

# HARVARD

The Memorial Church



## ORDER OF WORSHIP

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The First Sunday of Advent

November 29, 2020

11 am

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

# ORDER OF WORSHIP

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## PRELUDE

Wachet auf, rift uns die Stimme, BWV 645

*Johann Sebastian Bach (1685–1750)*

## THE LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

*The first Advent candle, representing hope, is lit. During this time congregants are invited to light their Advent wreaths.*

*Leader:* He will come like last leaf's fall.  
One night when the November wind  
has flayed the trees to the bone, and earth  
wakes choking on the mold,  
the soft shroud's folding.

*People:* In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the  
Word was God.

*Leader:* Advent is a time of preparation and anticipation for the one who is opening  
up the heavens to be among us. Today we light the candle of Hope, as we  
wait for Jesus to come again to turn despair into hope. Thanks be to God.

## HYMN

No. 91, "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

*Veni Emmanuel*

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

## CALL TO WORSHIP

*From Isaiah 40 and Isaiah 2:*

*Minister:* A voice cries out: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord,  
make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

*People:* Every valley shall be lifted up,  
and every mountain and hill be made low;

*Minister:* The uneven ground shall become level,  
and the rough places a plain.

*People:* Then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed,  
and all people shall see it together."

*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. 97, "The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came"

*Gabriel's Message*

*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>.*

A Tender Shoot

*Otto Goldschmidt (1829–1907)*

A tender shoot hath started

This shoot, Isaiah taught us,

Up from a root of grace,

From Jesse's root should spring;

As ancient seers imparted

The virgin Mary brought us

From Jesse's holy race:

The branch of which we sing:

It blooms without a blight,

Our God of endless might

Blooms in the cold bleak winter,

Gave her this child to save us,

Turning our darkness into light.

Thus turning darkness into light.

*15th cent. German, trans. William Bartholomew (1793–1867)*

## 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

Isaiah 2: 1–5

*from the New Revised Standard Version (OT)*

## ANTHEM

Ave Maria

*Tomás Luis de Victoria (ca. 1548–1611)*

Ave Maria, gratia plena,

*Hail Mary, full of grace,*

Dominus tecum.

*The Lord is with thee;*

Benedicta tu in mulieribus,

*Blessed art thou amongst women,*

Et benedictus fructus ventris tui, Iesus Christus.

*And blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus Christ.*

Sancta Maria, mater Dei,

*Holy Mary, mother of God,*

Ora pro nobis peccatoribus,

*Pray for us sinners,*

Nunc et in hora mortis nostræ. Amen.

*Now and at the hour of our death. Amen.*

## SECOND LESSON

Luke 1: 46b–55

*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

Belonging at the Expense of Fitting In

## HYMN

No. 211, "Tell Out, My Soul, the Greatness of the Lord"

*Woodlands*

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

## BENEDICTION

## POSTLUDE

Wachet auf, rift uns die Stimme

*Lionel Rogg (b. 1936)*

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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, November 29, 2020

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## WELCOME

Today is the First Sunday of Advent. The preacher is the Reverend Alanna C. Sullivan, Associate Minister in the Memorial Church. 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, 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 Kayla Manning '22, Student Advisory Board. The second lesson is read by Liam Simons '21, Student Advisory Board. The music for this Sunday's service is provided by Edward Elwyn Jones, Gund University Organist and Choirmaster. The offertory and anthem are taken from archival service recordings 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.

Franz, Jen, and Helen Lepionka-Lacroix light the first candle of Advent, representing hope. Liturgy for lighting the Advent candles is an adaptation of scripture, the German carol *Vom Himmel Hoch da komm ich her*, and the poem "Advent Calendar" by poet and priest, Rowan Williams.

## MUSIC NOTES

Otto Goldschmidt is best remembered as the husband of the "Swedish Nightingale," the soprano Jenny Lind, but he was also the founding conductor of the London Bach Choir, and a composer of note. *A Tender Shoot* is his gentle setting of a paraphrase of the famous prophecy found in the Book of Isaiah.

Widely regarded as the greatest Spanish Renaissance composer, Tomás Luis de Victoria was, nevertheless, less prolific than many of his contemporaries: indeed, his entire output—which comprises exclusively Latin Church music—is contained in just eleven volumes, all published during his lifetime. His musical education began at Avila cathedral, where he was a choirboy, before moving to Rome to study at the Jesuit College. He was ordained a priest in 1575 and later took chaplaincies at two Roman churches. He returned to Spain in 1587 to become chaplain to Philip II's sister, the Dowager Empress Maria, at the convent of Descalzas Reales in Madrid. Victoria remained at the convent as organist and choirmaster for the remainder of his life. The delicate "Ave Maria" is an exercise in simplicity and economy of means, whose rhythmic interest is decidedly Spanish in accent.

Today's prelude and postlude are two settings of one of the most famous of all German Lutheran chorales, "Wachet auf, ruft uns die Stimme" ("Awake, for night is flying!"). Philipp Nicolai wrote the text and tune in 1598, in the midst of the Black Plague ravishing the city of Unna, where he was temporarily working on preaching assignment. The primary scriptural inspiration came from the parable of the Ten Virgins in Matthew 25, whose imagery of waiting and allusions to the end

times have often connected it with the season of Advent. Johann Sebastian Bach's organ setting is an arrangement of a movement from his Cantata No. 140; its noble character and memorable countermelody have made it one of his most recognizable compositions. Organist Lionel Rogg is one of the most distinguished Swiss musicians of the 20th century. Beginning in the early 1960s, Rogg made numerous ground-breaking recordings of the works of Bach, including two complete cycles of his organ music. Rogg has also been active as a teacher to several generations of organists, a champion of the art of serious organ improvisation, and as a composer of works in a variety of styles.

### SUSTAINING PRACTICES FOR PERILOUS TIMES

Join the Harvard Chaplains for Sustaining Practices for Perilous Times, an opportunity to learn and share what keeps us going through these fractured and difficult days. This series will take place on Mondays from 5:00–5:30pm, concluding on December 14, and will feature members of the Harvard community offering insight into their personal spiritual practices. Each session will offer a chance to learn from a diversity of ways of creating and sustaining meaningful frameworks for living life in perilous times. Weekly themes will include connection through discussion, prayer, music, contemplative reading, embodied practice, and sabbath/Shabbat. Come every week or for a single session. Contact Rachel\_leiken@harvard.edu with any questions. More information and registration is available at <https://guestlist.co/events/667452>

### INSTAGRAM LIVE

Join us on Instagram Live for a 10–15 minute reflection on a spiritual practice each Thursday at 7:00pm. Be sure to follow us @memchurch!

### CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

The Church School offers Christian education classes for children ages three through sixteen. The Church School will not meet today. Classes will resume next Sunday, December 6. All classes are held on Sundays in the Fall and Spring Terms from 10:00–10:45am. To register and learn more, please visit the Church School for Children page on our website.

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 from 9:30–10:30am. The Forum will not meet today and will resume next Sunday, December 6, with Professor Stephanie Paulsell, Interim Pusey Minister in the Memorial Church, Susan Shallcross Swartz Professor of the Practice of Christian Studies, Harvard Divinity School. To participate, please visit the Faith and Life Forum page on our website.

Contact Ministry Fellow, Rev. Westley (Wes) Conn ([westley\\_conn@harvard.edu](mailto:westley_conn@harvard.edu)) to learn more about opportunities for faith formation.

### MEMCAFÉ

MemCafé will conclude for the semester this Wednesday, December 2 from 9:30–10:15am. Sit down at your computer or mobile device with your morning coffee and gather with us over Zoom. Each week as we check in with one another, we invite you to share a 1-2 sentence quote that has

been grounding for you. Everyone is welcome! We are implementing a new registration method for our Fall Term programs. To register, please visit the Calendar on our website.

### WORSHIP

Sunday services are broadcast on Harvard's radio station, WHRB 95.3 FM in term; a live stream of the service is available at *wbrb.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 Second Sunday of Advent. The preacher will be Professor Stephanie Paulsell, Interim Pusey Minister in the Memorial Church, Susan Shallcross Swartz Professor of the Practice of Christian Studies, Harvard Divinity School.



## O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

Veni veni Emmanuel

VENI EMMANUEL 88 88 88

Latin, 8th cent.?

Plainsong, Mode 1

stanzas 1, 2: John Mason Neale, 1851, alt.

Processionale, 15th cent.

stanzas 3, 4: Henry Sloane Coffin, 1916

adapt. Thomas Helmore, 1854

**unison**

1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som cap - tive  
 2 O come, thou Day - spring, now ap - pear and cheer us by thine  
 3 O come, thou Wis - dom from on high, and or - der all things,  
 4 O come, De - sire of na - tions, bind all peo - ples in one

Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile  
 ad - vent here; dis - perse the gloom - y clouds of  
 far and nigh; to us the path of knowl - edge  
 heart and mind; bid en - vy, strife, and quar - rels

**harmony**

here, un - til the Son of God ap - pear.  
 night, and death's dark shad - ows put to flight. Re -  
 show, and cause us in her ways to go. Re -  
 cease; and fill the world with heav - en's peace.

joyce! Re-joyce! Em - man - u - el shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!

# The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came

97

Birjina gazzettobat zegoen

GABRIEL'S MESSAGE 10 10 12 10

Basque

Basque melody

trans. Sabine Baring-Gould (1834-1924)

harm. Edgar Pettman (1865-1943)

1 The an - gel Ga - bri - el from hea - ven came, his  
 2 "For known a bless - ed mo - ther thou shalt be, all  
 3 Then gen - tle Ma - ry meek - ly bowed her head, "To  
 4 Of her, Em-man - u - el, the Christ, was born in

wings as drift - ed snow, his eyes as flame; "All  
 gen - er - a - tions laud and hon - or thee, thy  
 me be as it pleas - eth God," she said, "my  
 Beth - le - hem, all on a Christ - mas morn, and

hail," said he, "thou low - ly maid - en Ma - ry, most  
 Son shall be Em - man - u - el, by seers fore - told, most  
 soul shall laud and mag - ni - fy his ho - ly name." Most  
 Chris - tian folk through - out the world will ev - er say "Most

high - ly fa - vored la - dy." *Glo* - - - *ri - a!*  
 high - ly fa - vored la - dy." *Glo* - - - *ri - a!*  
 high - ly fa - vored la - dy! *Glo* - - - *ri - a!*  
 high - ly fa - vored la - dy." *Glo* - - - *ri - a!*

# 211 Tell Out, My Soul, the Greatness of the Lord

*para. of Magnificat*  
Timothy Dudley-Smith, 1962

WOODLANDS 10 10 10 10  
Walter Greatorex, 1916, alt.

1 Tell out, my soul, the great-ness of the Lord! Un -  
2 Tell out, my soul, the great-ness of his name! Make  
3 Tell out, my soul, the great-ness of his might! Powers  
4 Tell out, my soul, the glo-ries of his word! Firm

num - bered bless - ings give my spir - it voice; ten - der to  
known his might, the deeds his arm has done; his mer - cy  
and do - min - ions lay their glo - ry by. Proud hearts and  
is his prom - ise, and his mer - cy sure. Tell out, my

me the prom - ise of his word, in  
sure, from age to age the same; his  
stub - born wills are put to flight, the  
soul, the great - ness of the Lord to

God my Sa - vior shall my heart re - jice.  
ho - ly name—the Lord, the might - y One.  
hun - gry fed, the hum - ble lift - ed high.  
chil - dren's chil - dren and for ev - er - more!

The image shows a musical score for a hymn. It consists of two systems of staves. The top system has a single treble clef staff with a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#) and a 4/4 time signature. The melody is written in a simple, hymn-like style. The bottom system is a grand staff with a treble clef on top and a bass clef on the bottom, both with the same key signature and time signature. The piano accompaniment features chords and moving lines in both hands. The lyrics are printed below the top staff, aligned with the notes. The piece concludes with a double bar line.