

HARVARD

The Memorial Church



ORDER OF WORSHIP



The Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

Sunday, November 19, 2017

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

ORDER OF WORSHIP

PRELUDE

Prelude in E minor, BWV 548

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685–1750)

HYMN

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

Old Hundredth

The congregation standing

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

HYMN

No. 5, “Now Thank We All Our God”

Nun danket alle Gott

The congregation standing

GREETING AND THE PEACE

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

TESTIMONY

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.

Psalms 67

Deus misereatur

Chant by Edward Bairstow (1874–1946)

God be merciful unto us, and bless us,

and show us the light of his countenance, and be merciful unto us;

That thy way may be known upon earth,

thy saving health among all nations.

Let the peoples praise thee, O God;

yea, let all the peoples praise thee.
 O let the nations rejoice and be glad;
 for thou shalt judge the folk righteously, and govern the nations upon earth.
 Let the peoples praise thee, O God;
 yea, let all the peoples praise thee.
 Then shall the earth bring forth her increase;
 and God, even our own God, shall give us his blessing.
 God shall bless us; and all the ends of the world shall fear him.

DOXOLOGY

Sung by the congregation, standing
 Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
 Praise him, all creatures here below;
 Praise him above, ye heavenly host;
 Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

FIRST LESSON

Psalm 90:1–8, 12

Pew Bible, pages 510–511 (OT)

ANTHEM

Fürchte dich nicht, BWV 228

Johann Sebastian Bach

Fürchte dich nicht, ich bin bei dir; weiche
 nicht, denn ich bin dein Gott; ich stärke dich,
 ich helfe dir auch, ich erhalte dich durch die
 rechte Hand meiner Gerechtigkeit.

*Do not fear, I am with you; do not recoil,
 for I am your God; I will strengthen you,
 and help you as well, I sustain you
 with the right hand of my righteousness.*

Fürchte dich nicht, denn ich habe dich
 erlöst; ich habe dich bei deinem Namen
 gerufen, du bist mein.

*Do not fear, for I have redeemed you;
 I have called you by your name,
 you are mine.*

Herr, mein Hirt, Brunn aller Freuden!

Lord, my shepherd, fount of all joy!

Du bist mein, ich bin dein,
 niemand kann uns scheiden.

*You are mine, I am yours,
 No one can part us.*

Ich bin dein, weil du dein Leben
 und dein Blut, mir zu gut,
 in den Tod gegeben.

*I am yours, since your life
 And your blood, for my sake,
 You have given to death.*

Du bist mein, weil ich dich fasse
 und dich nicht, o mein Licht,
 aus dem Herzen lasse!

*You are mine, since I seize you
 And do not, O my light,
 Let you out of my heart!*

Lass mich, lass mich hingelangen,
 wo du mich und ich dich
 lieblich werd' umfassen.

*Let me, let me arrive there,
 Where you and I
 Will lovingly embrace each other.*

Isaiah 41:10, Isaiah 43:1, and Paul Gerhardt (1607–1676); English translation Pamela Dellal

SECOND LESSON

1 Thessalonians 5:1–11

Pew Bible, page 181 (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

What We Know and Don't Want to Hear

Text: "But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, and put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation."

1 Thessalonians 5:8

HYMN

No. 79, “We Plow the Fields and Scatter”

Wir pflügen

The congregation standing

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Fugue in E minor, BWV 548

Johann Sebastian Bach

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, November 19, 2017

WELCOME

Today is the Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Pentecost. The preacher is the Reverend Alanna C. Sullivan, Associate Minister in the Memorial Church. The service is led by the Reverend Westley P. Conn, Ministry Fellow in the Memorial Church; and Aric Flemming MDiv II and Michael Robinson MDiv III, seminarians in the Memorial Church. The first lesson is read by Jesse Burbank JD '20. The second lesson is read by Benjamin Schafer '19. The testimony is given by Abraham Rebollo '20. The music is provided by 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.

A crying room 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, complete with an audio broadcast of the service.

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

FAITH FORMATION

The Church School offers Christian education classes for children of ages three through fifteen. New this year is our Teen Class. All classes are held during Sunday services in the Fall and Spring Terms. To register or learn more, please visit the Church School for Children page on our website. All families are kindly asked to register their children. The Church School will not meet next Sunday, November 26, but will continue on December 3.

For adults in the MemChurch community, the Faith and Life forum seeks to enrich our spirituality by promoting religious literacy and cultural competency. These programs are held Sunday mornings during the Fall and Spring Terms in the Buttrick Room from 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. Speakers include scholars, pastors, and other public figures whose work enhances our awareness of the pivotal role religion plays across space and time. The Forum will not be held next Sunday, November 26, but will continue on December 3.

MORNING PRAYERS SPEAKERS: NOVEMBER 20 – 24, 8:45 A.M.

Monday: Keith Esposito MDiv III; Tuesday: Kevin Bryant

Please note that there will be no services of Morning Prayers on Wednesday, Thursday, or Friday due to Thanksgiving Recess.

HARVARD BAROQUE CHAMBER ORCHESTRA CONCERT

The Harvard Baroque Chamber Orchestra will give a concert this afternoon at 4 p.m.

MUSIC NOTES

There are few musical forms that have endured and flourished like 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.

Fürchte dich nicht, ich bin bei dir, BWV 228 draws its text from two sources—the Book of Isaiah and the hymn “Warum sollt ich mich den grämen” by Paul Gerhardt; on stylistic grounds, most scholars now believe that the work dates from Bach's Weimar period, and must therefore be counted as one of his earliest motets. The work is scored for double chorus and is in two movements: the first verse from Isaiah features quick interplay between the choruses, which often overlap and reverse direction, followed by bombastic outbursts on the words “Ich stärke dich;” the second verse is set as a fugue for the lower three voices, with the soprano intoning Gerhardt's chorale above. The work ends somewhat abruptly with a restatement of just a few bars of the opening material: a concise summation of the work's mantra to be bold and fear not.

The organ prelude and postlude today are Bach's Prelude and Fugue in E minor. Contrasting in affect, the prelude is quite slow-moving, with chordal accompaniment to a soloistic melody; the fugue is more energetic, with the constant eighth-note motion of the highly chromatic subject always driving the rhythm forward.

SEASONS OF LIGHT: A MULTIRELIGIOUS SERVICE TO HONOR THE HOLY DARKNESS AND THE SACRED LIGHT

As the nights grow longer and the days shorter, join the Harvard Divinity School community on Tuesday, November 28, from 5:30–7:00 p.m. for this beloved annual service honoring the interplay of holy darkness and light in the world's religious traditions. The service includes choral and instrumental music, readings by HDS students, the ritual kindling of many flames, and communal prayers and songs. This event will be held at Harvard Divinity School's Andover Chapel, Andover Hall, Second Floor, 45 Francis Avenue.

COLLECTING 850 TOYS FOR OUR 85TH

Please join with the Church School in supporting Phillips Brooks House's 2017 Holiday Gift Drive. Our goal this year is to collect 850 new toys in honor of the 85th anniversary of the church! This annual event provides gifts to children of all ages in Cambridge and Boston, many of whose families are without necessary resources. Gifts should be new and unwrapped. Contributions can be placed in the large, gift-wrapped boxes in the narthex and downstairs in the Student Oasis until Sunday, December 17.

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. 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 Last Sunday after Pentecost. The preacher will be the Reverend Westley P. Conn, Ministry Fellow in the Memorial Church.

For more information on upcoming services and events:

memorialchurch.harvard.edu • facebook.com/harvardmemorialchurch • twitter.com/memchurch

To subscribe to the Memorial Church e-mail list, visit our website: memorialchurch.harvard.edu

