

HARVARD

The Memorial Church



ORDER OF WORSHIP

The Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Sunday, October 13, 2019

11 am

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

ORDER OF WORSHIP

PRELUDE

Toccatina in D minor, BWV 538

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685–1750)

HYMN

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

Old Hundredth

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. 13, “Come, O Come, in Pious Lays”
The congregation standing

Salzburg

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 back of the church.

Psalm 66:7–9, 12–18 *Jubilate Deo*

Chant by Walter Alcock (1861–1947)

O praise our God, ye peoples, and make the voice of his praise to be heard;

Who holdeth our soul in life; and suffereth not our feet to slip.

For thou, O God, hast proved us; thou also hast tried us, like as silver is tried.

I will go into thine house with burnt-offerings, and will pay thee my vows,

which I promised with my lips, and spake with my mouth, when I was in trouble.

I will offer unto thee fat burnt-sacrifices, with the incense of rams;

I will offer bullocks and goats.

O come hither, and hearken, all ye that fear God;

and I will tell you what he hath done for my soul.

I called unto him with my mouth, and gave him praises with my tongue.

If I incline unto wickedness with mine heart, the Lord will not hear me.

But God hath heard me; and considered the voice of my prayer.

Praised be God, who hath not cast out my prayer, nor turned his mercy from me.

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

Psalm 107:4–9

Pew Bible, page 522 (OT)

ANTHEM

Der Geist hilft unser Schwachheit auf, BWV 226 (1729)

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685–1750)

Der Geist hilft unser Schwachheit auf,
denn wir wissen nicht, was wir beten sollen,
wie sich's gebühret;
sondern der Geist selbst vertritt uns aufs beste
mit unaussprechlichem Seufzen.

*The Spirit gives aid to our weakness,
For we do not know for what we should pray,
What is proper;
But the Spirit itself intercedes for us in the best way
With unutterable sighs.*

Der aber die Herzen forschet,
der weiß, was des Geistes Sinn sei,
denn er vertritt die Heiligen
nach dem, das Gott gefällt.

*He, however, who examines hearts,
He knows what the Spirit's intention is,
Since it intercedes for the saints
According to that which pleases God.*

Du heilige Brunst, süßer Trost,
nun hilft uns fröhlich und getrost
in deinem Dienst beständig bleiben,
die Trübsal uns nicht abtreiben!
O Herr, durch dein Kraft uns bereit
und stärk des Fleisches Blödigkeit,
dass wir hie ritterlich ringen,
durch Tod und Leben zu dir dringen.
Halleluja, halleluja!

*You holy fire, sweet comfort,
Now help us joyfully and confidently
To remain constantly in your service,
Although trouble is not driven away from us!
O Lord, through your strength prepare us
And sharpen the dullness of the flesh,
So that we might battle here nobly,
Pressing to you through death and life.
Hallelujah, Hallelujah!*

*st. 1, Romans 8:26–27 (Luther Bible); st. 2, Martin Luther (1483–1546)
English translation Pamela Dellal*

SECOND LESSON

Luke 15:11–32

Pew Bible, page 68 (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.

SERMON

Lost and Found

HYMN

No. 280, "O God, Thou Faithful God"

O Gott, de frommer Gott

The congregation standing

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Sinfonia from Cantata BWV 29

Johann Sebastian Bach, arr. Harvey Grace (1874-1944)

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, October 13, 2019

WELCOME

Today is the Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost. The preacher is Professor Stephanie Paulsell, Interim Pusey Minister in the Memorial Church, Susan Shallcross Swartz Professor of the Practice of Christian Studies, Harvard Divinity School. The worship leaders are Professor Emmanuel K. Akyeampong, Minister of Formation and Worship in the Memorial Church, Ellen Gurney Professor of History and Professor of African and African American Studies, Oppenheimer Faculty Director of the Harvard University Center for African Studies, the Rev. Westley P. Conn, Ministry Fellow in the Memorial Church, Sally Hammel MDiv II, Seminarian in the Memorial Church, and Grace Killian MDiv III, Seminarian in the Memorial Church. The first lesson is read by Alden Fossett '21. The second lesson is read by Aidan Stoddart '21. 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: No Morning Prayers; Tuesday: Shelly Lowe; Wednesday: Barbara Nobles Crawford; Thursday: Leon Welch ALB '16, PhD '84; Friday: Brother John

WILLIAM BELDEN NOBLE LECTURES

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. The title of the first lecture on October 16 is “Let My People Go: The Scandal of Mass Incarceration in the Land of the Free.”

THE OFFICE OF COMPLINE

A service of Compline, which combines candlelight, plainsong, polyphony, prayer, scripture, and silence, will be held this Thursday evening, October 17, at 9 pm. Music is provided by the Harvard University Choir under the guest direction of Barry Rose, formerly of St. Paul's Cathedral, London. All are welcome.

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, October 20th with Gerald “Jay” Williams, Lead Pastor, Union Church, Boston. To learn about upcoming speakers, please visit the Faith & Life Forum page on our website.

Contact Ministry Fellow, Westley (Wes) Conn (westley_conn@harvard.edu) for more information about faith formation at MemChurch.

THE PILGRIMAGE PROJECT

Join us on Wednesday, October 23, 7:00–8:30 pm for the next meeting of the Pilgrimage Reading Group. We’ll be discussing Toni Morrison’s novel, *Home*. Our next pilgrimage will be led by May Wang ’20 on Friday, October 25, 1:30–3:30 pm. Join us as we spend time in the “Crossing Lines” exhibit in the Harvard Art Museum and engage themes of home, identity, and migration. We will meet at 1:30 in the Student Oasis, and all are welcome.

GOODNESS AND THE LITERARY IMAGINATION

All are warmly invited to a discussion of the religious dimensions of the work of Toni Morrison on Monday, October 21, 5:30–7:00 pm, in the Emerson Chapel on the 3rd floor of Divinity Hall. We’ll be celebrating the publication of Toni Morrison’s 2012 Harvard Divinity School Ingersoll Lecture along with essays on her moral and religious vision. Participants will include David Carrasco, Stephanie Paulsell, Mara Willard, Jay Williams, and others.

MUSIC NOTES

There are few musical forms that have endured and flourished as the motet, which has been in continuous existence since the twelfth century. Johann Sebastian Bach’s examples in the genre are pinnacles of the choral literature; indeed, of all Bach’s vocal works, the motets are the only category that continued in an unbroken tradition of performance from the composer’s time to the present day.

Der Geist hilft unser Schwachheit auf, BWV 226, was written for the funeral of the veteran headmaster of the Thomasschule (where Bach worked as a somewhat reluctant schoolmaster), Johann Heinrich Ernesti, which took place in the University Church of St. Paul on October 16, 1729. The motet is cast in three main sections: the text of the first two coming from the longest of the Pauline Epistles, *Romans*; the final section is the third strophe of Martin

Luther's Pentecost chorale, *Komm, Heiliger Geist, Herre Gott*. The work opens with a dancing, airy, melismatic figure that surrounds the listener with the comfort and aid of the Holy Spirit; Bach exploits the antiphonal possibilities of the double-choir formation to great dramatic effect. "Denn wir wissen nicht" is appropriately portrayed through the staggered entrances of the choirs; the *affekt* changes on the words "sondern der Geist," where more angular and broken up lines represent the "unutterable sighs." The choirs unite for a confident and affirming fugue, "Der aber die Herzen," full of optimism and fortitude, and the work closes with Bach's gorgeous setting of Luther's chorale.

Bach's *Tocatta in D Minor*, BWV 538 (nicknamed the "Dorian") is an extrovert work in the Italian style: the material is inspired by string writing and utilizes dialogue effects and harmonic sequences that reveal the composer's study of Vivaldi's instrumental music. The postlude is English composer Harvey Grace's arrangement of the exuberant opening sinfonia from Bach's Cantata No. 29, *Wir danken dir, Gott*.

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 wrb.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](https://www.facebook.com/harvardmemorialchurch)

Follow us on Twitter: twitter.com/memchurch

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

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

NEXT SUNDAY'S SERVICE

Next Sunday is the Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost. The preacher will be the Rev. Dr. Gerald "Jay" Williams, Lead Pastor, Union Church, Boston, MA.

For more information on upcoming services and events:

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