and Spring Terms in the Buttrick Room from 9:30 am to 10:30 am. Speakers include scholars, pastors, and other public figures whose work enhances our awareness of the pivotal role religion plays across space and time. To learn about upcoming speakers, please visit the Faith & Life Forum page on our website. The Forum will continue next Sunday, September 29th with Khalil Abdur-Rashid, Muslim Chaplain to Harvard University.

Contact Ministry Fellow, Westley (Wes) Conn ([westley\\_conn@harvard.edu](mailto:westley_conn@harvard.edu)) for more information about faith formation at MemChurch.

### FAITH AND VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN IN SOUTH AFRICA

The Office of Sexual Assault Prevention and Response of Harvard University and the Memorial Church of Harvard University are co-sponsoring 'Faith and Violence Against Women in South Africa,' an opportunity to hear from Elizabeth Peterson, founder of the South African Faith and Family Institute, an organization dedicated to address intimate partner abuse through culturally specific and faith-based initiatives. You are invited to attend from 6:30-7:30pm on Monday, September 23 in Ticknor Lounge, Boylston Hall. Light refreshments will be served.

### MUSIC NOTES

A true polymath, Felix Mendelssohn was known by family and friends as a gifted poet and translator of poetry, a brilliant letter-writer and diarist, an accomplished artist, and a distinguished classicist and theologian, as well as a versatile and prodigiously talented musician. A conductor, pianist, organist, violinist, professor of composition, and a pioneering editor and performer of early music—including that of Bach and Handel—Mendelssohn's tireless musical pursuits led to an untimely death at the age of 38. In 1843 Mendelssohn was appointed to direct a newly-formed Berlin cathedral choir, and this led to a number of sacred pieces for the group. *Richte mich, Gott* is a tightly structured setting of Psalm 43 in three sections: the lower unison voices alternate with four-part harmonies from the upper voices leading into the soaring "Sende dein Licht"; the subsequent 3/8 andante reverts to the atmosphere of the opening, before resolving into the rich glow of the majestic closing chorale.

*Geistliches Lied* is Johannes Brahms's earliest accompanied choral work, which was written as part of a series of compositional exercises that the composer traded with Joseph Joachim to improve his contrapuntal writing. The work is a strict double canon at the ninth across the four voices, and yet the sheer beauty of the vocal lines conceals the mathematical wizardry involved in such a contrapuntal feat.

Felix Mendelssohn's works for organ set a new, forward-looking standard for organ composition in the nineteenth century, while simultaneously harking back to the traditions and spirit of the German Baroque—and specifically to the music of Johann Sebastian Bach. This morning's prelude features a lilting opening movement followed by a more angular, chromatic fugue. The six organ sonatas were written for the organs of St. Paul's Cathedral, London: today's postlude is the majestic

first movement of the third sonata. An exuberant opening leads into an extended fugato section incorporating the chorale “Out of the depths I cry to thee,” before returning to the initial material for its triumphant conclusion.

### 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](http://whrb.org). Recordings of Sunday Worship Services and Sunday Sermons are available on our website, [memorialchurch.harvard.edu](http://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](http://memorialchurch.harvard.edu)

**Like us on Facebook:** [facebook.com/harvardmemorialchurch](https://facebook.com/harvardmemorialchurch)

**Follow us on Twitter:** [twitter.com/memchurch](https://twitter.com/memchurch)

**and Instagram:** [instagram.com/memchurch](https://instagram.com/memchurch)

**Watch us on YouTube:** [youtube.com/memchurchharvard](https://youtube.com/memchurchharvard)

### NEXT SUNDAY’S SERVICE

Next Sunday is the Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost. The preacher will be Khalil Abdur-Rashid, Muslim Chaplain to Harvard University.

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*For more information on upcoming services and events:*

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