

HARVARD

The Memorial Church



ORDER OF WORSHIP

Christmas Eve

December 24, 2021

5 pm

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

ORDER OF WORSHIP

PRELUDE

Infant Holy, Infant Lowly (2020)

James Michael Stevens (b. 1961)

CALL TO WORSHIP

Minister: Alleluia. To us a child is born;
O come, let us adore him.

People: Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to God's people on earth.

Minister: God is our everlasting light;
God has shown forth glory.

People: The light shines in the darkness,
and the darkness did not overcome it.

Minister: Come, let us set out in the light of the Lord.

During this litany, the Christ Candle is lit.

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

THE PEACE & GREETING

OFFERTORY

The offering collected goes directly to fund the Memorial Church Grants Committee's recipient organizations and their important work in our local communities. Ushers will begin collection from the front of the church. Checks can be written to the Memorial Church with the memo line "Grants Committee." You may also donate online at <https://memorialchurch.harvard.edu/donate>

Jesus, Jesus, Rest Your Head (2019)

Gwyneth Walker (b. 1947)

FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 9:2-7

Pew Bible, page 598 (OT)

ANTHEM

Cradle Song ("Away in a Manger") (2002)

Carson Cooman '04 (b. 1982)

SECOND LESSON

Luke 2:1-20

Pew Bible, page 50 (NT)

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.

SERMON

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Silent Night (2007)

Larry Shackley (b. 1956)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Friday, December 24th, 2021

WELCOME

Today is Christmas Eve. The preacher is the Reverend Matthew Ichihashi Potts, Pusey Minster in the Memorial Church and Plummer Professor of Christian Morals, Faculty of Divinity. The worship leaders are the Reverend Alanna C. Sullivan, Associate Minister and Director of Administration in the Memorial Church and Laurie Sedgwick MDiv III. The first lesson is read by Loulie Kent and the second lesson by Jason Steffen. The music is played by Edward Elwyn Jones, Gund University Organist and Choirmaster.

MORNING PRAYERS

Morning Prayers has ended for the Fall Term and will resume for the Spring Term on January 24. Our daily service of Morning Prayers takes place at 8:30 am.

JANUARY SERVICES

There will be no Sunday service on December 26 or January 2. Sunday services for January 9 and 16 will be broadcast only via Harvard's radio station WHRB 95.3 FM and our website. Please visit our website for more information as this situation continues to unfold.

COVID-19 GUIDELINES

The wellbeing of our visitors, students, and staff remains our top commitment at the Memorial Church. Harvard University continues to closely monitor the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, and it is an ever-changing situation.

We are taking important steps to protect against COVID-19. We are grateful for your assistance helping us to take these precautionary measures to prevent the spread of infection and to prioritize the wellbeing of our community, especially the most vulnerable in our midst.

We ask that all visitors, students, and staff abide by the following:

- All individuals will be masked indoors.
- All individuals/households will attest to the state of their health upon arrival. Individuals will be asked to leave if they have been diagnosed with COVID-19 and/or exhibiting symptoms with COVID-19.
- All individuals will refrain from public consumption of food and beverage indoors.

Please review the latest guidance for on-campus activity before attending services or other events on campus. Seating with physical distancing is available.

Guidance may be subject to additions and changes based upon the distribution of the disease and local disease dynamics. We appreciate your understanding and patience during

this time.

Things are a bit different. Some of the details of our worship life have been altered to accommodate pandemic restrictions. Some of our programming has been adjusted to keep everyone safe. But what we hope you find entirely familiar is the love and openness and welcome with which we hope to fill our church each day.

STUDENT OASIS

The Student Oasis in the lower level of the Memorial Church is a tranquil and relaxing space for study, for meeting friends and fellow students, even cooking a favorite meal in the full-service kitchen. Located in the heart of Harvard Yard, the Oasis is open daily to Harvard students during the academic term. For more information and the hours of operation, visit <https://memorialchurch.harvard.edu/studentoasis>

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 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.

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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

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