

# HARVARD

The Memorial Church



## ORDER OF WORSHIP

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The Third Sunday of Advent

Sunday, December 13, 2015

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



# ORDER OF WORSHIP

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## PRELUDE

Suite on the *Magnificat*, Tone 1

*Louis-Nicolas Clérambault (1676–1749)*

## HYMN

No. 91, “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

*Veni Emmanuel*

*Sung by all, the congregation standing*

## CALL TO WORSHIP

*Minister:* Give thanks to the Lord and call upon the holy name of the most high God.

*All:* The Lord is our strength and salvation.

*Minister:* Proclaim the mercy of the One who comes as one of us.

*All:* The Lord is our strength and salvation.

*Minister:* Trust and do not be afraid.

*All:* The Lord is our strength and salvation.

*Minister:* With joy you will draw water from the wells of peace.

*All:* The Lord is our strength and salvation. Hallelujah! Amen.

## HYMN

No. 109, “People, Look East, the Time Is Near”

*Besañçon*

*The congregation standing*

## INVOCATION

## CONFESSION

*In unison:*

Lord, have mercy on us. We are not ready for your coming. We live in sin as though there was no justice. We live in fear as though there is no grace. Forgive us, Lord. Show us your mercy and steadfast love. Lead us in your truth, and teach us your paths for you are the God of our salvation. Amen.

## ASSURANCE OF PARDON

## THE PEACE

*All are invited to join in the singing of Hymn No. 27, verse 1.*

## GREETINGS

*Children now join their teachers in the Church School.*

## OFFERTORY

Ave Maria

Franz Schubert (1797–1828)

Isabella Nogues (Princeton '15), violin; Karen-Alexandra Nogues '18, piano

*Here an offering is received for the work of the Church within and beyond the University. Ushers will begin the collection from the back of the Church forward.*



O God be-yond all prais-ing, we wor-ship you to - day and  
sing the love a - ma-zing that songs can-not re - pay; for we can on-ly  
won-der at ev - 'ry gift you send, at bless-ings with-out num-ber and  
mer-cies with-out end: we lift our hearts be - fore you and wait u-pon your  
word, we hon - or and a - dore you, our great and might-y Lord.

## PSALTER

Psalms 63:1–5

Pew Bible, page 490 (OT)

*To be read responsively; the congregation standing*

## GLORIA PATRI

See Hymn No. 371

## FIRST LESSON

Zephaniah 3:14–20

Pew Bible, page 830 (OT)

## ANTHEM

Keep Your Lamps

Spiritual, arr. André Thomas (b. 1952)

Keep your lamps trimmed and burning,  
*The time is drawing nigh.*

Children don't get weary  
*'Til your work is done.*

Christian journey soon be over,  
*The time is drawing nigh.*

Keep your lamps trimmed and burning,  
*The time is drawing nigh.*

## SECOND LESSON

Luke 3:7–20

*Pew Bible, page 52 (NT)*

## ANTHEM

Splendor Is Coming

*Walter Pelz (b. 1926)*

Tree of David terribly cut to ground lay in her ashes.  
Splendor is waiting in a kingdom of power.  
Son of David quietly born on ground lay in his manger.  
Splendor is coming in a kingdom of glory.  
Child of David gloriously rise from ground; stand in forgiveness.  
Splendor is present in a kingdom for ever.  
His splendor is coming and here, in a kingdom of power and glory for ever.

## THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

*Minister:* The Lord be with you.  
*People:* And also with you.  
*Minister:* Let us pray.  
Lord, show us your love and mercy.  
*People:* For we put our trust in you.  
*Minister:* In you, Lord, is our hope.  
*People:* And we shall never hope in vain.

*Each time the minister says “Lord, in your mercy,” the congregation will respond with “Hear our prayer.”*

## 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, the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

## THE GRACE

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all. Amen.

## HYMN

No. 96, “On Jordan’s Bank the Baptist’s Cry”  
*The congregation standing*

*Winchester New*

## SERMON

What Then Should We Do?

Text: “And the crowds asked him: ‘What then shall we do?’”

*Luke 3:10*

HYMN

No. 100, “Lo! He Comes, with Clouds Descending”  
*The congregation standing*

*Helmsley*

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Fugue on the *Magnificat*

*Johann Sebastian Bach (1685–1750)*

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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, December 13, 2015

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## WELCOME

Today is the Third Sunday of Advent. The preacher is the Reverend Dr. Bill Leonard, James and Marilyn Dunn Professor of Baptist Studies and Professor of Church History, Wake Forest University School of Divinity, Winston-Salem, NC. The service is led by the Reverend Dr. Lucy A. Forster-Smith, Sedgwick Chaplain to Harvard University and Senior Minister in the Memorial Church; the Reverend Alanna Copenhaver, Ministry Fellow in the Memorial Church; and Seminararians Adam Vander Tuig MDiv III, Danny Ballon MTS II, and Patrick Jackson MDiv II. The first lesson is read by Adam Vander Tuig MDiv III. The second lesson is read by Sam Murphy '17. The family of Jinrong and Dong Zhao light the Advent Candle of Joy.

Liturgy adapted from *Feasting on the Word Worship Companion: Liturgies for Year C, Volume 1* edited by Kim Long, Westminster John Knox Press, 2012.

Listening devices are available to help the hearing impaired participate in the service; please ask an usher for assistance. Following the service, the congregation is invited to a reception in the Memorial Room.

## CHURCH SCHOOL FOR CHILDREN

Families of the Church School are invited to a Christmas party immediately following today's worship service in the Buttrick Room. Church School for the Fall Term concludes today and will resume after the Winter Break on Sunday, January 31, 2016. For more information about the Church School, please contact the Church School director Wes Conn at [wesley\\_conn@harvard.edu](mailto:wesley_conn@harvard.edu).

## USHERS AND LESSON READERS NEEDED

Ushers and lesson readers play a vital role in worship for the Memorial Church. If you are interested in being an usher or reader for Christmas Eve's 5:00 p.m. service, or Winter Recess Sunday Worship, please contact Kelly Robichaud ([kelly\\_robichaud@harvard.edu](mailto:kelly_robichaud@harvard.edu)). We would love to have you join us!

## PBHA ANNUAL HOLIDAY GIFT DRIVE

The Phillips Brooks House Association (PBHA) Annual Holiday Gift Drive has begun and will continue through December 15. PBHA is collecting new books, games, toys, art supplies, and sports equipment for local children in need. Faculty, staff, students, departments, and members of the Harvard Community are invited to donate gifts for children of all ages. Gifts should be new and unwrapped. A gift box is located at the back of the church. We will also accept toys throughout the week in the boxes located downstairs in the church's reception office. For more information, contact Robert Bridgeman at [bridgemanrobert@gmail.com](mailto:bridgemanrobert@gmail.com).

## THE 106<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL CHRISTMAS CAROL SERVICES

The 106th Annual Carol Services will be held in the church on Sunday, December 13 at 5:00 p.m., and on Monday, December 14 at 8:00 p.m. Doors open one hour before each service. Admission is free; an offering for charity is collected. The Sunday, December 13 carol service will be broadcast live on WHRB Radio (95.3 FM, [www.whrb.org](http://www.whrb.org)). The broadcast begins with the organ prelude at 4:30 p.m. It will also be re-broadcast on Christmas Day at 1:00 p.m.

## CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE

On Christmas Eve, Thursday, December 24 at 5:00 p.m., a service will be held to celebrate the Nativity of Our Lord with hymns and Holy Communion. Professor Jonathan L. Walton will preach. Singers are welcome to join in the community choir for the Christmas Eve service; rehearsal is before the service at 3:30 p.m.

## MUSIC NOTES

André Thomas is Director of Choral Activities at Florida State University and a noted composer, conductor, and arranger of spirituals for choirs. *Keep Your Lamps* is a traditional spiritual from the Georgia Sea Islands, which takes as its theme the parable of the wise and foolish virgins from the Gospel of Matthew.

Walter Pelz was a Professor at Bethany College, Lindsborg, before retiring to focus exclusively on composition. “Splendor Is Coming,” a setting of an Advent text by Herbert Brokering, begins with fragmented vocal phrases that gradually weave together until the thrilling climax.

The French composer and organist Louis-Nicolas Clérambault came from a musical dynasty that had served the French courts for over three centuries. He was organist of St. Sulpice, Paris and also the convent of St. Cyr, an institution for young girls from the poor nobility. In 1710 he published his *Premier Livre d’Orgue*, a collection of two suites based on the first two tones of the *Magnificat* chant: for this morning’s prelude, we hear selections from the first suite.

The postlude is Johann Sebastian Bach’s fugue on the *Magnificat* chant (“Meine seele erhebet den Herren”): written in the old-fashioned style of a sixteenth-century fantasia, the complete iteration of the melody is saved until the very end, when it appears as a *cantus firmus* in the pedals.

## PRAYER REQUEST CARDS

Prayer request cards are available in the pew card holders or in the church lobby. We would be honored to pray for your specific needs. Please place prayer request cards in the offering plates during worship services or in the prayer request box in the church lobby.

## SUNDAY SERMONS AND MORNING PRAYERS SERVICES

### ON HARVARD’S ITUNES U

Sunday sermons and weekly Morning Prayers services are available on Harvard’s iTunes U in the “Religion & Spirituality” channel. From your iTunes software, search “Harvard Memorial Church” to listen on your iPod, iPhone, iPad, Mac, or PC.

## STAY CONNECTED TO THE MEMORIAL CHURCH

**E-mail List:** 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). **Facebook:** Like us on Facebook: [facebook.com/memorialchurch](https://www.facebook.com/memorialchurch). **Twitter:** Follow us on Twitter: [twitter.com/MemChurch](https://twitter.com/MemChurch).

## NEXT SUNDAY’S SERVICE

Next Sunday is the Fourth Sunday of Advent. The preacher will be the Reverend Dr. Lucy A. Forster-Smith, Sedgwick Chaplain to Harvard University and Senior Minister in the Memorial Church.

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*For more information on upcoming services and events:*

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